

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY
COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.,
FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND AND EXTEND ITS SAVE
PLAN PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE § 56-604, AND
FOR APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT A 2022 SAVE PLAN
RIDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 20 OF ITS
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
CASE NO. PUR-2021-00145

On August 12, 2021, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. (“CVA” or the “Company”), filed an application (“Application”) pursuant to Chapter 26 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia, known as the Steps to Advance Virginia’s Energy Plan (SAVE) Act (the “SAVE Act”), for (1) approval to amend and extend its SAVE Plan pursuant to the SAVE Act; and (2) for approval to implement a SAVE Plan Rider (“SAVE Rider”) for calendar year 2022.

The Company requests to extend its SAVE Plan for two years (calendar years 2022 and 2023). CVA proposes that during this two-year extended term, the Company would be authorized to spend up to \$63 million on SAVE-eligible natural gas infrastructure and recover such costs through its SAVE Rider (“Phase 4 SAVE Plan”) during calendar year 2022 and up to \$72 million on SAVE-eligible infrastructure during calendar year 2023. The Company requests authorization to exceed this investment by 10% on an annual basis and 10% on a cumulative basis, for a Phase 4 SAVE Plan maximum spend of \$148.5 million. The Company also requests approval to implement its 2022 SAVE Rider, which is based on a \$63 million projected SAVE-eligible capital program for 2022 and the true-up of the recovery of the actual SAVE cost of service for the calendar year 2020, in accordance with Section 20 of its General Terms and Conditions, to be effective with the first billing unit of January 2022 through the last billing unit of December 2022.

In its Application, CVA states that its SAVE Plan is a program designed to accelerate the replacement of certain components of its gas distribution system infrastructure to enhance system safety and reliability. The Company proposes to amend and extend its SAVE Plan for an additional two-year term by undertaking additional identified projects the Company expects to complete in 2022 under the proposed Phase 4 SAVE Plan; the Company states such projects will enhance safety and reliability and will positively impact the environment. CVA has proposed a total SAVE revenue requirement of \$19,756,447 which, if approved, would increase residential customers’ bills by \$1.60 per month, for a total proposed monthly SAVE Rider rate of \$4.70.

The details of these and other proposals are set forth in the Company’s Application. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Company’s Application and supporting exhibits for the details of these proposals.

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

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, directed the Company to provide notice to the public and provides interested persons an opportunity to comment on the Company’s Application.

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”). 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 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 Comment for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the Application may be viewed on the Commission’s website or obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: T. Borden Ellis, Assistant General Counsel, and Katherine C. Creef, Senior Counsel, NiSource Corporate Services Company, 1809 Coyote Drive Chester, Virginia, 23836, or tbellis@nisource.com and kcreef@nisource.com.

On or before October 15, 2021, any interested person wishing to comment on the Company’s Application may file comments with the Clerk of the Commission by following the instructions on the Commission’s website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file 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 such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00145.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation on or before October 15, 2021, with the Clerk of the Commission at: 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, if available. 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-2021-00145. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission’s Order for Notice and Comment.

On or before October 15, 2021, any interested person or entity may file, with the Clerk of the Commission at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/, a request that the Commission convene a hearing on CVA’s Application. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a request for hearing electronically may file such request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Requests for a hearing shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00145, shall include the email address of the filer or its counsel if available, and shall include: (i) a precise statement of the filing party’s interest in the proceeding; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; (iii) a statement of the legal basis for such action; and (iv) a precise statement why a hearing should be conducted in this matter.

A copy of any notice of participation or any request for hearing simultaneously shall be sent to counsel for the Company electronically at the email address set forth above.

The Company’s Application, the Commission’s Rules of Practice, and the Commission’s Order for Notice and Comment may be viewed at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.