



Commission Requests More Details About AltaGas Renewable Energy Project Plan

April 8, 2019

The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia approved the merger of the District's natural gas distribution company, Washington Gas Light Company and AltaGas, Ltd., a Canadian company in June 2018. To obtain approval of the merger, AltaGas committed to, among other things, developing 10MW of either electric grid energy storage or Tier One renewable resources in Washington, D.C., within 5 years after the merger closed. In addition, AltaGas committed to use its best efforts to ensure that at least 20% of the operational jobs for the project are local hires and that the project would be targeted for capacity-constrained areas. AltaGas and Washington Gas will not seek to recover the costs of this project from Washington Gas customers. Alta Gas was required to file its plan for this project in 6 months after the merger closed.

In January 2019, Alta Gas filed its 10MW project plan in the form of an outline of phases and activities to meet the commitment. After reviewing the Alta Gas outline and comments filed by the Office of the People's Counsel, the Commission determined that more information should be included even though AltaGas believed the plan submitted was enough to satisfy its commitment. More specifically, the Commission determined that the plan did not include specifics, or timelines, and did not include a discussion regarding how and when AltaGas would ensure at least 20% of the operational jobs for the 10MW are sourced from the local workforce and target this project in capacity constrained electric distribution areas.

The Commission gave AltaGas and Washington Gas 30 days to file a revised plan with specific responses to the requirements set out by the Commission. In addition, the Commission requested that the revised plan discuss whether the 10MW project might be developed in the Mt. Vernon area.

"If the benefits of the merger are to be realized by D.C. consumers, then the Commission must hold the parties accountable for the promises they made" said Chairman Willie L. Phillips after the Commission decided to reject the Plan. "That is what we have done today and that is what we will continue to do."