For more information, call the PUC at
1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and
address so that you can be notified of any hearings
that may be scheduled in this case.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ANNUAL CHANGE IN NATURAL GAS RATES

Columbia Gas®
of Pennsylvania

A NiSource Company

PA0419

Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (Columbia) has filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) for a decrease in your gas cost rates as of October 1, 2019. This notice describes the company's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take.

Columbia has requested an overall rate decrease of $17 million per year. If the company's entire request is approved, the total bill for a residential customer who purchases 70 therms of gas from Columbia would decrease from $95.33 to $91.80 per month or by 3.70%. The total bill for a commercial customer purchasing 168 therms of gas from Columbia per month would decrease from $166.65 to $158.27 per month or by 5.03%. Rates effective for an industrial customer purchasing 1,305 therms of gas from Columbia per month would produce a bill decrease from $1,092.06 to $1,026.96 per month or by 5.96%.

While this rate decrease will affect primarily the rates of those customers who purchase their gas from Columbia, it may also have an impact on the rates of those customers who purchase their gas from other natural gas suppliers under Choice® service. In accordance with PUC regulations, Columbia is permitted to revise its gas cost rates on a quarterly basis, if the recalculated rate differs from the rate that is finally determined in this case by more than two percent.

To find out how the requested decrease might affect your gas bill, contact Columbia at 1-888-460-4332. You may examine the material filed with the PUC that explains the requested decrease and the reasons for it. A copy of this material is kept at Columbia's office.

The state agency that approves rates for public utilities is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate decrease and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The company must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. In accordance with PUC regulations, Columbia revises its purchased gas costs on a quarterly basis. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request. The PUC may change the amount of the rate decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the company and shown above.

There are three ways to challenge a company's request to change its rates:

1. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate decrease request. All complaints should be filed as soon as possible. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge.

2. You can send the PUC a letter telling why you object to the requested rate decrease. Sometimes there is information in these letters that makes the PUC aware of problems with the company's service or management. This information can be helpful when the PUC investigates the rate request. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

3. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the Commission opens an investigation of the company's rate decrease request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and the company representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the company.