



AltaGas Utilities Inc.

Request for Rule 005 Filing Extension

May 11, 2012



The Alberta Utilities Commission
Decision 2012-131: AltaGas Utilities Inc.
Request for Rule 005 Filing Extension
Application No. 1608341

May 11, 2012

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1 Introduction

1. On April 13, 2012, AltaGas Utilities Inc. (AltaGas) submitted an application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) pursuant to Section 6 of AUC [Rule 005: Annual Reporting Requirements of Financial and Operational Results](#) (Rule 005). Specifically, AltaGas requested an extension for the filing of its Rule 005 reports for 2011 and 2010 (update) from May 15, 2012 to June 29, 2012.

2 Background

2. Section 3.5 of AUC Rule 005 requires AltaGas to file with the AUC its annual report as defined within Rule 005, by May 15 of each year.

3. Section 4.3.3 of Rule 005 requires utilities on interim rates to file annual reports comparing the current year's actual results to the prior years' actual results. Following Commission approval of the final rates, the utility must file updated schedules comparing actual results to its approved revenue requirement.

4. Given that the general rate application (GRA) originally filed on October 22, 2010, was still underway on May 17, 2011, AltaGas filed its 2010 annual report comparing its 2010 results to its 2009 results instead of comparing the 2010 results to its approved revenue requirement forecast.

5. On April 9, 2012, the Commission issued Decision [2012-091](#),¹ which included a Commission direction for AltaGas to make a compliance filing for its GRA by June 4, 2012. In accordance with the May 15 deadline from Section 3.5 and the reporting requirements in Section 4.3.3 of Rule 005, AltaGas is required to file its 2011 annual report showing its actual 2011 results compared to the prior year's actual results, with explanations provided for significant variances. Following approval of its final 2010-2012 revenue requirements, AltaGas must file updated reports for both 2010 and 2011.

3 The extension request

6. In its application, AltaGas submitted that approval of the requested filing extension would eliminate the need to file an additional version of the Rule 005 report later this year following Commission approval of its 2010 and 2011 revenue requirement.

¹ Decision 2012-091: AltaGas Utilities Inc., 2010-2012 General Rate Application – Phase I, Application No. 1606694, Proceeding ID No. 904, April 9, 2012.

7. AltaGas also stated that an extension of the filing date would assist it with its current resource constraints resulting from work related to the Rate Regulation Initiative hearing,² AltaGas's 2010-2012 GRA compliance filing, and other upcoming and ongoing applications.

4 Commission findings

8. The Commission accepts that AltaGas would incur additional costs if it was required to file its 2011 annual report twice, and also recognizes AltaGas's current heavy regulatory work load.

9. The Commission does not anticipate that AltaGas's Rule 005 2011 annual report will be required for either the Rate Regulation Initiative hearing or the GRA compliance filing due on June 4, 2012. Thus, the Commission is of the view that AltaGas's proposed June 29, 2012 Rule 005 filing date is sufficient.

10. The Commission directs AltaGas to file, on or before June 29, 2012, its 2011 and updated 2010 Rule 005 annual reports, complete with the forecast revenue requirement values it will have filed in its June 4, 2012 GRA compliance filing.

11. Given the uncertainty that the Commission will approve in whole or in part AltaGas's June 4, 2012 GRA compliance filing, the Commission may require AltaGas to file an updated version of its Rule 005 annual report. If the Commission does not approve AltaGas's June 4, 2012 compliance filing and directs AltaGas to make a second compliance filing, the Commission directs AltaGas to file an updated version of its Rule 005 annual report within 45 calendar days of the Commission approving a final 2010 and 2011 revenue requirement for AltaGas.

5 Order

12. It is hereby ordered that:

- (1) AltaGas Utilities Inc.'s request for an extension for filing its 2011 and its updated 2010 Rule 005 reports from May 15, 2012 to June 29, 2012, is approved.

Dated on May 11, 2012.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Carolyn Dahl Rees
Vice-Chair

² Application No. 1606029, Proceeding ID No. 566 – Rate Regulation Initiative.