

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 23-75

September 13, 2023

Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for approval of its annual pension adjustment factor reconciliation filing for effect November 1, 2023.

On August 3, 2023, The Berkshire Gas Company (“Company”), filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of its annual pension and post-retirement benefits other than pensions (“PBOP”) adjustment factors (“PAFs”). The Company made this filing pursuant to The Berkshire Gas Company, D.P.U. 18-40-B (2019) and M.D.P.U. No. 582. The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 23-75. In separate filings, the Company is proposing other changes to its rates effective November 1, 2023, that may also have an impact on customers’ bills. See The Berkshire Gas Company, D.P.U. 23-PGAF-BERK.

The Company proposes the following PAFs, effective on and after November 1, 2023, and included for billing purposes in the Company’s local distribution adjustment factor:

| Rate Classes | PAF (per therm) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Residential | \$0.0026 |
| Small Commercial and Industrial | \$0.0020 |
| Medium Commercial and Industrial | \$0.0010 |
| Large Commercial and Industrial | \$0.0005 |
| Extra-Large Commercial and Industrial | \$0.0001 |

The Company proposes a PAF revenue requirement of \$138,561, which is a decrease of \$1,554,154 from the Company’s current PAF revenue requirement. As a result of the proposed changes to the PAF, the average residential heating customer using on average 814 therms per month during the peak period will experience a bill decrease of \$4.08, or 1.52 percent, and a bill decrease of \$0.88, or 1.82 percent using on average 175 therms per month during the off-peak period. The average residential non-heating customer using on average 105 therms per month during the peak period will experience a bill decrease of \$0.53, or 0.98 percent, and a bill decrease of \$0.35, or 1.08 percent using on average 69 therms per month during the off-peak period. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to dpu.efiling@mass.gov, and katherine.e.stock@mass.gov and the Company’s attorney, Brendan Vaughan, Esq., at bvaughan@keeganwerlin.com. Please note that in the interest of transparency any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information that you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to

Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR1.03. Receipt by the Department constitutes filing and determines whether a petition is timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.101(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. All responses to petitions for leave to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition for leave to intervene was filed.

All written comments or other documents must be submitted to the Department in **pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and katherine.e.stock@mass.gov. In addition, all documents should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Brendan Vaughan, Esq., at bvaughan@keeganwerlin.com. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 23-75); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The email must also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about this filing. The electronic file name should identify the document but not exceed 50 characters in length. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that do not exceed 20 MB. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "23-75") at: <http://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Flerom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Brendan Vaughan, Esq., at bvaughan@keeganwerlin.com.

The filing and all subsequent documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department's website as referenced above as soon as practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments or intervene in accordance with this notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at Gabriella.Knight@mass.gov.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorney, identified above. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Katherine Stock, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at katherine.e.stock@mass.gov.