2012.0328162839

In the Matter of the Application of Kansas Gas Service, A Division of ONEOK, Inc. for the Approval Of An Infrastructure Replacement Program Surcharge

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DOCKET NO. 12-KGSG-721-TAR

Received on

MAR 2 8 2012

by State Corporation Commission of Kansas

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RONALD D. BRIDGEWATER

ON BEHALF OF

KANSAS GAS SERVICE

A DIVISION OF ONEOK, INC

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RONALD D. BRIDGEWATER

KANSAS GAS SERVICE

DOCKET NO. 12-KGSG-___-TAR

- 1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- 2 A. My name is Ronald D. Bridgewater. My business address is 11401 West 89th
- 3 Street, Overland Park, Kansas 66214.
- 4 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?
- 5 A. I am employed by Kansas Gas Service a Division of ONEOK. I hold the
- 6 position of Vice President East Region Operations.
- 7 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND
- 8 PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.
- 9 A. I earned a Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of
- 10 Missouri in 1988. Upon graduation I began employment with KPL Gas
- 11 Service Company, the predecessor to Kansas Gas Service, as a Distribution
- 12 Engineer. Since then, my entire career has been devoted to work in the
- 13 natural gas industry. I have held several positions in the areas of
- 14 engineering, regulatory compliance, and operations management. I was
- 15 named Vice President East Region Operations in May, 2007.
- 16 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?
- 17 A. The purpose of my testimony is to explain the Company's proposed
- 18 Infrastructure Replacement Program and the need for approval of the

1 Infrastructure Replacement Program Surcharge (IRP). Mr. David Dittemore

2 will provide testimony explaining the associated IRP which will enable the

3 Company to timely recover its investment in this important program.

4 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE

5 INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.

A. The Infrastructure Replacement Program was developed by Kansas Gas
Service, after consultation with the Pipeline Safety Division of the
Commission, to completely replace all of the Company's cast iron mains in its
distribution system. The Company currently has approximately 108 miles of
cast iron mains in its distribution system. This program represents a
commitment by Kansas Gas Service to replace all cast iron main in its system
over an eight-year period.

13 Q. WHY HAS THE COMPANY DETERMINED THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE TO

14 REPLACE CAST IRON MAINS IN SUCH A SHORT TIME FRAME?

15 Α. Cast iron mains were used by natural gas distribution companies to provide 16 reliable and safe service for customers. At the time they were installed, cast 17 iron mains were considered to be a superior pipeline conduit compared to 18 other metallic products because of cast iron's relatively high resistance to 19 corrosion. Eventually other pipeline conduits were developed that provided 20 better service than cast iron pipe and cast iron has not been installed by 21 Kansas Gas Service since the early 1960s. Kansas Gas Service has been 22 gradually replacing our cast iron piping with more modern materials, but our 23 remaining cast iron pipe is now being targeted for accelerated replacement to

1 avoid concerns about continuing to rely on this aging piping without a pre-2 determined timeline for replacement. Emphasis will be placed on prioritizing 3 the replacement of our smaller diameter cast iron pipe. The replacement of 4 cast iron pipe is a topic that is under review by the US Department of 5 Transportation and the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration 6 (PHMMSA). PHMSA has instituted an inquiry nationwide to study how local 7 distribution companies are evaluating the replacement of their cast iron pipes. 8 It may only be a matter of time, in our opinion, before the federal government 9 will institute a policy of having all cast iron pipe replaced. With this program, 10 the Company will be able to set a firm deadline for removing the Company's 11 entire cast iron pipe.

12 Q. WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

13 REPLACEMENT PROGRAM?

14 Α. I estimate that the cost of the Infrastructure Replacement Program will be 15 approximately \$70 Million dollars. It will involve the replacement of 108 miles 16 of cast iron pipe, forty miles of unprotected bare steel mains, as well as 17 expenditures required to reconnect the newly installed main with existing plastic service lines. We will also replace approximately 3,000 bare steel 18 19 service lines associated with this project; but these costs will be recovered in 20 our GSRS mechanism. The great majority of the pipe to be replaced is either 21 four or six inches in diameter. Attached as Exhibit RDB-1 is a table showing 22 the breakdown of the miles of cast iron main to be replaced by pipe diameter.

1 Q. COULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE COST ESTIMATE WAS

2 DETERMINED?

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A. Yes. The estimated installation cost per foot for each pipe diameter in our
inventory was determined assuming the vast majority of this work will involve
restoring pavement. Our cost estimates per foot are based upon experience
with actual costs per foot and are shown below.

8	Diameter	Cost per Foot
9	4 Inch	\$60
10	6 Inch	\$90
11	8 Inch	\$130
12	10 Inch	\$200
13	12 Inch	\$200
14		

15 The respective cost per foot for each pipe diameter is then multiplied by our 16 existing cast iron inventory footage for each pipe diameter size to arrive at the 17 cost to replace cast iron.

18 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE OTHER MAJOR COST COMPONENTS INVOLVED
19 IN THIS PROGRAM?

20 A. In addition to the replacement of the cast iron pipe, there is an additional cost

- 21 to replace approximately 40 miles of unprotected bare steel pipe in the city of
- 22 Wichita which is interconnected with the cast iron main. Construction
- 23 efficiency requires that Kansas Gas Service replace interconnected bare steel

1 main simultaneously with the replacement of cast iron main. The replacement of the associated bare steel main is estimated to be \$16 Million. 2 3 In addition to the replacement of the cast iron main and unprotected bare steel main, there will be some additional costs to tie over approximately 8.000 4 5 plastic service lines that are attached to the replaced cast iron main and 6 unprotected bare steel main. I estimate these costs at \$3.2 Million and they 7 are included in the \$70.2 Million dollar estimate. 8 Q. WHAT PROCEDURE WILL THE COMPANY BE USING TO IDENTIFY 9 WHICH CAST IRON MAIN TO REPLACE? Α. The replacement program will place a priority on replacement of small 10 11 diameter pipe. However, larger diameter cast iron pipe will be replaced early 12 in the program in those situations where it is needed to bring new 13 intermediate pressure supply into the area or such pipe is in close proximity to smaller diameter pipe, and replaced simultaneously in order to capture 14 construction efficiencies. 15 HOW DID THE COMPANY DETERMINE THAT AN EIGHT YEAR TIME 16 Q. FRAME WAS THE BEST TIME PERIOD TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM? 17 Under the Company's current practices for removal of aging pipe, the 18 Α. complete replacement of the cast iron pipe would have taken a significantly 19 20 longer period of time. With this program and the associated recovery of 21 expenditures that is being requested with this Application, the Company can set a specific end date for the replacement of this pipe. With the timely 22 23 recovery of our investment in this program through the IRP, we know that we

1		will not have to compete with other capital projects for the financial resources					
2		necessary for this large expenditure of funds to replace this pipe. We					
3		selected the eight year time period because we felt that if we attempted to do					
4		it any faster, we would be at risk of not being able to manage the replacement					
5		program effectively. An eight year time frame will facilitate a prompt					
6		replacement of the main while still permittng the proper management and					
7		oversight of an expanded construction program. The quality control of this					
8		replacement program is just as important to assure the future integrity of our					
9		new piping as the replacement program itself.					
10	Q.	HOW WILL THE COMPANY KEEP TRACK OF THE COSTS OF THE					
11		INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM?					
12	Α.	The Company will track the costs for the program using its standard work					
13		order process; however, a special identifier will be used within our Property					
14		Accounting records to designate the work order as a cast iron replacement.					
15		The majority of the costs will be charged to Account 376 Mains. This will					
16		facilitate the identification of recoverable costs for the program when the					
17		annual cost recovery filing is made each May. Mr. Dittemore will provide the					
18		details of the accounting for this program and the recovery of costs in his					
19		testimony.					
20	Q.	HOW MUCH IS THE COMPANY PROJECTING IT WILL SPEND IN THE					
21		FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM?					
22	A.	For the first year of the program, the Company is projecting that it will spend					

one-eighth of the total expenditures or approximately \$8.75 Million. With the

1		submission of the next annual filing in May of 2013, there will be a true up of
2		our expenditures over the course of the program year and the charges to
3		customers will be adjusted during that filing. As explained in the testimony of
4		Mr. Dittemore, the cost of our investment will be recovered ratably over the
5		course of the year.
6	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

7 A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS)) ss COUNTY OF JOHNSON)

Ronald D. Bridgewater, being duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and states that he is Vice President, East Region Operations for Kansas Gas Service, a Division of ONEOK, Inc.; that he has read and is familiar with the foregoing Direct Testimony filed herewith; and that the statements made therein are true to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23^{+1} day of March, 2012.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Appointment Expires:

9/28/2012

NOTARY de of Kansas

Kansas Gas Service Infrastructure Replacement Program Cost Estimate

Exhibit RDB-1

Cast Iron Pipe Replacement by Diameter

Pipe Diameter	3"	4"	6"	8"	10"	12"	16"	20"	Total
Footage	152	280,140	175,739	66,092	4,207	39,920	1,844	520	568,614
Mileage	0.03	53.06	33.28	12.52	0.80	7.56	0.35	0.10	107.69
Estimated Cost	\$9,120	\$16,808,400	\$15,816,510	\$8,591,960	\$841,400	\$7,984,000	\$737,600	\$208,000	\$50,996,990

Associated Costs

- 8,000 Tie-Overs @ \$400 \$3,200,000
- 40 Miles Bare Steel Main \$16,000,000
- Total Program Cost Estimate \$70,196,990

Annual Total \$8,774,624