

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. 4 Irving Place
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June 24, 2022

Honorable Michelle L. Phillips Secretary New York State Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor Albany, New York 12223-1350

RE: Cases 14-M-0565 et al., Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program

## Dear Secretary Phillips:

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (the "Company") is filing with the Public Service Commission (the "Commission") amendments to its Schedule for Gas Service, P.S.C. No. 4 – GAS (the "Gas Tariff"). The revised Gas Tariff leaves, which are identified below, are filed to become effective on July 1, 2022.

Leaf No.	Revision No.	Superseding No.
2	7	6
47.2	1	0
80.3.10	2	1
80.3.11	0	

## Reason for Filing

This filing is made pursuant to the Commission's <u>Order Authorizing Phase 1 Arrears Reduction Program</u>, issued and effective June 16, 2022, in Cases 14-M-0565 et al. (the "Order"). The Order directed the Company to file tariff amendments in conformance to the Order to implement the Phase 1 Arrears Reduction Program.<sup>1</sup>

## **Tariff Changes**

Pursuant to the Order, the Company is filing changes to its Gas Tariff as described below.

 The Company added General Information Section 6.18 to the Gas Tariff to describe the provisions for the new Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program. Under the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program, SC 1 and 6 – Rate IA customers who received benefits from the Company's Low Income Program described in

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Company refers to this program as the "Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program."

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General Information Section No. 6.16, New York State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program, or the Home Energy Assistance Program - Regular Arrears Supplement, subject to the conditions in the Order will receive a one-time bill credit under the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program for any arrears balances from bills for service through May 1, 2022.<sup>2</sup>

Ordering Clause 10 of the Order indicates that recoverable costs are to be recovered through a surcharge on customer bills based on either: (1) an allocation consistent with how uncollectible costs were allocated in each company's most recent rate cases; or (2) for those companies who cannot allocate costs based on specific allocators due to billing system or rate mechanism limitations, an alternate proposal. Since the Company cannot implement a surcharge meeting the requirements of (1) above in time to effectuate the surcharge per the requirements of the Order, in addition to the Company undergoing a transition to a new billing system, the Company is proposing an alternative. The Company proposes to recover the bill credits applied to customer bills for the Electric and Gas Bill Relief Program in exceedance of funds provided by New York State and shareholders, plus carrying charges in the Company's existing Monthly Gas Adjustment mechanism.

## **Conclusion and Notice**

As directed by Ordering Clause 11 of the Order, the tariff amendments are filed on not less than five days' notice to become effective on July 1, 2022. Pursuant to Ordering Clause 12 of the Order, the Company will file proof of newspaper publication within six weeks of the effective date of the tariff amendments.

Very truly yours,

/s/

William A. Atzl, Jr. Director – Rate Engineering

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This new General Information Section was added to the Table of Contents.