# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1325 G STREET, N.W., SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

### **ORDER ON DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

June 25, 2025

FORMAL CASE NO. 874, IN THE MATTER OF THE GAS ACQUISITION STRATEGIES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATURAL GAS, A DIVISION OF THE WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY,

and

FORMAL CASE NO. 1167, IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS CLIMATE CHANGE PROPOSALS, Order No. 22447

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1. By this Order,<sup>1</sup> the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia ("Commission") grants the Unopposed Motion of Earthjustice, on behalf of the Sierra Club ("Sierra Club"), for Enlargement of Time to File Initial Comments and Reply Pursuant to Paragraph 8 of Order No. 22395. The initial and reply comments on the Notice of Inquiry ("NOI") issued in the above-captioned cases will now be due on July 25, 2025, and August 22, 2025, respectively.

#### II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

2. By Order No. 21921, the Commission directed the Gas Procurement Work Group ("GPWG") to discuss and file a report by April 30, 2024, in both *Formal Case Nos. 874* and *1167*, on what reporting and evaluation criteria are necessary to measure the impact of Washington Gas Light Company's ("WGL") procurement activities on the District's climate goals, reflecting the minimum reporting criteria for measuring the impact.<sup>2</sup> The Office of People's Counsel for the District of Columbia filed comments in *Formal Case No. 874* that included suggestions for WGL to consider on comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions reporting.<sup>3</sup> The GPWG met twice, and

This Order is issued under delegated authority pursuant to Order No. 21981. See Formal Case No. 712, In the Matter of the Investigation into the Public Service Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Order No. 21981, ¶ 2(g), issued April 24, 2024 ("The Commission's General Counsel, or his or her designee, is delegated authority to act and issue orders on the following matters: . . . g. Unopposed Motions for Extension of Time.") Any party may file a petition for reconsideration of the General Counsel's decision with the Commission.

Formal Case No. 874, In the Matter of the Gas Acquisition Strategies of the District of Columbia Natural Gas, a Division of the Washington Gas Light Company ("Formal Case No. 874") and Formal Case No. 1167, In the Matter of the Implementation of the Climate Business Plan ("Formal Case No. 1167"), Order No. 21921, rel. October 27, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Formal Case No. 874, Comments of the Office of the People's Counsel Seeking Submission of Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting, filed November 29, 2023.

Order No. 22447 Page No. 2

the Report was filed on June 14, 2024.<sup>4</sup> In Order No. 22395, we noted that the Report does not include any consensus positions on the minimum reporting criteria and opted to address these minimum requirements in *Formal Case No. 1167*, the same proceeding where WGL files its climate business plan and 15-Year Plans.<sup>5</sup> In moving this topic to *Formal Case No. 1167*, we issued an NOI to gather more comprehensive information from stakeholders on how to address gas and electric company emissions reporting and how to align the reporting criteria with the climate goals of the District.<sup>6</sup>

3. By Order No. 22407, the Commission extended the comment periods for the NOI issued concurrently with Order No. 22395 to allow the parties to address the issues raised by the NOI and the 15-Year Climate Plan in an administratively efficient manner. We held that granting this extension of time would permit other parties to file comments and reply comments on multiple WGL filings in a coordinated manner. Comments were due from parties on June 27, 2025, and reply comments were due July 23, 2025. Following the issuance of Order No. 22407, WGL filed its 15-Year Climate Plan on June 9, 2025. Sierra Club subsequently filed this Motion for an Enlargement of Time to request an additional thirty (30) days to review the 15-Year Plan.

# III. <u>DISCUSSION</u>

- 4. In its Motion, Sierra Club asserts that there is good cause for an enlargement of time.<sup>10</sup> Sierra Club states that WGL's 15-Year Plan, filed on June 9, 2025, is over 500 pages.<sup>11</sup> Given the size of the 15-Year Plan, additional time will allow parties to fully review the 15-Year Plan and yield better-informed responses to the NOI.<sup>12</sup> Sierra Club also asserts that no parties objected to its Motion, and no parties will be prejudiced by granting its Motion.<sup>13</sup>
- 5. Generally, the Commission will grant a request of this nature if good cause is shown. In this case, Sierra Club has shown that the length of WGL's 15-Year Plan will impact the

Formal Case No. 874 and Formal Case No. 1167, The Gas Procurement Working Group Report on the Minimum Criteria Reporting and Evaluation Criteria Necessary to Measure the Impact of Washington Gas Light Company's Procurement Activities on the District's Climate Goals, filed June 14, 2024 ("Report").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Formal Case No. 874 and Formal Case No. 1167, Order No. 22395 ¶¶7-8, rel. March 27, 2025.

Formal Case No. 874 and Formal Case No. 1167, Notice of Inquiry, rel. March 27, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Formal Case No. 874 and Formal Case No. 1167, Order No. 22407 ¶3-4, rel. April 24, 2025.

Formal Case No. 1167, WGL's 15-Year Plan, filed June 9, 2025.

Formal Case No. 874 and Formal Case No. 1167, Sierra Club's Motion for an Enlargement of Time to File Comments Pursuant to Paragraph 8 or Order No. 22395, filed June 17, 2025 ("Sierra Club Motion").

Sierra Club Motion at 2.

Sierra Club Motion at 2.

Sierra Club Motion at 3.

Sierra Club Motion at 1, 3.

Order No. 22447 Page No. 3

Parties' ability to provide more informed comments by the current deadline. Granting an extension of time would permit more comprehensive responses from the parties and increase their ability to file comments and reply comments in a coordinated manner. There is no prejudice to any party, and there is no opposition to the Motion. Thus, the Commission grants the Motion. Comments on the NOI are due July 25, 2025, with Reply Comments due August 22, 2025.

### THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 6. The Sierra Club's Motion for an Enlargement of Time to File Comments Pursuant to Paragraph 8 of Order No. 22395 is **GRANTED**; and
- 7. Interested persons **SHALL** file comments no later than July 25, 2025, and reply comments no later than August 22, 2025.

A TRUE COPY: BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

CHIEF CLERK: BRINDA WESTBROOK-SEDGWICK

**COMMISSION SECRETARY** 

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