

COLUMBIA GAS OF MARYLAND, INC.'S
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO
INCREASE RATES AND CHARGES FOR
NATURAL GAS SERVICES

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9701

July 5, 2023

**PUBLIC UTILITY LAW JUDGE'S NOTICE OF
EVENING HEARINGS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

On May 12, 2023, Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc. (“Columbia” or “the Company”) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Maryland (“the Commission”) for authority to increase rates and charges for natural gas services by approximately \$8.1 million and included testimony and exhibits in support of its request. On June 30, 2023, the Company filed supplemental testimony that increased the requested revenue requirement to approximately \$8.8 million.

Evening hearings for the purpose of receiving public comments in connection with Columbia’s application for authority to increase its gas rates¹ are hereby scheduled as follows:

August 22, 2023
at 7:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Hagerstown
Conference Room
241 Railway Lane
Hagerstown, MD 21740

August 23, 2023
at 7:00 p.m.

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Cumberland
Allegany Meeting Room
21 N. Wineow Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

¹ The application and other pleadings in this matter may be viewed or downloaded from the electronic docket file (9701) available through the Commission’s website, www.psc.state.md.us.

Written comments on the Application may be submitted electronically or by first-class mail on or before **September 6, 2023**. Comments submitted electronically must be submitted through the Commission's Public Comment Dropbox, which can be accessed through the Commission's website at www.psc.state.md.us. Instructions for logging into the Public Comment Dropbox are located under the "Tools" section of the Commission's website under the "Make a Public Comment" tab, which can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/>. Commenters utilizing the Public Comment Dropbox are required to complete a one-time registration. All comments must include a reference to Case No. 9701. If submitted by first-class mail, comments must be addressed to Andrew S. Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Only one copy is required.

The Company is directed to publish, as a display advertisement in newspapers of general circulation throughout its service territory, a notice of the evening hearings for public comments, including the case caption, case number, the time, date, and place of the hearings, and the purpose of the hearings, at least twice, in successive weeks, prior to August 18, 2023. The Company shall file certificates of publication with the Commission on or before the date of the first evening hearing.

Columbia also is directed to place on its home page a notice of the evening hearings for public comments in a manner that a customer need not click the link to determine the date, time, location, and purpose of the hearings. Additionally, the Company shall post on at least two routinely used social media platforms, such as Facebook or Twitter, and use any other means of communication at its disposal to further notify its customers of the date, time, and location of the evening hearings, and the date by which written public comments may be filed.

Finally, the Company is directed to prominently post on the day of each of the evening hearings for public comment scheduled for this proceeding, no later than 4:00 p.m. (EST), an informational sign at or near each public entrance of the building in which the public hearing(s) will be held. Each sign shall be at least 17 by 22 inches in size and state the time, room number, and subject of the public hearing. The font size of the lettering shall be greater than 48 point size and as large as the sign allows. The Applicant shall submit an affidavit certifying that the necessary properly sized information sign(s) were posted as directed, including the time the signs were posted and a photograph of the informational sign near or at the public entrance of the building, which shall be filed with the Commission within two business days after the public hearing date.

/s/ Ryan C. McLean

Ryan C. McLean
Chief Public Utility Law Judge
Public Service Commission of Maryland

Reasonable accommodations will be made at Public Service Commission proceedings for qualified persons with disabilities, if requested 5 days in advance of the proceeding. (Dial 410-767-8000 or 1-800-201-7165 or access the prior numbers through the Maryland Relay Service at 1-800-735-2258.)

FREDERICK H. HOOVER, JR.
CHAIR

MICHAEL T. RICHARD
ANTHONY J. O'DONNELL
KUMAR P. BARVE
BONNIE A. SUCHMAN



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

July 5, 2023

Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc.'s application *
for authority to increase rates and charges for *
natural gas services *

Case No. 9701

VIA EMAIL

To All Parties of Record:

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Utility Law Judge's Notice of Evening Hearings for Public Comment issued today in the above-entitled matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Kathleen Berends

Kathleen Berends
Administrator

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Enclosure