

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Purchased Gas Adjustment ) DOCKET NO. 970003-GU  
(PGA) True-Up. ) ORDER NO. PSC-97-0292-FOF-GU  
\_\_\_\_\_ ) FILED: March 14, 1997

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
DIANE K. KIESLING

APPEARANCES:

JOHN ROGER HOWE, Esquire, Deputy Public Counsel, Office of Public Counsel, c/o The Florida Legislature, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400  
On behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida.

WILLIAM COCHRAN KEATING IV, Esquire, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850  
On behalf of the Commission Staff.

**FINAL ORDER APPROVING PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT TRUE-UP AMOUNTS AND ESTABLISHING PURCHASED GAS COST RECOVERY FACTORS TO BE APPLIED DURING THE PERIOD APRIL, 1997 THROUGH MARCH, 1998**

**I. CASE BACKGROUND**

As part of the continuing fuel cost recovery, purchased gas cost recovery, energy conservation cost recovery, and environmental cost recovery proceedings, a hearing was held February 19, 1997, in this docket and in Docket Nos. 970001-EI, 970002-EG and 970007-EI.

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, Florida Division (CUC), City Gas Company of Florida (CGC), Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC), Indiantown Gas Company (IGC), Peoples Gas System, Inc. (PGS), Sebring Gas System, Inc. (SGS), St. Joe Natural Gas Company (SJNG), South Florida Natural Gas Company (SFNG), and West Florida Natural Gas Company (WFNG) submitted testimony and exhibits in support of their proposed net true-up amounts, projected end-of-period net true-up amounts, and their purchased gas cost recovery factors. At the Prehearing Conference for this docket, held February 5, 1997, Staff, Office of Public Counsel, and the utilities reached agreement as to the appropriate true-up amounts and recovery factors for each of the utilities. The case was presented to the panel as a stipulation.

DOCUMENT NO.

02699-97

**Adjusted True-ups, Projected True-ups, and Cost Recovery Factors**

The parties stipulated to the purchased gas cost recovery true-up amounts for the various periods, and the appropriate factors to be applied during the April, 1997, through March, 1998, period. We accept and approve the stipulations as reasonable and supported by competent substantial evidence of record.

We find that the appropriate final purchased gas adjustment true-up amounts for the period April, 1995, through March, 1996, are as follows:

Chesapeake Utilities Corp.	\$140,484	Underrecovery
City Gas Company of Florida	\$1,223,433	Underrecovery
Florida Public Utilities	\$1,194,965	Underrecovery
Indiantown Gas Company	\$113,905	Underrecovery
Peoples Gas System, Inc.	\$731,791	Underrecovery
Sebring Gas System, Inc.	\$3,134	Underrecovery
St. Joe Natural Gas Company	\$21,039	Overrecovery
South Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$9,577	Underrecovery
West Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$183,415	Underrecovery

We find that the estimated purchased gas adjustment true-up amounts for the period April, 1996, through March, 1997, are as follows:

Chesapeake Utilities Corp.	\$815,801	Underrecovery
City Gas Company of Florida	\$3,290,895	Underrecovery
Florida Public Utilities	\$41,418	Underrecovery
Indiantown Gas Company	\$108,519	Overrecovery
Peoples Gas System, Inc.	\$1,899,698	Overrecovery
Sebring Gas System, Inc.	\$8,621	Overrecovery
St. Joe Natural Gas Company	\$379,791	Underrecovery

South Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$75,329	Underrecovery
West Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$438,185	Underrecovery

We find that the appropriate total purchased gas adjustment true-up amounts to be collected during the period April, 1997, through March, 1998, are as follows:

Chesapeake Utilities Corp.	\$956,285	Underrecovery
City Gas Company of Florida	\$4,514,328	Underrecovery
Florida Public Utilities	\$1,236,383	Underrecovery
Indiantown Gas Company	\$5,386	Underrecovery
Peoples Gas System, Inc.	\$1,167,907	Overrecovery
Sebring Gas System, Inc.	\$5,487	Overrecovery
St. Joe Natural Gas Company	\$358,752	Underrecovery
South Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$84,906	Underrecovery
West Florida Natural Gas Co.	\$621,600	Underrecovery

We find that the appropriate levelized purchased gas cost recovery (cap) factors for the period April, 1997, through March, 1998, are as follows:

Chesapeake Utilities Corp.	48.537 cents per therm
City Gas Company of Florida	53.660 cents per therm
Florida Public Utilities	52.114 cents per therm
Indiantown Gas Company	36.174 cents per therm
Peoples Gas System, Inc.	42.301 cents per therm
Sebring Gas System, Inc.	51.231 cents per therm
St. Joe Natural Gas Company	67.600 cents per therm

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South Florida Natural Gas Company	43.569 cents per therm
West Florida Natural Gas Company	53.340 cents per therm

We find that these factors shall be effective for all meter readings taken on or after April 1, 1997, beginning with the first or applicable billing cycle for the period April, 1997, through March 1998.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the stipulations set forth in the body of this Order are hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the utilities named herein are authorized to collect the purchased gas cost recovery amounts and utilize the factors approved herein for bills rendered for meter readings taken between April 1, 1997, through March 31, 1998.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 14th day of March, 1997.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay J. Lynn  
Chief, Bureau of Records

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900 (a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.