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NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION

10 Lafayette Square

Buffalo, NY 14203

October 7, 1999

Hon. Debra Renner
Acting Secretary
Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12123-1350

Dear Secretary Renner:

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation ("Distribution" or the "Company") submits the following amendments to its tariff, P.S.C. No. 8 - GAS:

Leaf No. 3 Revision 7
Leaf No. 156.5 Revision 1
Supplement No. 3

The proposed revisions are issued as of today for an effective date of November 7, 1999. The Company requests that the tariff leaves become effective on "short notice" in order to go into effective simultaneously with the tariff leaves originally filed on August 19, 1999.

Description of Proposed Amendments: Background

Distribution proposed a new service classification, Elderly, Blind or Disabled Payment-Troubled Residential Assistance Service on August 19, 1999. It is created as a subset of the Company's low-income residential assistance ("LIRA") service. A limited number of eligible elderly, blind or disabled ("EBD") customers will receive the benefits similar to those currently being provided to participants by the existing LIRA program. This new service classification is designed to assist in the reduction of arrearages and to help ease the participants' financial burden.

The proposed revisions submitted herewith are a result of discussions with Department of Public Service Staff. Substantively, the provisions for arrearage forgiveness have been amended to allow monthly forgiveness for timely payment of bills under the lower Service Classification No. 2A rate. The revision would reward customers for improved payment behavior rather than eliminating all arrearages at the time of enrollment as called for under the August 19, 1999 submission. Because funding for the rate schedule is limited in the aggregate amount of \$400,000, the effect of the revision would be to help a greater number of customers only at the expense of those enrolled Service Classification No. 2A customers who failed to pay their bills in a timely fashion.

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Newspaper Publication

The Company requests waiver of the requirement for newspaper publication on the grounds that it would be an unnecessary expense and would not be in the public interest. The Company will provide notice of the proposed service through its outreach activities and in cooperation with Commission Staff and community-based social service organizations, throughout the service territory.

S.A.P.A.

A S.A.P.A. notice was submitted in the original filing dated August 19, 1999.

Company Contact

For questions and correspondence relating to this filing, please contact the undersigned at 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York, 14203, (716) 857-7325.

Conclusion

Accordingly, please accept this filing as a further revision to amend National Fuel's tariff in adopting a new service classification for these customers.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth M. Gossel