

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of SourceGas) Application No. NG-0060
Distribution LLC, Lakewood,)
Colorado, seeking approval of a)
general rate increase.) ASSESSMENT ORDER
) NO. GDS-007.1
)
) Entered: June 29, 2010

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Commission received an invoice dated March 18, 2010, from GDS Associates, Inc. for costs associated in the above-captioned docket, totaling \$10,645.25. Commission staff reviewed the invoice and found it to conform to the Agreement dated March 24, 2009, between the Commission and GDS Associates, Inc.

Investigation-related assessments are governed by *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 66-1840, which specifies a maximum limit on the amount that may be assessed to a jurisdictional utility during a fiscal year.

The maximum amount assessable to SourceGas pursuant to *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 66-1840 during the 2009-10 fiscal year is \$346,174. On August 18, 2009, the Commission voted to allocate the maximum amount assessable between the Public Advocate and the Commission consultants, setting aside up to \$100,000 for the Commission consultants and the remainder for the Public Advocate. See Nebraska Public Service Commission Minutes, page 7680, August 18, 2009.

The Commission-prescribed limitation for GDS Associates, Inc., expenses would have been exceeded if the full amount due for this invoice were assessed; therefore assessment in the amount of \$5,000.00 was made March 30, 2010.

Commission staff recommends the Commission approve partial assessment of \$708.58 for expenses reflected on the invoice against SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas), pursuant to *Neb. Rev. Stat.* sec. 66-1840, as described above.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

Upon the recommendation of the Commission staff, the Commission finds that assessment from SourceGas of additional expenses in the amount of \$708.58 reflected in the above-mentioned invoice from GDS Associates, Inc. should be approved.

The Commission further finds that the Commission should pay the invoice upon receipt of payment by SourceGas.

The remaining balance of \$4,936.67 will be assessed during the next fiscal year.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that the above-mentioned assessment in the amount of \$708.58 is approved and hereby made and that payment of the above-mentioned amount be made upon receipt of payment by SourceGas Distribution LLC.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 29th day of June, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director