..DID: 6810

..TXT:

December 30, 1998

Honorable Debra Renner
Acting Secretary
State of New York
Department of Public Service
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Re: Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.
Gas Rate Increase Application

## Dear Acting Secretary Renner:

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (the "Company") hereby submits for filing the following revisions to its Schedule for Gas Service P.S.C. No. 4 - GAS.

Leaf	2	Revision	2	Leaf	112	Revision	1
Leaf	4	Revision	1	Leaf	113	Revision	1
Leaf	7	Revision	2	Leaf	114	Revision	1
Leaf	33	Revision	2	Leaf	115	Revision	3
Leaf	34	Revision	2	Leaf	116	Revision	2
Leaf	35	Revision	1	Leaf	117	Revision	3
Leaf	36	Revision	1	Leaf	118	Revision	2
Leaf	37	Revision	2	Leaf	120	Revision	2
Leaf	38	Revision	1	Leaf	121	Revision	2
Leaf	39	Revision	1	Leaf	122	Revision	2
Leaf	40	Revision	1	Leaf	123	Revision	2
Leaf	41	Revision	1	Leaf	124	Revision	2
Leaf	42	Revision	1	Leaf	125	Revision	2
Leaf	43	Revision	1	Leaf	126	Revision	1
Leaf	44	Revision	1	Leaf	127	Revision	2
Leaf	45	Revision	1	Leaf	129	Revision	3
Leaf	46	Revision	1	Leaf	130	Revision	2
Leaf	47	Revision	2	Leaf	_	Revision	3
Leaf	57	Revision	1	Leaf	132	Revision	2
Leaf	63	Revision	1	Leaf	133	Revision	5
Leaf	64	Revision	1	Leaf	133.1	Revision	1
Leaf	70	Revision	2	Leaf	133.2	Revision	1
Leaf	71	Revision	1	Leaf	134	Revision	2
Leaf	72	Revision	1	Leaf	135	Revision	1
Leaf	75	Revision	1	Leaf	137	Revision	2
Leaf	82	Revision	2	Leaf	138	Revision	3
Leaf	83	Revision	1	Leaf	139	Revision	2
Leaf	86	Revision	2	Leaf	140	Revision	2

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Leaf	141	Revision	2	Leaf 168	Revision 1
Leaf	142	Revision	1	Leaf 169	Revision 1
Leaf	143	Revision	1	Leaf 170	Revision 1
Leaf	144	Revision	1	Leaf 175	Revision 1
Leaf	145	Revision	2		
Leaf	147	Revision	1		
Leaf	148	Revision	1		
Leaf	149	Revision	1		
Leaf	150	Revision	2		
Leaf	151	Revision	2		
Leaf	154	Revision	2		
Leaf	155	Revision	3		
Leaf	160	Revision	2		
Leaf	161	Revision	3		

These tariff leaves are issued on December 30, 1998, with an effective date of January 29, 1999.

The proposed tariff leaves are designed to produce an increase in annual gas revenues of \$3.9 million. This equates to a 2.5 percent increase in annual gas revenues based on anticipated operations for the rate year, twelve months ending September 30, 2000. Historic year operations cover the twelvemonth period ended June 30, 1998. The proposed increase does not constitute a "major change" under Section 66 (12) of the Public Service Law and therefore, the Company requests Commission consideration of these proposed rates on a schedule that is consistent with similar filings.

Please be advised that on November 20, 1998 the Company filed a motion for waiver of the 150-day period set forth in the Commission's "Statement of Policy on Test Periods for Major Rate Proceedings." At the time the motion was filed, however, the Company was considering the filing of an application for a major change in rates. Subsequently, the Company determined to seek an increase of 2.5%, a non-major rate change, with follow-on rate relief. Should the Commission believe that it is still necessary to rule upon the Company's motion, this letter will serve as a request for renewal of the motion.

Appendix A attached hereto sets forth the estimated number of gas bills that would increase, and the gross revenue increases as a result of this filing.

Appendix B, also attached, summarizes the present and proposed gas rates.

The Company also proposes to amend its Schedule for  $\mbox{\it Gas}$  Service to reflect the following:

- a change in the Factor of Adjustment used in the determination of the Gas Adjustment Charge;
- 2) the elimination of the Utility Low Income Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Mechanism;
- 3) changes in the Weather Normalization Adjustment Clause; and
- 4) a conversion from Ccf to therm billing.

The attached Appendix C contains sample statement sheets reflecting the change in the Factor of Adjustment and the conversion from Ccf to therm billing.

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Also enclosed are 25 copies of the testimony and exhibits that the Company is submitting in support of its proposed rate year gas revenue requirements and rate design, and post rate year adjustments. A list of Company witnesses follows:

Robert C. Allen
William A. Atzl, Jr.
Terry L. Dittrich
Howard Geisenheimer
Diane B. Hamerman
Joseph A. Holtman
Richard A. Kane

Kenneth A. Kosior
Anton Loewy
Frank P. Marino
Joseph S. Nappo
Robert G. Rosenberg
Maria B. Shwalb
Gerard S. Sullivan

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Also included with this filing is the SAPA notice and General Filing Information Form. Notice of this filing will be published in accordance with 16 NYCRR 270.70 and proof of publication will be submitted upon completion. In addition, the Company will issue appropriate bill inserts in accordance with 16 NYCRR 270.80.

Very truly yours,

Frank P. Marino Director - Compliance