

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of SourceGas) Application No. NG-0067
Distribution LLC, Lakewood, Colorado,)
seeking approval of a general rate)
increase.) ASSESSMENT ORDER
) NO. HS-002
)
) Entered: December 13, 2011

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Commission received an invoice from Harding & Shultz dated December 1, 2011, for costs associated with the above-captioned docket totaling \$18,556.82. Commission staff has reviewed the above invoice and found it to conform to the Agreement dated November 15, 2008, between the Commission and Harding & Shultz.

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 total amount, in any one fiscal year, for which any utility shall be assessed under this section shall not exceed the following: (a) For a jurisdictional utility that has not filed an annual report with the commission as provided in the State Natural Gas Regulation Act prior to the beginning of the commission's fiscal year, actual expenses, including direct and indirect expenses, incurred by the commission; and (b) for any other jurisdictional utility, one percent of the utility's gross operating jurisdictional revenue less gas cost derived from intrastate natural gas utility business as reflected in the last annual report filed with the commission pursuant to the act prior to the beginning of the commission's fiscal year. The commission may render bills in one fiscal year for costs incurred within a previous fiscal year.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 66-1840.

The maximum amount assessable to SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas) for the 2011-2012 fiscal year is \$406,505.86, consistent with Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840. By vote on October 18, 2012, the Commission allocated a total of \$276,505.86 to the Public Advocate for assessment to SourceGas under sec. 66-1840, reserving the remaining \$130,000 for assessment of Commission consultant costs. To date, a total of \$272,732.30 has been assessed for invoices from the Public Advocate, leaving a balance of \$3,773.56 available.

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Commission staff recommends the Commission approve assessment of the above-described invoice in the amount of \$3,773.56, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840. The remaining balance may be assessed at a later date.

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

Upon the recommendations of the Commission staff, the Commission finds that assessment against SourceGas of a total of \$3,773.56 for the above-described invoice from Harding & Shultz should be approved. The Commission further finds that the Commission should pay the invoice upon receipt of payment by SourceGas.




O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that the above-described assessment of \$3,773.56 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 13th day of December, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:




 //s// Frank Landis
 //s// Tim Schram

Chairman

ATTEST:


 Executive Director