

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. NG-107
of Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC)
d/b/a Black Hills Energy for a) ORDER SETTING PROCEDURAL
deferred accounting order to) SCHEDULE AND NOTICE OF
record and preserve costs related) HEARING
to the Covid-19 pandemic.)
) Entered: June 3, 2020

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On April 22, 2020, Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy ("Black Hills" or "Applicant") filed an application with the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") seeking authorization for Black Hills to establish a regulatory asset to record and preserve costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Black Hills also seeks in this application a waiver of certain provisions of the Company's tariffs, Operation & Maintenance standards, and Commission rules and regulations to protect the health and safety of its employees and customers.

A petition for Formal Intervention was filed by the Nebraska Public Advocate ("PA") on April 30, 2020, and his intervention was approved by the Commission on May 5, 2020. No other parties have intervened in this docket.

Procedural Schedule

After the submission of the application by Black Hills, a planning conference was held with the parties to this docket. This order serves to formalize the timeline for proceedings in this docket.

A. Service

Parties may meet filing deadlines outlined herein by sending an electronic copy of the filing via electronic mail to psc.naturalgas@nebraska.gov, so long as all parties are served via electronic mail contemporaneously.

B. Discovery

Parties should reference the Nebraska Court Rules of Discovery in Civil Cases for general guidance as to the conduct of discovery. Should this order conflict with any provision of said

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Rules, this order controls. Parties should make efforts to resolve any discovery disputes.

All parties shall provide a courtesy copy of any discovery requests and responses to the Commission. Such discovery requests and responses shall not be part of the official record unless they are offered and accepted as exhibits during the hearing on the application. If using electronic mail, parties should send copies of the documents to psc.naturalgas@nebraska.gov.

C. Deadlines

Deadlines for various events and filings were established through communication with the parties, and are set forth below. All filings are due by 5:00 p.m. CDT unless otherwise noted.

| Date | Event |
|---------------------------------|---|
| April 22, 2020 | Application filed |
| Thursday, May 28 | Protest date |
| Tuesday, June 2, at 11:00 a.m. | Planning conference |
| Friday, June 5 | Final date for discovery requests to be served by Public Advocate, Intervenor, and Commission Staff on Applicant |
| Monday, June 22 | All discovery responses from Applicant due to Public Advocate, Intervenor, and Commission Staff |
| Friday, June 26 | Public Advocate to file report on findings |
| Wednesday, July 15 | Deadline to file pre-hearing briefs, pre-filed testimony, exhibit lists, and witness lists Deadline for all motions or other filings |
| Thursday, July 16, at 1:30 p.m. | Prehearing conference (if necessary) |
| Tuesday, July 21, at 1:30 p.m. | Hearing |

D. Settlement

All parties are encouraged to cooperate and engage in negotiations; however, the conduct of negotiations does not relieve the parties of their obligation to meet filing deadlines. Parties need not identify in settlement agreements specific dollar values attached to specific issues.

E. Prehearing Conference

Motions submitted by the parties will be considered by the Hearing Officer at the prehearing conference, held on **Thursday, July 16, at 1:30 p.m.** This conference will be held via webconference, and access instructions will be sent to the parties the week prior to the conference.

If no motions are submitted, and there are no other outstanding issues which must be considered prior to hearing, the Commission will notify the parties that the prehearing conference will be cancelled.

F. Hearing

A hearing will be held in the above-captioned docket will be held in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, on **Tuesday, July 21, at 1:30 p.m.** Access to the hearing via webconference will be made available.

The Commission will arrange for a court reporter for the hearing in this matter, and an expedited transcript will be provided. The costs for the reporter's services and the transcript will be assessed to the Applicant.

If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for attendance at the meeting, please call the Commission at (402) 471-3101. For people with hearing/speech impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at (800) 833-7352 (TDD) or (800) 833-0920 (Voice). Advance notice of at least seven days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

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O R D E R

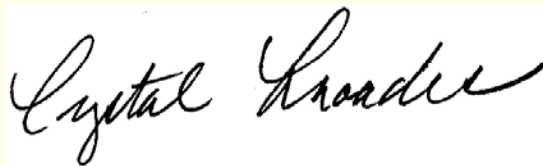
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the deadlines and requirements established in this order and attached hereto are hereby adopted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a prehearing conference on this matter will be held on **Thursday, July 16, at 1:30 p.m.** via webconference.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that a hearing on this matter will be held on **Tuesday, July 21, at 1:30 p.m.** in the Commission Hearing room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 3rd day of June, 2020.

BY:



Crystal Rhoades
HEARING OFFICER