

..DID: 370

..TXT:

NYSEG

December 18, 1996

Honorable John C. Crary
Secretary
Public Service Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

Dear Secretary Crary:

The enclosed Schedule, issued by New York State Electric & Gas Corporation ("NYSEG"), is transmitted for filing in compliance with the requirements of the Public Service Commission of the State of New York.

Schedule PSC No. 87 Gas

Effective March 7, 1997.

Proposed New Schedule

NYSEG is proposing to cancel P.S.C. Nos. 73, 75, 76, 79, 82 and 86 - Gas and consolidate all its' sales areas, except P.S.C. No. 84 - Gas (Binghamton Districts) into one tariff, PSC No. 87 Gas.

Currently, NYSEG's gas sales territory is broken into seven (7) different rate areas. Basically, the rules, regulations, terms and conditions for service in these areas are identical, excluding P.S.C. No. 84 - Gas (formerly CNY tariff). Therefore, it was determined that it would be beneficial to consolidate six (6) of the sales tariffs into one (1) tariff. The proposed Schedule PSC No. 87 Gas represents this consolidation. The rates have not been changed. The content of the tariff has been revised to include all six (6) rate areas, however, the context of the text remains the same. Appropriate "housekeeping" revisions such as: (1) the addition of new gas franchise territories granted in Case Nos. 96-G-0058, 96-G-0365 and 96-G-0403; (2) the elimination of an obsolete Special Provision for the Elmira District entitled "Rate for Sales in Excess of 600,000 Therms per Month"; (3) the elimination of the "Application for Gas Service" and "Application for Interruptible Incentive Service" forms which appeared in Service Classification Nos. 3 and 7, respectively, which have been replaced by individual Service Agreements; (4) the addition of the City of Plattsburgh and the Village of Cobleskill to the Revenue Tax Surcharge Statement as a city and village that imposes the 1% Municipal Tax rate; (5) the renumbering of sections to eliminate "blank" sections in the tariff have been made to bring the new tariff up-to-date; (6) the Minimum Charge section of Service Classification No. 3 has been revised to indicate that the Statement of Gas Interruptible Transportation will be filed to be

effective October 31 of each year, rather than October 31, 1995 which was inadvertently added during the 93-G-0932 compliance filing; (7) references to statements and/or tariffs being "available to the public at the Company offices at which application for service may be made" have been revised to reflect the electronic availability of tariffs and statements. The phrase has been revised and reads "...will be readily accessible to the public"; and (8) all references to P.S.C. No. 83 - Gas have been changed to PSC No. 88 Gas to reflect the new PSC number assigned to the electronic version of P.S.C. No. 83 - Gas, which is being filed under separate cover with the Commission.

Reasons for Proposed New Schedule

The Public Service Commission has developed a new procedure for filing tariffs electronically. To start the new Electronic Tariff System (ETS), it is necessary for New York State utilities to cancel their current schedule(s) and submit new ones formatted for the ETS. The filing of these new schedules presents the opportunity for the utilities to "clean-up" their current tariffs by making "housekeeping" revisions.

Background

On July 30, 1996, the Commission's Electronic Tariff Team held a meeting to introduce the ETS to New York State gas and electric utilities. Team members explained the need for the new system, how it would benefit the Commission as well as the utilities, and performed a demonstration of how the tariffs will be accessible on the Commission's Home Page on the World Wide Web. Due to the many changes in the format of the tariff leaves and the new procedure for the electronic filing of the tariffs, Staff found it necessary to revise appropriate sections of 16 NYCRR to bring them up-to-date. Staff has sent proposed changes to 16 NYCRR to the utilities for comment.

Customer Impact Assessment

Since all aspects of the current tariff schedules are included in the consolidated schedule, PSC No. 87 Gas, there will be no customer impact.

Effect of Proposed Revisions

Electronic tariff filings will benefit the Commission, the utilities, and the public. Cost savings will be experienced by the Commission and the utilities in that it will lower postage, paper, and labor expenses of the "hard copy" procedure. Tariffs will be available through the Commission's Home Page on the World Wide Web which will make accessibility by the public easy and cost effective.

Newspaper Publication & SAPA

NYSEG requests waiver of publication of this proposed change in accordance with 16 NYCRR Part 270.70, as the combination of the tariffs into one tariff, nor the electronic filing of the tariff, has NO direct impact to NYSEG's gas customers.

HONORABLE JOHN C. CRARY

PAGE 3

DECEMBER 18, 1996

A State Administrative Procedure Act Notice is enclosed for publication in the State Bulletin.

Special Requests

NYSEG requests a waiver from the applicable sections of 16 NYCRR Part 270 to allow for the new electronic format.

Company Contacts

If you have any questions regarding this tariff revision, please contact Jeff Kern at (607)762-8004.

Very Truly Yours,

/dls
Encls.

R. SCOTT GAHN
Manager of Rates
Gas Business Unit