

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 ) ASSESSMENT ORDER  
increase. ) NO. HS-004  
)  
) Entered: July 10, 2012

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Commission received the following invoices from Harding & Shultz during the state fiscal year ended June 30, 2012:

January 6, 2012	\$17,747.36
February 1, 2012	\$33,166.74
March 1, 2012	\$31,405.65
April 4, 2012	\$63,063.26
May 1, 2012	\$38,509.88
May 10, 2012	\$57,213.95
May 10, 2012	\$81,438.20
June 12, 2012	\$23,782.83
June 14, 2012	\$ 1,750.00

For the invoice dated January 6, 2012, the Commission entered an order June 26, 2012, assessing the amount \$3,086.59 to SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas), leaving a balance due of \$14,660.77. On the same date, the maximum assessment to SourceGas for the state fiscal year had been reached.

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.

The maximum amount assessable to SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas) for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is \$352,209.21, consistent with Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840. By vote on July 10, 2012, the Commission allocated a total of \$342,209.21 to the Public Advocate for assessment to SourceGas under sec. 66-1840, reserving the remaining \$10,000.00 for assessment of Commission consultant costs, for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The Commission finds that the amount of \$342,209.21 may be assessed for costs of the Public Advocate.

Commission staff recommends that pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840, the Commission approve assessments of the following invoices and corresponding amounts, totaling \$342,209.21:

January 6, 2012	\$14,660.77
February 1, 2012	\$33,166.74
March 1, 2012	\$31,405.65
April 4, 2012	\$63,063.26
May 1, 2012	\$35,727.81
May 10, 2012	\$57,213.95
May 10, 2012	\$81,438.20
June 12, 2012	\$23,782.83
June 14, 2012	\$ 1,750.00

The remaining balance of the invoice dated May 1, 2012, 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 \$342,209.21. 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 \$342,209.21 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 10th day of July,  
2012.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING: NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 10th day of July, 2012.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

*Tim Schram*

Chairman

*Rod Johnson*

*Aune Bayle*

ATTEST:

*David L. Vap*

*Philip R. K. H.*

Executive Director

//s// Rod Johnson