

## COST OF SERVICE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

### A. APPLICABILITY

This Cost of Service Adjustment Clause applies to all gas sales and standard transportation rate schedules of Texas Gas Service Company, a Division of ONE Gas, Inc. (the "Company") currently in force in the incorporated areas of the Company's Rio Grande Valley Service Area ("RGVSA"). All rate calculations under this tariff shall be made on a RGVSA system wide basis. If, through the implementation of the provisions of this mechanism, it is determined that rates should be decreased or increased, then rates will be adjusted accordingly in the manner set forth herein. The rate adjustments implemented under this mechanism will reflect annual changes in the Company's cost of service and rate base as computed herein. This Rate Schedule 1-1 is authorized for an initial implementation period of three years commencing with the Company's filing under this rate schedule for the calendar year 2017, effective the first billing cycle of August 2018 and shall automatically renew for successive annual periods unless either the Company or the regulatory authority having original jurisdiction gives written notice to the contrary to the other by February 1, 2021, or February 1 of each succeeding year. Both the cities and the Company retain their statutory right to initiate a rate proceeding at any time.

### B. EFFECTIVE DATE

Rate adjustments shall be made in accordance with the procedures described below on an annual basis. The Company shall make its annual filing no later than May 1, with the rate adjustments to be effective for meters read on or after the first billing cycle of August each year. The first filing pursuant to this Rider shall be no later than May 1, 2018 and shall be based on the financial results for the calendar year ending December 31, 2017.

### C. COMPONENTS OF THE RATE ADJUSTMENT

Calculation of the rate adjustment will be based on operating expenses, return on investment, and Federal Income Tax. The first \$0.50 of the residential rate adjustment shall be included in the residential monthly Customer Charge of the applicable rate schedules with the excess of that amount applied to the Commodity Charge. The rate adjustment shall be included in the monthly Customer Charge of all other applicable rate schedules. The actual percentage change in total calendar year operating expenses shall not exceed five percent (5%), provided that the costs for the Company to provide public notice and reimburse City and Company rate case expenses as required herein, shall not be included in calculating the five (5%) limitation. The Company shall file with each regulatory authority having original jurisdiction over the Company's rates the schedules specified below, by FERC Account, for the prior calendar year period. The schedules will be based upon the Company's audited financial data, as adjusted, and provided in a format that will allow for the same analysis as that undertaken of a Company Statement of Intent filing, and shall include the following information:

**C.1 Operating Expenses** - Operating expenses will be those reported as part of our audited financials that are reconciled to the general ledger and assigned to the RGVSA level (either directly or allocated) in a manner consistent with the most recent RGVSA rate case.

The applicable expenses are:

Depreciation and Amortization Expense (Account Nos. 403-405) \*

Taxes Other Than FIT (Account No. 408) \*\*

Operation and Maintenance Expenses (Account Nos. 850-894, excluding any cost of gas related expenses)

Customer Related Expenses (Account Nos. 901-916) \*\*\*

Administrative & General Expenses (Account Nos. 920-932)

Interest on Customer Deposits (Account No. 431)

This information will be presented with supporting calculations.

\* Based on the last approved depreciation methods and lives.

\*\* Includes Texas Franchise Tax. Excludes City Franchise Fees, Gross Receipts, and any other revenue-based tax.

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\*\*\* Account 9040, bad debt reserve accruals, will be replaced by Account 1440, bad debt actual write-offs, beginning with the COSA filed for calendar year ending December 31, 2021.

All shared expenses allocated to the RGVSA must be supported by workpapers containing the allocated amount, methodology and factors. The Company shall provide additional information for all operating expenses upon request by the regulatory authority during the ninety (90) day review period specified in Section D.

**C.2 Return on Investment** - The rate of return will remain constant at the Weighted Cost of Capital authorized in the most recent RGVSA rate case. The return on investment is the rate of return multiplied by the rate base balance for the applicable calendar year.

The rate base balance is composed of:

Net Utility Plant in Service at year-end \*  
RRC 8.209 Regulatory Asset Balance

Plus:

Other Rate Base Items:

Materials and Supplies Inventories -13-month average  
Prepayments (including Prepaid Pension) – 13-month average  
Cash Working Capital – shall be calculated using the lead/lag days from the most recent RGVSA rate case

Less:

Customer Deposits (Account No. 235) at year-end  
Customer Advances (Account No. 252) at year-end  
Deferred Federal Income Taxes at year-end, adjusted to reflect the federal income tax rate in C.3.

\* Net Utility Plant in Service as shown by FERC account. Gross utility plant in service and accumulated depreciation by account will be shown separately

Supporting information for all rate base items shall be provided to the regulatory authority during the ninety (90) day review period specified in Section D upon request by the regulatory authority.

**C.3 Federal Income Tax**

Applicable calendar year federal income taxes will be calculated as follows:

Net Taxable Income (applicable calendar-year end rate base multiplied by rate of return from the most recent RGVSA rate case included in Section C.2.)

Less: Interest on Long Term Debt (applicable calendar-year end rate base multiplied by debt cost component of return from the most recent RGVSA rate case)

Multiplied by: Tax Factor  $(.21 / (1-.21))$  or .265823.

The Tax Factor will be calculated using the federal income tax rate(s) in effect during the period revenues from the COSA will be collected, including newly enacted federal tax rates to the extent such new rates are known at the time of the annual filing.

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**C.4 Cost of Service Adjustment** - The amount to be collected through the Cost of Service Adjustment will be the sum of the amounts from Sections C.1, C.2, and C.3 that total to the revenue requirement, less the calendar year actual non-gas revenue and other revenue (i.e., transportation revenue and service charges), adjusted for the revised Texas Franchise Tax described in Chapter 171 of the Texas Tax Code.

The formula to calculate the Cost of Service Adjustment is:

$$[(C.1 \text{ Operating Expenses} + C.2 \text{ Return on Investment} + C.3 \text{ Federal Income Tax} - \text{Actual Non-Gas and Other Revenues})] \div (1 - \text{Texas Franchise Tax statutory rate})$$

**C.5 Cost of Service Adjustment Rate and Cost of Service Adjustment Volumetric Rate**

The Cost of Service Adjustment as calculated in Section C.4 will be allocated among the customer classes in the same manner as the cost of service was allocated among classes of customers in the Company's latest effective rates for the RGVSA. The cost of service adjustment for each customer class will then be converted into a per-customer per-month amount to produce the Cost of Service Adjustment Rate. The per customer adjustment will be the Cost of Service Adjustment as allocated to that class, divided by the average number of gas sales customers in each class for the RGVSA. The Cost of Service Adjustment Rate will be this per customer adjustment amount divided by 12 to produce a monthly adjustment amount, either an increase or decrease, which will be included in the gas sales and standard transportation customer charges. For the residential class only, the Cost of Service Adjustment rate will be limited to \$0.50 in any one year, and the remaining portion of the Cost of Service Adjustment allocated to the residential class will be recovered through a Cost of Service Adjustment Volumetric Rate, which will be calculated by dividing the remaining portion to be recovered from residential customers by annual, weather-normalized residential volumes.

**C.6 Attestation**

A sworn statement shall be filed by the Company's Director of Rates, affirming that the filed schedules are in compliance with the provisions of this tariff and are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief. No testimony shall be filed.

**C.7 Proof of Revenues**

The Company shall also provide a schedule demonstrating the "proof of revenues" relied upon to calculate the proposed Cost of Service Adjustment rate. The proposed rates shall conform as closely as practicable to the revenue allocation principles in effect prior to the adjustment.

**C.8 Notice**

Notice of the annual Cost of Service Adjustment shall be provided in a form similar to that required under Section 104.103, TEX. UTIL. CODE ANN not later than the 60th day after the date the utility files the COSA with the regulatory authority. The notice to customers shall include the following information:

- a) a description of the proposed revision of rates and schedules;
- b) the effect the proposed revision of rates is expected to have on the rates applicable to each customer class and on an average bill for each affected customer class;
- c) the service area or areas in which the proposed rate adjustment would apply;

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- d) the date the proposed rate adjustment was filed with the regulatory authority; and
- e) the Company's address, telephone number, and website where information concerning the proposed cost of service adjustment may be obtained.

**D. REGULATORY REVIEW OF ANNUAL RATE ADJUSTMENT**

The regulatory authority with original jurisdiction will have a period of not less than ninety (90) days within which to review the proposed annual rate adjustment. During the review period, Company shall provide additional information and supporting documents as requested by the regulatory authority and such information shall be provided within ten (10) working days of the original request.

The rate adjustment shall take effect for meters read on or after the first billing cycle of August each year. This Cost of Service Adjustment Rate Schedule does not limit the legal rights and duties of the regulatory authority. The Company's annual rate adjustment will be made in accordance with all applicable laws. If at the end of the ninety (90) day review period, the Company and the regulatory authority with original jurisdiction have not reached an agreement on the proposed Cost of Service Adjustment Rate, the regulatory authority may take action to deny such adjustment or approve a different adjustment. If at the end of the ninety (90) day review period, the regulatory authority takes no action, the proposed Cost of Service Adjustment Rate will be deemed approved.

The Company shall have the right to appeal any action by the regulatory authority to the Railroad Commission of Texas not later than the 30th day after the date of the final decision by the regulatory authority. Upon the filing of any appeal, the Company shall have the right to implement its Cost of Service Adjustment Rate, subject to refund.

To defray the cost, if any, of regulatory authorities conducting a review of Company's annual rate adjustment, Company shall reimburse the regulatory authorities for their reasonable expenses for such review. Any reimbursement contemplated hereunder shall be deemed a reasonable and necessary operating expense of the Company in the year in which the reimbursement is made.

A regulatory authority seeking reimbursement under this provision shall submit its request for reimbursement to the Company following the final approval of the COSA but no later than October 1 of the year in which the adjustment is made. The Company shall reimburse the regulatory authorities in accordance with this provision no later than thirty (30) days of receiving the request for reimbursement.