

GARY HERBERT. Governor SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor

## State of Utah Department of Commerce Division of Public Utilities

FRANCINE GIANI Executive Director THOMAS BRADY Deputy Director CHRIS PARKER Director, Division of Public Utilities

## ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

- TO: Public Service Commission
- FROM: Division of Public Utilities: Chris Parker, Director, Artie Powell, Energy Manager Brenda Salter, Technical Consultant Charles Peterson, Technical Consultant
- DATE: February 18, 2016
- DOCKET: Docket No. 16-057-T02, Docket No. 14-057-32, In the Matter of Questar Gas Company's Proposed Tariff Revisions; In the Matter of a Request for Agency Action to Review the Carrying Charges Applied to Various Questar Gas Company Account Balances

## **RECOMMENDATIONS** (Approve)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends that the Commission approve the revised language affecting Questar Gas Company (Questar or Company) tariff Schedule 400 Section 8.03 related to the Energy Assistance Fund.

## **DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION**

On February 10, 2016 Questar filed with the Commission a memorandum that detailed the investigation of the Company into the question raised by the Division in Docket No. 14-057-32 regarding the application of a tax adjustment to the carrying charge in certain accounts. Prior to this filing the Division had several meetings with the Company and reviewed documents from



the 1982 docket cited below. As Questar explains this tax adjustment originated in the early 1980s. The Division understands that this tax adjustment language was included, apparently, as part of the terms of a settlement in Docket No. 82-057-16. Questar reports that there is scant information available explaining the reasons for that settlement language so long ago, and has done its best to reconstruct the thinking that went into it.

The Division accepts Questar's explanation as the best that can be done under the circumstances. The Division also agrees with the Company's recommendation to make additional changes to its tariff to include the tax adjustment language to the Energy Assistance Fund for the sake of consistency. Therefore the Division recommends that the Commission approve the proposed changes to the Company's Schedule 400.

cc: Michele Beck, Committee of Consumer Services Barrie L. McKay, Questar Gas Company Kelly Mendenhall, Questar Gas Company