..DID: 13219 ..TXT:

> National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation 10 Lafayette Square Buffalo, NY 14203

September 28, 2000

Hon. Janet H. Deixler, Secretary New York State Department of Public Service Three Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350

Dear Secretary Deixler:

Enclosed is an electronic version of Gas Adjustment Statement No. 31 applicable to Service Classification Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9 of our Rate Schedule P.S.C. No. 8 - Gas. The Gas Adjustment Statement No. 31 will be effective commencing with gas used on or after October 1, 2000.

The estimated amount related to surcharges and credits included in Statement No. 31 is \$502,000 based on estimated October 2000 sales of 24,050,000 Ccf. The estimated effect on revenue, exclusive of surcharges and credits, is an increase of \$54,049,000 on an annual basis.

The surcharge calculation for October 2000 Transition Cost Surcharge pursuant to General Leaf No. 148.2 of P.S.C. No 8 - Gas is included as a workpaper. The unit surcharge of \$0.1535 /Mcf is applicable for October 1, 2000 through October 31, 2000.

In addition, Customer Balancing and Aggregation Statement No. 31, Deficiency Imbalance Sales Service Rate Statement No. 31, Demand Transfer Recovery Rate Statement No. 31, Gas Transportation Statement No. 32, Natural Gas Vehicle Statement No. 31, Standby Sales Service Rate Statement No. 31, Transportation Sales Service Rate Statement No.33, Upstream Pipeline Weighted Average Capacity Cost Statement No. 31, Revenue Credit Statement No. 24, and Standby Capacity Insurance Rate Statement No. 12 are included.

This statement is filed in compliance with 16 NYCRR, Section 270.55. Information pertaining to section 270.55d(7) will be delivered under separate cover letter.

In connection with this filing, the Company is also required to submit information that contains trade secrets. Accordingly, the Company has filed the required information with the Department Records Access Officer, together with a request for trade secret protection under the Commission's regulation. The instant filing includes redacted copies of the documents submitted to the Department Records Access Officer. The information for which trade secret protection has been requested is deleted. Copies of the same documents, with the redacted sections shaded (but legible) for identification, are being submitted to the Department Records Access Office under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Ronald J. Grabowski General Manager Rates & Regulatory Affairs

Encl.