

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

Garry A. Brown, Chairman

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

Further Details: (518) 474-7080

<http://www.dps.state.ny.us>

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

09049/08-G-1398

PSC Public Statement and Educational Hearing – O&R’s Gas Proposal — Broadcast of and Public Participation in Hearing via the Internet —

Albany, NY—05/26/09—The New York Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a public statement hearing concerning a proposal by Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R) to increase gas service rates.

The company has proposed to increase rates by \$17.8 million in November 2009. The company has also proposed to increase gas delivery rates in 2010 and 2011. O&R’s three-year rate increase proposal, if adopted, would increase rates by \$6.6 million in 2009, \$11.9 million in 2010, and \$11.9 million in 2011. The Commission may grant, deny or modify any portion of the company’s rate proposals.

The date, time and location for the public statement and educational hearing are as follows:

Ramapo
Thursday, June 11, 2009
Ramapo Town Hall
237 Route 59
Suffern, NY
8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

During the hearing, O&R representatives will present a proposal to increase gas delivery rates. Also, Department of Public Service staff will summarize key matters being examined and the procedural steps in the Commission’s proceeding concerning O&R’s proposal.

Public Statement Hearing

The public will have an opportunity to present their comments at the hearing before an Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Commission to this case.

To participate in the hearings, it is not necessary to make an appointment in advance or present written material. Persons will be called to speak after completing a request card. All comments at the hearings will be transcribed and become part of the Commission's formal record.

The hearing session will remain open for two hours, and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements are made. **The public may also participate in the hearing by telephoning (845) 357-5100 or by viewing the broadcast of the hearing at the Town of Ramapo's internet site www.ramapo.org.** The hearing will also be broadcast on the Town's Cablevision and Verizon systems.

Disabled persons requiring any special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible.

Other Ways to Comment

Writing: Those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing may comment by writing to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Your comment should refer to "Case 08-G-1398 Orange and Rockland Rates."

Toll-Free Opinion Line: You may call the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day. Callers should select English or Spanish and press "1" to leave comments.

Internet: Comments may also be made via the "PSC Comment Form," in the "Consumer Assistance" file accessed through the Commission's Web site at <http://www.dps.state.ny.us>.

All comments by these alternative methods should be submitted, or mailed and postmarked, no later than July 31, 2009. All such statements and comments will become part of the record, be made available for inspection in the Commission's file room and be reported to the Commission for its consideration.