

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
AT RICHMOND, JULY 27, 2022

APPLICATION OF

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY

CASE NO. PUR-2022-00054

For authority to increase existing rates and charges and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to gas service pursuant to § 56-237 of the Code of Virginia

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On June 29, 2022, Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), requesting authority to increase its rates and charges<sup>1</sup> effective for usage beginning November 26, 2022, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to its gas service ("Application").<sup>2</sup>

In its Application, WGL advises that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's annual non-gas base operating revenues by approximately \$86.6 million per year, of which approximately \$38.6 million relates to costs associated with investments in infrastructure replacements made pursuant to the Company's Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy

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<sup>1</sup> On April 8, 2022, WGL filed in this docket a Petition for Waiver of 2021 Annual Informational Filing and Notice of Rate Case Filing. On April 21, 2022, the Commission granted WGL's petition on the condition that WGL file a rate application as anticipated. Order on Request for Waiver at 2.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to § 56-238 of the Code, the 150-day suspension period for the Company's proposed interim rates runs through November 26, 2022. WGL states that "[t]he first day of the December 2022 billing cycle is November 29, 2022." Application at 1, n.1.

("SAVE") plan pursuant to § 56-603 *et seq.* of the Code.<sup>3</sup> According to the Company, the revenue requirement does not include any costs related to the acquisition of WGL by AltaGas Ltd. on July 6, 2018,<sup>4</sup> including any payments related to the commitments in the District of Columbia and Maryland.<sup>5</sup> The Company states that it is not earning sufficient annual revenues to cover its cost of service, including a reasonable return on common equity capital.<sup>6</sup> In its Application, WGL indicates that its requested increase reflects "increases in rate base, [Operations & Maintenance] costs including wage and benefits increases, as well as compliance and safety-related expenses" since its last base rate increase.<sup>7</sup>

According to the Company, its proposed rate increase is based on an overall rate of return of 7.65% on rate base, including a return on common equity of 10.75%.<sup>8</sup> WGL proposes the

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<sup>3</sup> Application at 1-2 and 7, n.9. The Company states that it correspondingly will remove this revenue requirement from the SAVE Rider. *Id.* at 2, n.2.

<sup>4</sup> Application at 2. *See Joint Petition of Washington Gas Light Company, WGL Holdings, Inc., and AltaGas Ltd., For approval of an acquisition of control of a public utility pursuant to the Utility Transfers Act, Va. Code § 56-88 et seq.*, Case No. PUR-2017-00049, 2017 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 492, Final Order (Oct. 20, 2017). On April 4, 2018, the Maryland Public Service Commission approved the merger subject to certain conditions, which the applicants in that case accepted. *See In the Matter of the Merger of AltaGas Ltd. and WGL Holdings, Inc.*, Case No. 9449, Order No. 88631 (Apr. 4, 2018) and letter from counsel for the applicants in that case (Apr. 5, 2018). On June 29, 2018, the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia issued an Order approving the proposed merger and Settlement Agreement, subject to certain conditions, which the settling parties accepted. *See In the matter of the merger of AltaGas Ltd. and WGL Holdings, Inc.*, Formal Case No. 1142, Order No. 19396 (June 29, 2018) and letter from counsel on behalf of settling parties (July 2, 2018).

<sup>5</sup> Application at 2.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 5-6.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 5.

<sup>8</sup> Direct Testimony of Dylan W. D'Ascendis at 6.

following annual increase in rates for its Northern Virginia customers and its Shenandoah Gas Division customers:<sup>9</sup>

	WGL Northern Virginia <u>Division Customers</u>		WGL Shenandoah <u>Division Customers</u>	
	Excluding SAVE Roll-in	Including SAVE Roll-in	Excluding SAVE Roll-in	Including SAVE Roll-in
Residential	6.3%	11.4%	6.2%	11.1%
Commercial and Industrial				
Heating and/or cooling	6.0%	10.8%	6.0%	10.9%
Non-heating/non-cooling	4.1%	7.3%	3.9%	7.1%
Group Metered Apartments				
Heating and/or cooling	5.4%	9.8%	6.5%	11.8%
Non-heating/non-cooling	3.4%	6.2%	4.0%	7.3%
Large Commercial and Industrial	5.0%	9.1%	4.3%	7.7%
Large Group Metered Apartments	4.4%	8.0%	n/a	n/a <sup>10</sup>

WGL also proposes various revisions to its Virginia tariff to reflect the new rates and proposals, including revisions to GSP No. 16 related to new technologies and innovations in the Purchased Gas Charge for gas service in Virginia.<sup>11</sup> WGL also proposes to implement its proposed rates, on an interim basis and subject to refund, effective for usage beginning

<sup>9</sup> Application at 7-8.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 8.

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 9.

November 26, 2022, and to implement proposed rates, charges, and revised terms and conditions of service upon issuance of the Commission's Final Order in this proceeding.<sup>12</sup>

NOW THE COMMISSION, having considered this matter, is of the opinion and finds that WGL should provide notice of its Application; a public hearing should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Company's Application; a procedural schedule should be established to allow interested persons an opportunity to file written or electronic comments on the Company's Application or to participate in this proceeding as a respondent; and the Commission's Staff ("Staff") should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon. We also find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission and to file a final report.

The Commission takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. The Commission has taken certain actions, and may take additional actions going forward, which could impact the procedures in this proceeding.<sup>13</sup> Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established

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<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 12.

<sup>13</sup> See, e.g., *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic Service of Commission Orders*, Case No. CLK-2020-00004, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 76, Order Concerning Electronic Service of Commission Orders (Mar. 19, 2020), *extended by* 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 77, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel., State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00005, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 77, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020) ("Revised Operating Procedures Order"), *extended by* 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 78, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic service among parties during COVID-19 emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00007, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 79, Order Requiring Electronic Service (Apr. 1, 2020).

below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

We note that the Application, if approved, would result in an increase to customer bills. The Commission notes its awareness of the ongoing rise in gas prices, inflation, and other economic pressures that are impacting all utility customers. We are sensitive to the effects of rate increases, especially in times such as these. The Commission, however, must and will follow the laws applicable to this case, as well as the findings of fact supported by evidence in the record.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2022-00054.
- (2) All pleadings in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.* Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> As noted in the Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may be subject to delayed processing due to the COVID-19 public health issues.

(3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.

(4) As provided by § 12.1-31 of the Code and 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedures before hearing examiners*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission and to file a final report.

(5) The Commission hereby schedules a telephonic hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application, as follows:

- a. A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application shall be convened telephonically at 10 a.m., on May 1, 2023, with no public witness present in the Commission's courtroom.<sup>15</sup>
- b. To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.
- c. On or before April 25, 2023, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.

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<sup>15</sup> The Commission will convene counsel of record in this proceeding to attend the public witness hearing virtually.

- d. Beginning at 10 a.m., on May 1, 2023, the Commission will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above. This hearing will not be convened, and the parties will be notified of such, if no person signs up to testify as a public witness.
- e. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

(6) A hearing will be convened on May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive testimony and evidence from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff.

(7) On or before August 15, 2022, WGL shall file a bond with the Commission in the amount of \$86.6 million payable to the Commission and conditioned to ensure the prompt refund by the Company, to those entitled thereto, of all amounts the Company shall collect in excess of such rates and charges as the Commission may finally fix and determine.

(8) An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Meera Ahamed, Esquire, Washington Gas Light Company, 1000 Maine Avenue SW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20024, [meeraahamed@washgas.com](mailto:meeraahamed@washgas.com). Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

(9) On or before August 26, 2022, WGL shall cause the following notice to be published as display advertising (not classified) on one (1) occasion in newspapers of general circulation throughout the Company's Virginia service territory:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF  
WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY'S  
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE EXISTING  
RATES AND CHARGES AND TO REVISE THE TERMS  
AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO GAS SERVICE  
CASE NO. PUR-2022-00054

- **Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL") has applied for approval of a general increase in rates.**
- **WGL requests an increase to its total revenue requirement of \$86.6 million.**
- **A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on May 1, 2023, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.**
- **The Hearing Examiner will hold an evidentiary hearing in this case on May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.**
- **Further information about this case is available on the State Corporation Commission's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/case](http://scc.virginia.gov/case).**

On June 29, 2022, Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") requesting authority to increase its rates and charges effective for usage beginning November 26, 2022, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to its gas service ("Application").

In its Application, WGL advises that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's non-gas base operating revenues by approximately \$86.6 million per year, of which approximately \$38.6 million



relates to costs associated with investments in infrastructure replacements made pursuant to the Company's Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy plan pursuant to § 56-603 *et seq.* of the Code.

According to the Company, the revenue requirement does not include any costs related to the acquisition of WGL by AltaGas Ltd. on July 6, 2018, including any payments related to the commitments in the District of Columbia and Maryland. The Company states that it is not earning sufficient annual revenues to cover its cost of service, including a reasonable return on common equity capital. In its Application, WGL indicates that its requested increase reflects "increases in rate base, [Operations & Maintenance] costs including wage and benefits increases, as well as compliance and safety-related expenses" since its last base rate increase.

According to the Company, its proposed rate increase is based on an overall rate of return of 7.65% on rate base, including a return on common equity of 10.75%. WGL proposes the following annual increase in rates for its Northern Virginia customers and its Shenandoah Gas Division customers:

	WGL Northern Virginia <u>Division Customers</u>		WGL Shenandoah <u>Division Customers</u>	
	Excluding SAVE Roll-in	Including SAVE Roll-in	Excluding SAVE Roll-in	Including SAVE Roll-in
	Residential	6.3%	11.4%	6.2%
Commercial and Industrial Heating and/or Cooling	6.0%	10.8%	6.0%	10.9%
Non-heating / non-cooling	4.1%	7.3%	3.9%	7.1%
Group Metered Apartments Heating and/or Cooling	5.4%	9.8%	6.5%	11.8%
Non-heating / non-cooling	3.4%	6.2%	4.0%	7.3%
Large Commercial and Industrial	5.0%	9.1%	4.3%	7.7%
Large Group Metered Apartments	4.4%	8.0%	n/a	n/a

WGL proposes various revisions to its Virginia tariff to reflect the new rates and proposals, including revisions to GSP No. 16 related to new technologies and

innovations in the Purchased Gas Charge for gas service in Virginia. WGL also proposes to implement its proposed rates, on an interim basis and subject to refund, effective for usage beginning November 26, 2022, and to implement proposed rates, charges, and revised terms and conditions of service upon issuance of the Commission's Final Order in this proceeding.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, permits the Company to place its proposed rates into effect on an interim basis, subject to refund, effective for usage beginning November 26, 2022.

Additionally, the Order for Notice and Hearing sets the public hearing on WGL's Application. On May 1, 2023, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before April 25, 2023, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

A hearing will be convened on May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive testimony and evidence from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.* Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: Meera Ahamed, Esquire, Washington Gas Light Company, 1000 Maine Avenue SW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20024, [meeraahamed@washgas.com](mailto:meeraahamed@washgas.com).

On or before April 14, 2023, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document

Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia  
23218-2118. All comments shall refer to  
Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

On or before November 1, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

On or before February 10, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Company, Staff, and all other respondents. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed at:  
[scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY

(10) On or before August 26, 2022, the Company shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following officials, to the extent the position exists, in each county, city, and town in which the Company provides service in the Commonwealth of Virginia: the chairman of the board of supervisors of each county; the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) of every city and town; and the county, city, or town attorney. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either personal delivery or first class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.

(11) On or before September 16, 2022, the Company shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (9) and (10), including the name, title, address, and electronic mail address (if applicable) of each official served, with the Clerk of the Commission at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/).

(12) On or before April 14, 2023, any interested person may submit written comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter,

to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

(13) On or before November 1, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed in Ordering Paragraph (12). Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

(14) Within three (3) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Company shall serve a copy of the public version of its Application on the respondent.

(15) On or before February 10, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address

listed in Ordering Paragraph (12). Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Company, Staff, and all other respondents. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00054.

(16) On or before March 10, 2023, the Staff shall investigate the Application and file with the Clerk of the Commission its testimony and exhibits concerning the Application, and each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. A copy thereof shall be served on counsel to the Company and all respondents.

(17) On or before March 31, 2023, the Company shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Company shall serve a copy of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents.

(18) Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified herein, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

(19) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, *Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things*, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition

to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production shall be served electronically on the party to whom the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to the Staff.<sup>16</sup> Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 *et seq.*

(20) WGL may place its proposed rates into effect on an interim basis, subject to refund with interest, for service rendered on and after November 26, 2022.

(21) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.

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<sup>16</sup> The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information), by clicking "Docket Search," then clicking "Search by Case Information," and entering the case number, PUR-2022-00054, in the appropriate box.