

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION)
FOR APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT A) PSC DOCKET NO. 19-0054
WEATHER NORMALIZATION)
ADJUSTMENT (Filed January 28, 2019))

ORDER NO. 9342

AND NOW, this 14th day of February, 2019:

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2019, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation ("Chesapeake" or the "Company") filed an application ("Application") with the Delaware Public Service Commission ("Commission") seeking approval of a weather normalization adjustment rider ("WNA Rider") for Residential Service Rate Schedules RS-1 and RS-2, General Service Rate Schedule GS, the Expansion Rates for those three rate schedules (RS-1 Expansion, RS-2 Expansion and GS Expansion), and the Underserved Area RS and GS rate classes; and

WHEREAS, Chesapeake's September 30, 2018 Quarterly Rate of Return Report shows that its actual Rate of Return is approaching its authorized Rate of Return; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to the authority granted to it by 26 Del. C. §306(a)(1), Chesapeake's Application shall be suspended pending the completion of evidentiary hearings into the justness and reasonableness of the proposed WNA Rider in conjunction with addressing the effects of customer growth, Chesapeake's current rate of return, and the recently-enacted DSIC will have on Chesapeake's return on equity and overall rate of return;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF NOT
FEWER THAN THREE COMMISSIONERS:**

1. That implementation of the proposed WNA Rider is hereby suspended pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* §306(a)(1) and shall not be placed into force or effect except pursuant to law or further Order of the Commission, and then only to the extent that such law or further Commission Order may permit or allow.

2. That any proposed non-rate tariff modifications associated with the WNA Rider are suspended until such time as a final Order in this proceeding is issued.

3. Chesapeake shall publish the public notice attached as **"Exhibit A"** in two-column format, outlined in black, in the legal classified sections of The News Journal and Delaware State News newspapers on or before February 26, 2019. Chesapeake shall file proof of such publications with the Commission as soon as practical but not later than the commencement of the evidentiary hearing concerning this matter.

4. That Glenn E. Kenton is designated as the Hearing Examiner for this matter pursuant to the terms of 26 *Del. C.* §502 and 29 *Del. C.* ch. 101 to schedule and conduct, upon due notice, such public comment sessions and evidentiary hearings as may be necessary to have a full and complete record concerning the justness and reasonableness of the proposed WNA Rider and tariff modifications, as well as the effects of a WNA Rider, the DSIC, Chesapeake's current rate of return and customer growth on the Company's return on equity and overall rate of return. Thereafter, Hearing Examiner Kenton shall file with the Commission his proposed findings and recommendations. Pursuant to 26 *Del. Admin. C.*

§1001.2.1, Hearing Examiner Kenton is specifically delegated the authority to grant or deny petitions seeking leave to intervene and for admission of counsel *pro hac vice*. In addition, Hearing Examiner Kenton is delegated the authority, under 26 Del. C. §102(A), to determine the form and manner of any further public notice in this matter.

5. That the deadline for filing petitions for leave to intervene pursuant to 26 Del. Admin. C. §1001.2.9 shall be March 25, 2019. Late-filed petitions for leave to intervene will not be granted unless good cause is shown. Intervenors must comply with the procedural schedule in place at the time intervention is granted, including any deadlines that may have been established prior to the granting of intervenor status.

6. Chesapeake is hereby placed on notice that the costs of this proceeding will be charged to it under the provisions of 26 Del. C. §114(b)(1).

7. That the Commission reserves the jurisdiction and authority to enter such further Orders in this matter as may be deemed necessary or proper.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary

Exhibit "A"

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION)
FOR APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT A WEATHER)
NORMALIZATION ADJUSTMENT) PSC DOCKET NO. 19-0054
(FILED JANUARY 28, 2019))

P U B L I C N O T I C E

**TO : ALL NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS OF CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES
CORPORATION AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS**

**Chesapeake Utilities Corporation's Proposed Weather Normalization
Adjustment**

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation ("Chesapeake") has filed an application ("Application") with the Delaware Public Service Commission ("Commission") pursuant to 26 Del. C. §§201, 302,

304 and other applicable authorities, seeking approval of a weather normalization adjustment rider ("WNA Rider") for residential and smaller commercial customers. The proposed WNA Rider, which Chesapeake states is designed to produce natural gas bills that reflect normal temperatures, will provide either a billing credit during colder than normal weather or surcharge during warmer than normal weather. The WNA Rider will help ensure the Company does not over-collect or under-collect its Commission-authorized level of distribution revenues due to weather variability. Chesapeake submitted this Application pursuant to.

The Commission will conduct evidentiary hearings, to be

scheduled at a later date, concerning this Application. The Commission's final decision will be based on the entire record of the case.

If you wish to formally participate as a party in this matter, with the right to present evidence and be represented by counsel, you must file with the Commission a written petition asking for leave to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (26 Del. Admin. C. § 1001-2.9) **on or before March 26, 2019**. All such petitions should be e-filed according to the Commission's rules (26 Del. Admin. C. § 1001-1.6.4). Petitions filed after the deadline of March 26, 2019, will not be considered except for good cause shown.

Interested persons are afforded the opportunity to file objections to the proposed changes to the proposed WNA. Such objections or written comments shall be filed **on or before March 26, 2019** using the Commission's file management system, Delafile (<http://delafile.delaware.gov>), and searching for Docket No. 19-0054.

You are invited to review Chesapeake's application and supporting documents to determine how your interests may be affected by going to DelaFile (<http://delafile.delaware.gov>), the Commission's file management system, and by searching for Docket No. 19-0054.

If you would like to review documents at the Commission's offices, please contact Donna Nickerson at (302) 736-7500 or by

sending an email addressed to donna.nickerson@state.de.us . You may also review copies of Chesapeake's Application and supporting documents at the office of the Division of the Public Advocate located at either 820 North French Street, 4th Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801 or 29 South State Street, Dover, DE 19901. Please call either (302) 577-5077 (Wilmington) or (302) 241- 2555 (Dover) to arrange for a time to review the documents at either of those locations.

If you wish to request copies of documents in this matter, please submit a Freedom of Information Act Request Form. The link to this form can be found on the Commission's website, <http://depsec.delaware.gov>, or by visiting this web address <https://delafile.delaware.gov/Complaints/FOIA.aspx>. The Commission will respond to your request in accordance with the Delaware Freedom of Information Act, 29 Del. C. ch. 100.

If you have a disability and wish to participate or to review the materials in this matter, please contact the Commission to discuss any auxiliary aids or services you might need to help you. You may contact the Commission in person, by writing, by telephone (including text telephone), by Internet e-mail, or other means. If you have questions about this matter, you may call the Commission at 1-800-282-8574 (toll- free in Delaware) or (302) 736-7500 (voice and text telephone). You may also send questions regarding this matter by Internet e-mail addressed to connie.mcdowell@state.de.us - please include "PSC Docket No. 19-0054 as the subject.