LCB File No. R067-09

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

(This regulation was previously adopted as T004-08)

Docket No. 07-06046—Phase II

Explanation- Matter in *italics* is new; matter in *[strikethrough]* is material to be omitted.

Sec. 1 NAC 704.953 Definitions. As used in NAC 704.953 to [704.973] 704.____, inclusive, sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of the regulations in LCB File No. R150-06, sections 2 to 13, inclusive, of Phase I of this regulation, and sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of Phase II of this regulation unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NAC [704.9535 to 704.9605], 704.054 to 704.____, sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of the regulations in LCB File No. R150-06, sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of Phase I of this regulation, and sections 2 to 8 of Phase II of this regulation [inclusive,] have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

- Sec. 2 "Base Tariff General Rate" defined. "Base Tariff General Rate" means the rates determined to collect all revenues except those collected in the Base Tariff Energy Rate as defined in NAC 704.032, the Deferred Energy Accounting Adjustment as defined in NAC 704.037, the adjustment to the BTGR to recover accumulated deferred interest as defined in NAC 704.217, and the General Revenues Adjustment as defined in NAC __.
- Sec. 3 "General Revenues Decoupling Methodology" defined. "General Revenue Decoupling Methodology" means the mechanism established pursuant to Section___ to allow the gas utility to recover the Base Tariff General Rate revenues without regard to the difference in the quantity of natural gas actually sold.
- Sec. 4 "Customer class" defined. "Customer class" means the customer class categories in the rate schedules under the gas utility's Nevada tariff.
- Sec. 5 "General Revenues" defined. "General revenues" means the revenues collected by the Base Tariff General Rate for the tracking period.

Sec. 6 "Tracking period" defined. "Tracking period" means the first full 12-month period following the implementation of the most recently authorized general rates, and each 12-month period thereafter.

Sec. 7 General Revenues Decoupling Request.

- 1. To remove financial disincentives that discourage a public utility which purchases natural gas for resale from planning and implementing substantive conservation and energy efficiency programs, a gas utility not electing to recover program costs using an equity adder methodology may seek Commission approval to decouple general revenues. A gas utility seeking Commission approval to decouple general revenues shall file its request with the Commission as part of a general rate application pursuant to NRS 704.110. A gas utility electing to decouple general revenues will recover the costs of the its substantive conservation and energy efficiency programs pursuant to section 14 of LCB File No. R095-08. If the gas utility files a request to decouple general revenues, the gas utility's application shall include a discussion identifying any change in risk for the gas utility and a calculation to adjust for the change in risk and demonstrate the impact on the current and requested rate design for the gas utility.
- 2. As part of its general rate case application to implement general revenues decoupling, the gas utility shall outline its plan to educate the customers as to general revenues decoupling.
- 3. In its consideration of the general revenues decoupling methodology request the Commission shall seek to harmonize the incentives of general revenues decoupling methodology with the company's rate design. Harmonization shall include without limitation the use of the information contained in the approved conservation and energy efficiency plan to modify the customer class billing determinants used to establish the Base Tariff General Rates in the general rate application filed pursuant to NRS 704.110 that includes the request to decouple general revenues. The gas utility must apply the approved general revenues decoupling methodology to all customer classes, excluding customers served under negotiated agreements.
- 4. The gas utility must have a Commission order accepting the conservation and energy efficiency plan with the acceptance occurring within one year prior to the gas utility

filing its general revenue decoupling request. Execution of the plan will be deferred until such time as the general revenues decoupling methodology is implemented.

5. If a gas utility receives Commission approval for its requested methodology pursuant to this section, it may continue to use that methodology until its next general rate case. A gas utility's request to either continue or discontinue the methodology must be included in a general rate application filed pursuant to NRS 704.110.

Sec. 8 General Revenues Decoupling Adjustment

- 1. The gas utility authorized to use the general revenues decoupling methodology shall recover or refund its deferred general revenues by applying a per therm general revenues decoupling adjustment for each applicable customer class. The general revenues decoupling adjustment rate shall remain in effect until changed by the Commission.
- 2. The general revenues decoupling adjustment rate shall be adjusted annually in the Annual Conservation and Energy Efficiency Plan Report and Conservation and Energy Efficiency Plan file subsequent the implementation of the general revenue decoupling methodology.
- 3. The general revenues decoupling adjustment rate shall be calculated individually for each customer class, excluding customers served under negotiated agreements, and accounted for as follows:
- (a) A separate sub account to Account No. 182.3 shall be maintained for each customer class, excluding customers served under negotiated agreements, the balance of which will be used to calculate the general revenues decoupling adjustment.
- (b) Annually the gas utility shall calculate the deferred general revenues. The deferred general revenues equals the difference between the general revenues on a per customer basis authorized in the general rate application wherein the decoupling request is approved or, if applicable, the subsequent change in general rate revenues approved by the Commission and the tracking period general revenues on a per customer basis. The general revenues per customer difference shall be multiplied by the tracking period number of customers.
- (c) The net amount of deferred general revenues calculated pursuant to subparagraph (a) for the tracking period shall be recorded in a sub-account of Account No. 182.3

and included in the determination of the sub-account to Account No. 182.3 balance used to calculate the general revenues decoupling adjustment.

- (d) Monthly, a credit entry or debit entry, if negative, for the amortization of the general revenues decoupling adjustment shall be recorded in the sub-account to Account 182.3. The amortization amount shall be equal to the amount of revenues derived by applying the general revenues decoupling adjustment(s) to the applicable customer class' jurisdictional sales.
- (e) The balance in the sub-account to Account No. 182.3 at the end of the tracking period adjusted pursuant to sub-paragraph (c) shall be divided by the total sales for the tracking period.