

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the Application of Questar)
Gas Company for Approval of the 2012 Year) DOCKET NO. 11-057-12
Budget for Energy Efficiency Programs and)
Market Transformation Initiative) REPORT AND ORDER

ISSUED: December 2, 2011

By The Commission:

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

This matter is before the Commission on Questar Gas Company's ("Company") October 11, 2011, Application for Approval of the 2012 Year Budget for Energy Efficiency Programs and Market Transformation Initiative ("Application"). The Company's Application contains a description of the programs and budget. The Company's Application requests approval of costs associated with delivery of the proposed energy efficiency programs and associated evaluation costs. On October 18, 2011, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division of Public Utilities ("Division") to review the request and provide comments by November 10, 2012.

DISCUSSION

In its Application the Company states the ThermWise Energy Efficiency Programs proposed to continue in 2012 are:

1. the ThermWise Appliance Rebates Program;
2. the ThermWise Builder Rebates Program;
3. the ThermWise Business Rebates Program;
4. the ThermWise Weatherization Rebates Program;
5. the ThermWise Home Energy Audit Program;
6. funding of \$500,000 for the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program administered by the Utah Department of Community and Economic Development; and
7. the ThermWise Business Custom Rebates Program.

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The Application contains evidence the proposed programs pass the required cost benefit tests based on the estimated participation levels, anticipated costs, and expected savings. The proposed budget is \$28,334,990, which is 12.1 % below the 2011 budget.

On November 9, 2011, the Office of Consumer Services (“Office”) filed a memorandum recommending the Commission approve the Company’s proposed 2012 budget and programs as filed. On November 10, 2011, the Division filed comments recommending approval of the Company’s proposed programs and budget subject to the following conditions or corrections. The Division recommends the Commission keep the current reporting requirements in place. The Division’s memorandum does not specify which reporting requirements may not be continued without further direction from the Commission. Since the Commission generally believes the current reporting meets the needs of the interested parties, it will seek further commentary regarding which reporting practices need to be required by Commission action. Additionally the Division notes the application contains errors in Exhibit 1.9 (the gross decatherms saved shown for the ThermWise Appliance Program should be 227,020 instead of 210,579), and in the footnote in §2.14 (for the ThermWise Weatherization Program the self-install option is still available without the requirement of an inspection). The Division also notes the ThermWise Business Program’s High Efficiency Roof Top Furnace measure has limited participation, if any.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Based upon the analysis and recommendations of the Division and Office the Commission finds, with the Division’s corrections, the proposed budget, programs, and submitted tariff sheets are in the public interest.

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ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

1. The budget and proposed programs are approved with an effective date of January 1, 2012.
2. The example tariff sheets, with the Division's corrections, are approved with an effective date of January 1, 2012. The Company shall make a compliance filing in a separate Tariff Docket as soon as is practicable.
3. The Company shall work with the Division to prepare the Compliance filing.
4. The Division shall verify to the Commission the Company's Tariff Sheets are consistent with this Order within one week of the Company's compliance filing.
5. The Company and Division shall prepare a recommendation to the Commission regarding reporting requirements.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 2nd day of December, 2011.

/s/ Ted Boyer, Chairman

/s/ Ric Campbell, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary
D#211970

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Notice of Opportunity for Agency Review or Rehearing

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15, a party may seek agency review or rehearing of this order by filing a request for review or rehearing with the Commission within 30 days after the issuance of the order. Responses to a request for agency review or rehearing must be filed within 15 days of the filing of the request for review or rehearing. If the Commission fails to grant a request for review or rehearing within 20 days after the filing of a request for review or rehearing, it is deemed denied. Judicial review of the Commission's final agency action may be obtained by filing a Petition for Review with the Utah Supreme Court within 30 days after final agency action. Any Petition for Review must comply with the requirements of Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-401, 63G-4-403, and the Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.