

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS, (“CITY”) APPROVING A NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION BETWEEN THE CITY AND TEXAS GAS SERVICE (“TGS” OR “THE COMPANY”) REGARDING THE COMPANY’S APRIL 28, 2022 COST OF SERVICE ADJUSTMENT (“COSA”) FILING; DECLARING EXISTING RATES TO BE UNREASONABLE; ADOPTING NEW TARIFFS THAT REFLECT RATE ADJUSTMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND FINDING THE RATES TO BE SET BY THE ATTACHED TARIFFS TO BE JUST AND REASONABLE; PROVIDING FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE CITY’S AND TGS’ REASONABLE AND NECESSARY RATE CASE EXPENSES; ADOPTING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; DETERMINING THAT THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALING ANY PRIOR ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE COMPANY’S AND THE CITY’S LEGAL COUNSEL.

WHEREAS, the City of La Feria, Texas (“City”) is a gas utility customer of Texas Gas Service (“TGS” or “the Company”), and a regulatory authority with an interest in the rates and charges of TGS; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the agreement settling TGS’ 2017 Statement of Intent to increase rates, to which City was a signatory, the City and other municipalities within the Rio Grande Valley Service Area and TGS worked collaboratively to develop the Cost of Service Adjustment (“COSA”) tariff that allows for an expedited comprehensive rate review process; and

WHEREAS, on or about April 28, 2022, TGS filed with the City a COSA tariff seeking to increase natural gas rates to all customers residing in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Company requested a system-wide increase of \$3,717,040; and

WHEREAS, the City coordinated a review of TGS' COSA filing and designated attorneys and consultants to resolve issues in the Company's COSA filing; and

WHEREAS, the Company has filed evidence that existing rates are unreasonable and should be changed; and

WHEREAS, independent analysis by the City's rate expert concluded that TGS is able to justify an increase over current rates; and

WHEREAS, the City's attorney and consultant recommend that the City approve the Settlement Agreement reflecting increased revenues of \$2,750,000 on a system-wide basis; and

WHEREAS, the attached tariffs implementing new rates are consistent with the negotiated resolution reached by the City and are just, reasonable, and in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the negotiated resolution of the Company's COSA filing and the resulting rates are, as a whole, in the public interest; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the City Council finds that the existing rates for natural gas service provided by TGS are unreasonable and the new tariffs implementing this Ordinance, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein as Attachment A, are just and reasonable and are hereby adopted.

Section 2. That a rate increase of \$2,750,000 on a system-wide basis is reasonable.

Section 3. That TGS shall reimburse the reasonable ratemaking expenses of the City in processing the Company's rate application.

Section 4. That to the extent any resolution or ordinance previously adopted by the Council is inconsistent with this Ordinance, it is hereby repealed.

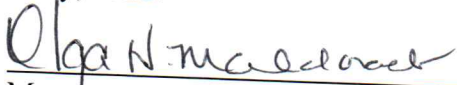
Section 5. That the meeting at which this Ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

Section 6. That if any one or more sections or clauses of this Ordinance is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Ordinance and the remaining provisions of the Ordinance shall be interpreted as if the offending section or clause never existed.

Section 7. That the tariffs attached as Attachment A to this Ordinance shall become effective for meters read on and after July 27, 2022 consistent with the COSA tariff.

Section 9. That a copy of this Ordinance shall be sent to TGS, care of Stephanie Houle, 1301 South Mopac, Suite 400, Austin, Texas 78746, and to Thomas L. Brocato, Special Counsel to the City, at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of July, 2022.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney