

Columbia Gas focuses on delivering safe, reliable, and efficient natural gas service to approximately 446,000 customers that we serve, and we have been a leader among Pennsylvania natural gas utilities when it comes replacing aging infrastructure. Columbia's ongoing and planned infrastructure investment requirements make it necessary to adjust our rates and revenues.

Since 2007, when Columbia Gas started its accelerated pipeline replacement program, the Company has invested over \$4.1 billion to modernize and expand its natural gas distribution system. Of that amount, approximately \$3.2 billion was dedicated to replacing aging pipes. In 2025 alone, Columbia Gas plans to invest approximately \$416 million in its 26-county service territory, with approximately \$312 million of that amount dedicated to upgrading aging underground infrastructure. If granted, the requested rate adjustment will provide the Company with funds that are needed for its continuing infrastructure replacements in Pennsylvania.

The filing also includes the following alternative rate mechanism proposals: a Revenue Normalization Adjustment mechanism to stabilize utility revenue regardless of changes in actual customer usage; a request to make permanent Columbia Gas's current Pilot Weather Normalization Adjustment; an extension of the Company's Energy Efficiency Pilot for residential customers and to initiate an Energy Efficiency Program Pilot for small commercial customers; an Economic Development Distribution Service tariff to allow Columbia Gas the flexibility to enter into individual contracts with new large volume customers in a manner that provides for accelerated recovery of costs to provide that service from customers who receive that service.

We think it is noteworthy that even if Columbia Gas's entire proposed rate adjustment is approved, adjusted for inflation, an average customer will be paying a total bill that is only 2 percent more than it was 20 years ago.

Our focus on providing safe, reliable, and efficient service includes assistance to our customers who need help with their bills. If you are having trouble keeping current on your gas bills, we urge you to contact us at 1-888-460-4332 to inquire about assistance that may be available to you.