

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of SourceGas Distribution ) Application No. NG-0072  
LLC, Golden, Colorado, seeking approval )  
of an infrastructure system replacement )  
cost recovery charge, pursuant to ) ASSESSMENT ORDER NO. ES-001  
Sections 66-1865 and 66-1866 of the )  
State Natural Gas Regulation Act. )  
 ) Entered: April 30, 2013

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Commission received the following invoices from Erickson & Sederstrom, P.C. for assessable costs associated with the above-captioned docket:

Erickson & Sederstrom, P. C.	April 1, 2013	\$ 1,288.22
Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc.	April 4, 2013	\$ 1,537.50

The Public Advocate requested on April 10, 2013, that payment be made for his consultant services prior to other payments being made; therefore the Commission is processing the invoice from Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. for assessment.

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 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. By vote on March 12, 2013, the Commission approved adjusting the allocation for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 of

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SourceGas Distribution LLC's cap on direct natural gas assessments to the Public Advocate from \$342,209.21 to \$347,209.21; leaving a balance of \$5,000 each for Public Advocate costs and Natural Gas Department consultants.

The Commission finds that the amount of \$1,537.50 may be assessed for costs of the Public Advocate's consultant, Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. The remaining balance of the invoice for Erickson & Sederstrom dated April 1, 2013, may be assessed at a later date.

Commission staff recommends the Commission approve assessment of the expenses reflected on the invoice against SourceGas Distribution LLC (SourceGas), pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840. Commission staff recommends the Commission approve assessment of the expenses reflected on the invoice pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 66-1840.

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 the expenses reflected in the above-mentioned invoice from Erickson & Sederstrom, P.C. for Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. should be approved.

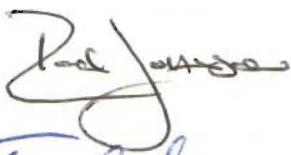


O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that the above-mentioned assessment 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 30th day of April, 2013.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Director

//s//Anne C. Boyle  
//s//Frank E. Landis