

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held in the City of  
Albany on March 14, 1996

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

John F. O'Mara, Chairman  
Lisa Rosenblum  
Harold A. Jerry, Jr.  
William D. Cotter  
Eugene W. Zeltmann

- CASE 93-G-0932 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Address Issues Associated with the Restructuring of the Emerging Competitive Natural Gas Market.
- CASE 95-G-0675 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the rates, charges, rules and regulations of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation for gas services.
- CASE 95-G-0691 - Ordinary Tariff Filing of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation to unbundle and assign Upstream Capacity to Firm Sales Service Customers Migrating to Transportation.
- CASE 95-G-1035 - Compliance Filing of Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation to restructure its gas sales service rates, introduce aggregated transportation service, and incorporate other gas service modifications pursuant to Commission directives in Case 93-G-0932.
- CASE 95-G-1039 - Compliance Filing of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation to restructure its gas sales service rates, introduce aggregated transportation service, and incorporate other gas service modifications pursuant to Commission directives in Case 93-G-0932.
- CASE 95-G-1040 - Compliance Filing of Orange and Rockland Utilities Inc. to restructure its gas sales service rates, introduce aggregated transportation service, and incorporate other gas service modifications pursuant to Commission directives in Case 93-G-0932.
- CASE 95-G-1041 - Compliance Filing of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation to restructure its gas sales service rates, introduce aggregated transportation service, and incorporate other gas service modifications pursuant to Commission directives in Case 93-G-0932.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

New York residential and non-residential consumers of natural gas services will see the market opened to competition under the new unbundled service tariffs.

Current protections will remain in force for the LDC component of the services rendered. The portion of the service resulting from the new relationships among the marketers, LDCs and the customers will be based on contractual agreements, tariff provisions and good customer principles.

Residential Service

Protections for residential customers of LDCs must remain in effect. Staff issued a Discussion Paper and facilitated a meeting among interested parties to consider how to ensure that customers' aggregated services will continue to be provided with adequate safeguards. Comments received from parties fell into two categories: some argued the full protection of the law must apply also to customers of marketers,

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<sup>1/</sup> Id., pp. 8, 26-28.

<sup>2/</sup> However, customers that change non-utility gas suppliers more frequently than annually may be charged a \$25 fee for such a change.

should a marketer discontinue supply, the customer will continue to receive gas service from the LDC. The LDC then will be required to provide full HEFPA protection prior to termination. This is important to protect against potentially harmful situations. These provisions should also be stated in LDC tariffs offering aggregation services.