

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held in the City of
Albany on July 13, 2017

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

John B. Rhodes, Chair
Gregg C. Sayre
Diane X. Burman
James S. Alesi

CASE 17-E-0174 - Tariff filing by Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. to amend its electric schedule, P.S.C. No. 3, to revise General Information Section No. 14, Form of Application for Service.

CASE 17-G-0175 - Tariff filing by Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. to amend its gas schedule, P.S.C. No. 4, to revise General Information Section No. 13, Form of Application for Service.

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF AMENDMENTS

(Issued and Effective July 14, 2017)

BY THE COMMISSION:

INTRODUCTION

On March 24, 2017, Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R or the Company) filed revisions to its electric and gas tariff schedules to amend several of its Forms of Application for Service (Application Forms). Additionally, the Company proposed to add a new Application Form for outdoor lighting to its electric schedule, and new Application Forms for conversion

to natural gas and standby natural gas generators to its gas schedule.¹

On June 16, 2017, O&R filed further revisions to the Application Forms, updated its electric connection fee for residential and non-residential customers requesting temporary service, and proposed a new Application Form for gas non-residential service. By this Order, the Commission approves the tariff amendments listed in the Appendix.

TARIFF FILINGS

In the March 24 filing, O&R proposed to amend its electric tariff schedule, P.S.C. No. 3 - Electricity, and its gas tariff schedule, P.S.C. No. 4 - Gas, to revise its Application Forms. Specifically, O&R proposed modifications to the following electric tariff Application Forms: New Residential Construction, Underground Service - Residential (within a subdivision), Residential Service Upgrade, Non-Residential Service (new/upgrade), and Residential/Non-Residential Temporary Service. The Company also proposed to add a new Application Form for outdoor lighting to its electric schedule. In the filing, O&R also proposed modifications to the following gas tariff Application Forms: New Residential Construction, Conversion to Natural Gas, and Standby Generator.

In the June 16 filing, the Company proposed further revisions to include an Application Form for non-residential gas service (new/upgrade), which was inadvertently omitted with its initial filing. O&R also updated the electric connection fee

¹ On May 18, 2017, the Company filed supplements to postpone the effective date of the tariff leaves from July 1, 2017, to August 1, 2017. On May 19, 2017, the Commission approved the requested postponements to August 1, 2017.

for residential and non-residential customers requesting temporary service.

O&R requests waivers of the requirement of newspaper publication pursuant to Public Service Law §66(12)(b) and 16 NYCRR §720-8.1 for the proposed changes as the revisions do not affect existing customers and all new customers or customers requesting upgraded service will be provided copies of the applications.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Pursuant to the State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA) §202(1), Notices of Proposed Rulemaking were published in the State Register on April 19, 2017 [SAPA Nos. 17-E-0174SP1 and 17-G-0175SP1]. The time for submission of comments pursuant to the Notices expired on June 5, 2017. No comments were received.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The majority of the proposed modifications are intended to provide customers with clearer instructions for activating and upgrading service and are considered to be housekeeping in nature. O&R's updated language also clarifies that the Company's tariff is available for review on its website or at customer service centers. Additionally, the Company updated the phone number for the Director and Section Managers of New Business.

With respect to the Application Form for electric residential/non-residential temporary service, in the March 24 filing, O&R included specific connection fees, based on the Company's labor rate as of June 2012, of \$622.24 for overhead and \$681.21 for underground services. Previously, connection fees for temporary service were required, but the rates were not stated on the application. In the June 16 filing, the

connection fees for temporary service were revised based on February 2017 labor rates and resulted in updated fees of \$641.06 for overhead service and \$658.80 for underground service.

The new Application Form for outdoor lighting provides clear instruction and requires information that should be readily available to the applicant. The corporate phone number, regional office locations and fax numbers are also provided on the Application Form.

The proposed changes to the gas Application Forms are substantially similar in nature to the revisions made to the electric Application Forms. The new Application Forms for conversion to natural gas, standby natural gas generators, and non-residential gas service (new/upgrade) all require information that should be readily available to the applicant. The corporate phone number and regional office locations and fax numbers are also provided on the Application Forms.

The Company's proposed tariff amendments have been reviewed and are reasonable. The revisions are intended to allow the Company to better serve the needs of its electric and gas customers. The tariff amendments as proposed by O&R are approved and O&R's requests for waivers of the requirement of newspaper publication are granted.

The Commission orders:

1. The tariff amendments listed in the Appendix shall become effective on August 1, 2017.

2. The requirements of Public Service Law §66(12)(b) and 16 NYCRR §720-8.1 as to newspaper publication of the proposed changes are waived.

3. These proceedings are closed.

By the Commission,

(SIGNED)

KATHLEEN H. BURGESS
Secretary

