#### BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICATION OF OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS ) COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ONE GAS, INC., ) FOR A FINANCING ORDER APPROVING ) SECURITIZATION OF COSTS ARISING FROM ) THE FEBRUARY 2021 WINTER WEATHER ) EVENT PURSUANT TO THE "FEBRUARY 2021 ) REGULATED UTILITY CONSUMER )

CAUSE NO. PUD 202100079



## **REBUTTAL TESTIMONY**

<u>OF</u>

**CORY SLAUGHTER** 

ON BEHALF OF

**OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS** 

October 25, 2021

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1		INTRODUCTION
2	Q.	Please state your name.
3	A.	My name is Cory Slaughter.
4		
5	Q.	Are you the same Cory Slaughter that provided direct testimony in this cause?
6	A.	Yes, I am.
7		
8		<u>PURPOSE</u>
9	Q.	Mr. Slaughter, what is the purpose of your testimony?
10	A.	The purpose of my testimony is to discuss the:
11		1) Responsive testimony of Public Utility Division ("PUD") Witness Mr. Isaac
12		Stroup;
13		2) Responsive testimony of PUD Witness Mr. JoRay McCoy; and
14		3) Statement of Position of the Office of the Attorney General.
15		
16	Q.	Mr. Slaughter would you like to summarize your rebuttal testimony?
17	A.	Yes. My testimony focuses on the following six topics:
18		1) Oklahoma Natural agrees with PUD Witness Mr. JoRay McCoy that the
19		Company has complied with the requirements of the February 2021 Regulated

Utility Consumer Protection Act and that the extraordinary purchase costs would otherwise be recoverable from customers as fair, just and reasonable expenses 2 and were prudently incurred; 3

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- 2) Oklahoma Natural agrees with Mr. McCoy that Oklahoma Natural acted in accordance with its fuel procurement policies and procedures during the event;
- Oklahoma Natural agrees with PUD Witness Mr. Isaac recommendation to approve a financing order to securitize \$1,371,369,996, subject to true-up;
- 4) Oklahoma Natural agrees with Mr. Stroup's recommendation to approve the Winter Event Securitized Cost Recovery ("WESCR") Mechanism Tariff with the proposed allocation methodology based on February usage at a proposed fixed rate per customer. This proposed fixed rate would be charged to all sales customers with the exception of those customers who were enrolled in the voluntary fixed price program ("VFP") during the February 2021 winter weather event;
- 5) Although potentially unnecessary due to the high-cost barrier of conversion to an alternative fuel source, Oklahoma Natural does agree that a termination fee may help alleviate concerns of nonbypassability from bond rating agencies. The proposed WESCR Mechanism Tariff has been modified to include a termination

fee based on the costs being securitized, limited in scope to only the very rare occasion when a customer communicates that it is permanently terminating natural gas service through conversion to alternative sources and only applicable to customers being served during the February 2021 winter weather event; and 6) Oklahoma Natural has provided in response to testimony from PUD Witness Stroup, an analysis of interest rates, customer savings, and customer fixed rates, based on varying recovery periods from 15 to 30 years and varying bond ratings. Oklahoma Natural recommends a 25-year scheduled recovery period to strike a balance between low interest rates and a scheduled recovery period long enough to minimize expected residential customer bill impact to 10% or less.

#### RESPONSIVE TESTIMONY OF MR. ISAAC STROUP

- 13 Q. Mr. Slaughter what are the recommendations of PUD Witness Mr. Isaac Stroup?
- 14 A. Mr. Stroup's recommendations are listed below. PUD recommends that the Commission:
  - 1) Approve a financing order for Oklahoma Natural; and
    - 2) Approve the Winter Event Securitized Cost Recovery ("WESCR") Mechanism and allocation methodology proposed by Oklahoma Natural, with four modifications:

1		a) The use of a lixed fale for the securitization charge. FOD requests
2		Oklahoma Natural propose a calculation of a fixed rate for each customer
3		class in rebuttal testimony, similar to the fixed rates outlined in response to
4		Data Request PUD-ONG-JRM-2-1;
5		b) A disconnect termination fee be included in the WESCR Mechanism in
6		order to satisfy the "nonbypassable mechanism" requirement of the Act
7		such as the one Oklahoma Natural identified in response to Data Reques
8		PUD-ONG-JRM-2-2. PUD requests Oklahoma Natural propose tarif
9		language regarding the disconnect termination fee, including the amoun
10		and/or how such a fee would be calculated, in rebuttal testimony;
11		c) Customers who were taking service under the Voluntary Fixed Price
12		program during the Event are not to be required to pay the securitization
13		charge; and that
14		d) Oklahoma Natural provide rebuttal testimony regarding a 15-year, 20-
15		year, 25-year, or other scheduled periods for securitization structures.
16		
17	Q.	Mr. Slaughter, do you agree with Mr. Stroup's recommendation to approve a
18		financing order for Oklahoma Natural?

1 A. Yes, I do. A financing order approving securitization will provide the ability to
2 significantly reduce the impact to customers by providing a longer period of
3 recovery at a lower interest rate as compared to traditional financing. More specific
4 information concerning customer impact and savings will be discussed later in this
5 testimony.

6

- Q. Do you agree with Mr. Stroup's recommendation regarding the Company's
   proposed WESCR Mechanism tariff?
- 9 A. Mostly. After careful consideration of rebuttal testimony and discussions
  10 throughout this filing, I do believe that a fixed rate as opposed to a volumetric
  11 securitization charge is the best way to address concerns about nonbypassability,
  12 if customers significantly alter their natural gas usage in the future.

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- 14 Q. What do you not agree with concerning his WESCR Mechanism15 recommendations?
- A. I agree that the idea of a termination or disconnect fee is one way to address potential concerns from bond ratings agencies about nonbypassability. What I don't necessarily agree with is the need for a termination fee. As I discussed on

in data request response PUD-ONG-1, there are several reasons why I believe the 1 2 mechanism to be nonbypassable without a termination fee. These reasons are: 1) The securitization charge is applicable to new customers. Oklahoma Natural's 3 sales customer base has steadily grown for decades. Just over the last 20 years 4 Oklahoma's residential customer count has grown by approximately 13%; 5 2) Oklahoma passed HB 3619 preventing a municipality or county from adopting 6 ordinances, rules or codes that would restrict connections to natural gas utility 7 providers, i.e., ban gas appliances; 8 3) If a fixed fee is approved, any reduction in individual customer usage would not 9 10 affect collection of the WESCR charge; 11 4) Customers who enroll in future plan periods for the Voluntary Fixed Price 12 program will be subject to the securitization charge; 13 5) Based on 2020, Oklahoma Natural maintains a significant cost advantage of 3.5 times compared to electricity; and 14 6) The two largest electric companies serve the majority of our customers and will 15 also have securitization charges. 16 17 The nonbypassability of the charge should be viewed from the perspective of the 18 ability to collect the securitization fee and repay bonds as a whole and not at the 19 20 individual customer level for natural gas utilities.

Customer growth (#1 above), cost advantage compared to electricity (#5 above), 1 and the inability of municipalities to ban gas appliances (#2 above) should allow 2 3 the Company to continue to add customers and offset the customers that may 4 actually terminate service. 5 Q. Is Oklahoma Natural opposed to a termination fee? 6 7 Although the Company feels it may be unnecessary, it does not oppose the idea. Α. 8 9 Q. Has the Company proposed changes to its proposed WESCR Tariff 1211 in order 10 to accommodate such a termination fee? 11 Α. Yes, in Exhibit CMS-1, language has been added to the "Applicability" section of the tariff to include a Termination Fee applicable only if at the time of disconnection, 12 the customer requesting disconnection notifies the Company that the 13 disconnection of natural gas service is for the purpose of switching to an alternative 14 fuel source. 15 16 17 Q. What is the basis for the Termination Fee? The Termination Fee is based on the annual allocation per customer of the \$1.371 18 Α. billion being securitized, rounded to either the nearest \$5 or \$100 increment, times 19

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the number of remaining years left for recovery when the Customer terminates

service and provides notice to us that termination is due to switching to an alternative fuel source. The calculation of the Termination Fees are attached at Exhibit CMS-2.

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- Does Oklahoma Natural intend to apply this Termination Fee to customers who did not have service during the February 2021 Winter Weather Event?
- A. No. Although the securitization charge is applicable to all sales customers,

  Oklahoma Natural only intends to apply the Termination Fee in cases where the

  customer terminating service was a customer during the Event.

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- 11 Q. Does this Termination Fee include interest for the remaining recovery period?
- 12 A. No, it does not.

13

- Q. Why is it fair to the rest of Oklahoma Natural's customers to charge this TerminationFee?
- 16 A. The extraordinary costs being securitized are costs based on gas used by
  17 customers during the Event. Absent securitization, these gas costs would have
  18 been recovered through the PGA. In bypassing the securitization charge through
  19 termination of service, the Customer is avoiding paying their share of gas costs,

and the Termination Fee is designed to ensure the Customer pays their portion of the gas costs being securitized.

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Q. Is it the Company's intent that the Termination Fee be strictly limited to narrow circumstances where a customer has specifically communicated that the purpose of the customer's disconnection relates to removing natural gas as a fuel source?

Yes, it is. Under this narrow scope, it is expected that the Termination Fee would be utilized on a very rare basis.

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10 Q. Mr. Slaughter, do you agree with Mr. Stroup's recommendation not to charge
11 customers who were on the VFP rate during the February 2021 Winter Weather
12 Event?

13 A.14151617

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Yes, I do. Customers who choose to enroll in the annual VFP program are governed by Tariff 1001-V Special Terms and Conditions Purchased Gas Adjustment Clause - Voluntary Fixed Price Program. On an annual basis, residential and small commercial and industrial customers have the choice to enroll in the VFP program that runs from November 1 through October 31. The price of gas for these customers is fixed for the annual period based on a specific calculation. This program is a price mitigation tool for the individual customer that

in some years is positive and, in some years, negative as compared to the
Purchased Gas Adjustment ("PGA"). Including these customers in the
securitization charge would be a violation of the VFP tariff.

4

5 Q. What about customers enrolling in VFP for future enrollment periods?

VFP during the February 2021 winter weather event.

A. Customers who enroll in VFP for all future periods beginning with November 1,

2021 will pay the same securitization charge as non-VFP customers. The only

exception to this are those customers previously discussed that were enrolled in

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- 11 Q. Mr. Slaughter, has the Company prepared an exhibit showing estimated customer 12 charges and savings based on varying recovery periods and bond ratings?
- 13 A. Yes. Attached to this testimony is Exhibit CMS-3 which is a matrix showing
  14 estimated customer monthly charges and savings versus traditional financing for
  15 scheduled payment periods ranging from 15 to 30 years with bond ratings from A
  16 to AAA.

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Q. Does the Company have a recommendation as to the recovery period?

1 Α. Yes, the Company believes a scheduled recovery period of 25 years to be the time 2 period that provides the best balance among: 1) Low expected interest rates (below 3%); 3 2) Savings of as much as \$700 million (AAA rated bonds); and 4 3) A scheduled time period long enough to minimize impacts on customer bills. 5 6 7 Q. Does the Company have a recommendation concerning low income customers on Tariff 102 Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program? 8 9 Α. Yes, the Company recommends that these customers not be assessed the securitization charge. 10 11 Q. What happens to the gas costs that would otherwise be allocated to these 12 13 customers? They are re-allocated based on a weighted average to Residential A and 14 Α. Residential B customers. The resulting impact, shown in Exhibit CMS-3 is a small 15 \$0.10 per month increase in the rate for both Residential A and Residential B 16 customers based on AAA rated bonds and reflecting a 25-year scheduled recovery 17 18 period.

- 1 Q. What are the estimated month fixed charges for residential customers based on a
- 2 25-year scheduled recovery period?
- 3 A. See Table 1 below from Exhibit CMS-3:

4 Table 1

Scheduled Recovery Period		25 Years	
Bond Rating	A	AA	AAA
Residential 101 Option A	\$5.13	\$4.91	\$4.77
Residential 101 Option B	\$8.51	\$8.14	\$7.90

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- 6 Q. What is the estimated percentage securitization will be of an average residential
- 7 bill?
- 8 A. The average estimated percent, shown at Exhibit CMS-4, of a residential bill is
- 9 approximately 8.7% based on currently approved rates and the October 2021
- purchased gas adjustment ("PGA") billing rate.

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- 12 Q. Mr. Slaughter, these rates are just estimates, correct?
- 13 A. Yes, these rates can and will change based on multiple factors, such as the:
- 14 1) Approved scheduled recovery period;
- 2) Actual interest rates at bond pricing;
- 16 3) Actual financing costs from the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority
- 17 ("ODFA");
- 18 4) Resolution of approximately \$28 million in disputed invoices; and

1		5) True-up of final consulting and legal fees for filing.
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3		RESPONSIVE TESTIMONY OF MR. JORAY MCCOY
4	Q.	Mr. Slaughter, what are the recommendations of PUD Witness JoRay McCoy?
5	A.	Mr. McCoy recommends or concludes that:
6		1) The Commission approve Oklahoma Natural's request for securitization;
7		2) PUD reviewed Oklahoma Natural's Application and confirmed Oklahoma
8		Natural has complied with the requirements set forth in the February 2021
9		Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act 74 § 9073.A;
10		3) Based upon PUD's review of the referenced statute, PUD believes the
11		extraordinary purchase costs would otherwise be recoverable from customers as
12		fair, just and reasonable expenses, and were prudently incurred; and
13		4) Oklahoma Natural acted in accordance with its fuel procurement policies and
14		procedures during the Event.
15		
16	Q.	Does Oklahoma Natural agree with Mr. McCoy's recommendations and
17		conclusions?.
18	A.	Yes, it does.

- Q. Does Oklahoma Natural have any clarifications that it would like to make
   concerning the testimony of Mr. McCoy?
- 3 Yes, on lines 2 through 7 of page 10 of Mr. McCoy's testimony, he references a Α. response to PUD data request PUD-JRM-ONG-1-5. The data request asked, "Are 4 all gas contracts tied to the market index, with the exception of the fixed contract 5 for the voluntary fixed price program?" The answer to this question was "Yes." 6 7 The question within the testimony of Mr. McCoy asks, "Are all gas contracts tied to the **daily** market index?" The answer to this question is no, as approximately 74% 8 9 of ONG's forecasted Peak Design Day needs are protected from the volatile daily spot market. As discussed in PUD-JRM-ONG-1-3 of the same data request set. 10 11 ONG's Gas Supply Plan, submitted annually to the Commission, contains a portfolio composed of storage, baseload, and physical call options (callables) 12 purchased in advance of the winter season to ensure access to supply up to the 13 forecasted Peak Design Day. For the 2020-2021 winter season, storage gas 14 comprised 40% of the Peak Design Day needs and was purchased in the summer 15 months at a weighted average cost of gas ("WACOG") of \$3.4867. All baseload 16 and a portion of the callable supply were executed against the first of the month 17 18 index representing 33% of the Peak Design Day needs. One percent (1.0%) of ONG's annual demand is a summer fixed price purchase to support the Voluntary 19 20 Fixed Price program. Therefore, based upon this Gas Supply Plan, as mentioned

1		previously, approximately 74% of ONG's forecasted Peak Design Day needs are
2		protected from the volatile daily spot market.
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4		ATTORNEY GENERAL'S STATEMENT OF POSITION
5	Q.	Mr. Slaughter, did the Attorney General's office file a statement of position?
6	A.	Yes, it did.
7		
8	Q.	Please summarize this statement.
9	A.	The Attorney General's Statement contained 3 positions:
10		1) Securitization will save customers substantial carrying charges for historical
11		natural gas costs that customers would otherwise be required to pay;
12		2) The maturity periods for securitization bonds should be carefully selected to
13		reduce interest costs while ensuring customer burdens are bearable; and
14		3) ONG's status as a natural gas utility does not create risk justifying a substantially
15		shorter time period nor excessive exit fees.
16		
17	Q.	Mr. Slaughter, do you agree with the AG's first position concerning savings?
18	A.	Yes, as discussed in this testimony, pre-filed direct testimony of Company
19		witnesses, and responsive testimony of PUD witnesses, securitization will save

customers substantially on their bills based on the lower interest rates and longer recovery periods.

- 4 Q. Do you agree with the AG's second position concerning maturity (recovery)
  5 periods?
- A. Yes, as discussed earlier in this testimony, the Company believes that a 25-year scheduled recovery period provides the greatest balance between lower interest rates and a scheduled recovery period long enough to minimize impact on customers.

Α.

- 11 Q. Do you agree with the AG's third position concerning risk of natural gas utilities and
  12 exit (termination) fees and maturity periods?
  - I do agree that recovery periods should not be shortened and termination fees should not be assessed based on any perceived risk of a long-term transition away from natural gas. The recommended scheduled recovery period of 25 years within this testimony includes no reduction for such risk. I also agree, as I have discussed earlier in this testimony, that termination fees should be strictly limited to narrow circumstances where a customer has specifically communicated that the purpose of the customer's disconnection relates to removing natural gas as a fuel source for existing appliances and replacing such appliances or using an alternative fuel

source for the same appliances, otherwise known as fuel switching. Although not necessary from the Company's perspective, the proposed termination fee would only be applied in such rare cases. Although the termination fee for a residential customer who received service during the weather event (not applicable to new customers) could result in a charge of well over \$1,000, it is fair as it is based on the cost of gas that customers used during the winter weather event.

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# **FINANCING ORDER**

- 9 Q. Mr. Slaughter, has Oklahoma Natural reviewed PUD's proposed financing order?
- 10 A. Yes, it has. The Company has provided a redline version of this financing order as
- 11 Exhibit CMS-5 addressing a number of issues.

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- 13 Q. Mr. Slaughter, please walk through the Company's proposed revisions.
- 14 A. Several clarifying revisions are recommended within Exhibit CMS-5. The more
- important proposed revisions are discussed below:
- Page 7 and Page 48 and other Pages Added language to tighten the connection
- between the Bonds and the Authority's state pledge;
- Pages 12 to 13 Deleted references to specific true-up dates and added language
- 19 providing flexibility to set the dates once the deal closing date is known. The Order
- should not set those dates;

Page 13 – Modified guarterly true-ups to be done during the last 12 months prior 1 to the scheduled final maturity dates. This is better, from a marketing perspective, 2 than waiting until the bonds are extending beyond the scheduled final to start more 3 frequent true-ups; 4 Page 13 – Added the authority to conduct optional true-ups at any time if an under-5 collection is projected. The Order authorizes these true-ups much later in the 6 7 document but also should be mentioned within the "Frequency of True-Ups and 8 Reconciliation" section; Page 16 and Page 46 – Clarification that the scope of the Commission's review of 9 non-standard true-ups should be limited to mathematical accuracy; 10 Page 22 – Clarification that if Oklahoma Natural receives excess funds after the 11 full payment of the Bonds and related ongoing financing costs, Oklahoma Natural 12 would credit customers such excess funds, solely in its capacity as Servicer and 13 14 solely on behalf of the ODFA; and Page 11 and Page 40 – Modified to remove the two-year limitation for the period 15 between the scheduled final maturity and the legal final maturity. This period, often 16 referred to as the "maturity cushion," is an important feature supporting the highest 17 18 possible rating for the Bonds and is driven by rating agency and market considerations. The maturity cushion should not be specified in advance prior to
the rating agency process, and will be described in the Issuance Advice Letter.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Slaughter, does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes, it does.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, a full, true, and correct copy of the above and foregoing instrument was served on the following persons by **ELECTRONIC MAIL** to:

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#### WINTER EVENT SECURITIZED COST RECOVERY "WESCR" MECHANISM

#### Section 1 - Applicability

The WESCR mechanism shall be applicable to all gas sales customer tariffs listed in Section 2 of this tariff beginning with the first billing cycle following a final financing –order in Cause No. PUD202100079 and the issuance of securitized bonds and the Company's receipt of such bond proceeds pursuant to Senate Bill 1050.

Nonbypassability: At the time of disconnection, if the customer is requesting disconnection and notifies the Company that disconnection of natural gas service is for the purpose of switching to an alterative fuel sources, then a Termination Fee shall be charged as listed below:

<u>Tariff</u>	*Termination Fee
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice A	<u>\$35</u>
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice B	<u>\$55</u>
Tariff 102 & 102-V Low Income	No Fee
Tariff 200 SCI & 200 SCI-V	<u>\$70</u>
Tariffs 200LCI, 291S, 601S, 705	<u>\$300</u>
Tariff 291S	<u>\$3,500</u>
Tariff 601S	<u>\$3,600</u>
<u>Tariff 705</u>	<u>\$2,700</u>

<sup>\*</sup> This Termination Fee shall be multiplied by the number of years, rounded down, remaining for recovery of the bonds. The time period for recovery of bonds shall be 25 years, as determined in Cause No. PUD 202100079, and begin with the first year the Billing Rates in Section 3 are implemented. The Termination Fee shall only be applied to those Customers with service during the February 2021 Winter Weather Event. The Termination Fee is not applicable to those

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation			
Commission:			
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079	

<u>Customers who were not existing Customers or enrolled in the Voluentary Fixed Price Plan</u> during the February 2021 Winter Weather Event.

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation Commission:		
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079

# **Section 2 – Allocation**

The WESCR mechanism shall be allocated to gas sales customer tariffs as shown below. This allocation, approved <u>in Cause No. PUD 202100079</u>, shall <u>only be subject to the true-up and reconciliation methodology set forth in the Order and the final Issuance Advice Letter.</u>

Tariff	% Allocation
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice A	<del>13.54%</del> <u>13.89%</u>
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice B	64.823.99%
Tariff 102 & 102-V Low Income	<del>1.13%</del> 0%
Tariff 200SCI & 200 SCI-V	6.30%
Tariffs 200LCI, 291S, 601S, 705	<del>15.05%</del> 14.61%
Tariff 291S	0.37%
Tariff 601S	<u>0.01%</u>
<u>Tariff 705</u>	0.05%
Total	100%

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation					
Commission:					
Cause/Docket No.					
PUD 202100079					

Rates Authorized By	The Oklahoma	<u>Corporation</u>
Commission:		
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation							
Commission:							
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079					

## Section 32 – Billing Rates

The WESCR Mechanism billing rates below shall show as a separately line item on the customers bill.

Tariff	*Volumetric Rate per DekathermFixed Monthly Fee
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice A	
Tariff 101 & 101-V Rate Choice B	
Tariff 102 & 102-V Low Income	
Tariff 200SCI & 200 SCI-V	
Tariffs 200LCI <del>, 291S, 601S, 705</del>	
Tariff 291-S	
Tariff 601-S	
<u>Tariff 705</u>	
Total	

\* Volumes in Dekatherms shall be actual non-temperature adjusted usage.

# Section 43 – Recovery Period

The recovery period for securitized bonds shall be a for the time period approved by the securitized bond financing order on Cause No. PUD 202100079.

# Section 54 – True Up

The WESCR mechanism shall be trued up and reconciled semi-annually, through a submission to the Public Utility Division ("PUD") of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Oklahoma Natural Gas shall receive periodic information from the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority ("ODFA") in order to perform this true-up and reconciliation. Oklahoma Natural Gas will provide the updated rates as well as supporting calculations by March 31 and September 30

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation Commission:							
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079					

of each year within 30 days of receipt of this information with rates to be effective the first billing cycle in May and November, respectively the month following the true-up. PUD

	Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation							
Commission:								
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No.						
	PUD 202100079							

shall have 3045 days to complete its review before updated rates begin billing. Submission dates and timing of applicable rates may change vary subject to the timing of information from the ODFA. A final True-up will occur at the end of the Recovery Period to ensure that only the amount of bond proceeds the Company received, as well as related interest and ongoing financing costs, haves been collected from those customers identified in Section 2. This final True-up, resulting in either a customer over or under collection may occur through the Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment Mechanism (PGA) or as a line item on the Customer bills.

If the current customer count for any Tariff shown in Section 2 declines by more than 10% from the customer count used to determine the current allocation in Section 2, then the allocation in Section 2 will be re-calculated using the most recent 12 months normalized volume.

Rates Authorized By The Oklahoma Corporation Commission:							
Effective	Order No.	Cause/Docket No. PUD 202100079					

Securitized Costs \$1,371,369,996

					Proposed
		Allocation % -		Amount owed	Charge per
		Based on		per remaining	remaining
		February 2021		years of	years of
Tariff	Tariff Description	Usage	Customer Count	securitization	securitization
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice A	Residential Option A less than 50 Dth	13.54%	210,696	\$35.25	\$35.00
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice B	Residential Option B Greater than 50 Dth	63.99%	595,292	\$58.96	\$55.00
Tariff 102 & 102V	Residential Low Income	1.13%	14,100	\$43.94	\$40.00
Tariff 200SCI & 200SCIV	Small Commercial & Industrial	6.30%	46,586	\$74.16	\$70.00
Tariff 200LCI	Large Commercial & Industrial	14.61%	26,491	\$302.61	\$300.00
Tariff 291S	Sales 5,000 - 29,999 Dth	0.37%	57	\$3,558.59	\$3,500.00
Tariff 601S	Wholesale (Municipals)	0.01%	2	\$3,645.15	\$3,600.00
Tariff 705	CNG	0.05%	10	\$2,719.22	\$2,700.00

					Proposed
		Allocation % -		Amount owed	Charge per
		Based on		per remaining	remaining
Tariff	Tariff Description	February 2021 Usage	Customer Count	years of securitization	years of securitization
5 Marc 200	•				
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice A	Residential Option A less than 50 Dth	13.83%	210,696	\$36.01	\$35.00
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice B	Residential Option B Greater than 50 Dth	64.82%	595,292	\$59.73	\$55.00
Tariff 102 & 102V	Residential Low Income	0.00%	14,100	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tariff 200SCI & 200SCIV	Small Commercial & Industrial	6.30%	46,586	\$74.16	\$70.00
Tariff 200LCI	Large Commercial & Industrial	14.61%	26,491	\$302.61	\$300.00
Tariff 291S	Sales 5,000 - 29,999 Dth	0.37%	57	\$3,558.59	\$3,500.00
Tariff 601S	Wholesale (Municipals)	0.01%	2	\$3,645.15	\$3,600.00
Tariff 705	CNG	0.05%	10	\$2,719.22	\$2,700.00

#### EXHIBIT CMS-3 Recovery Periods and Customer Rates ATTACHMENT JRM-2-3

			Recovery Period		15 Years			20 Years			25 Years			30 Years	
Total Extraordinary Costs (See T	able CMS-1 of Slaughter Testimony)	\$1,371,369,996	Bond Rating	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA
			Bond Financing Rate	2.29%	2.01%	1.84%	2.61%	2.33%	2.14%	2.84%	2.54%	2.35%	3.00%	2.71%	2.51%
			nal Financing Rate (Current WACC)		8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%
		Net Pro	esent Value Savings (in Milllions)	\$538.0	\$560.8	\$575.2	\$601.5	\$628.9	\$646.8	\$647.5	\$679.5	\$700.5	\$682.7	\$717.4	\$740.4
		Allocation % - Based on February													
Tariff	Tariff Description	2021 Usage	Customer Count	Fix	ed Monthly	Fee	Fix	ced Monthly	Fee	Fixe	d Monthly	Fee	Fixe	d Monthly	Fee
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice A	Residential Option A less than 50 Dth	13.54%	210,696	\$6.32	\$6.37	\$6.25	\$5.59	\$5.38	\$5.25	\$5.02	\$4.81	\$4.66	\$4.65	\$4.44	\$4.29
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice B	Residential Option B Greater than 50 Dth	63.99%	595,292	\$10.57	\$10.66	\$10.45	\$9.35	\$9.00	\$8.78	\$8.40	\$8.04	\$7.80	\$7.78	\$7.42	\$7.18
Tariff 102 & 102V	Residential Low Income	1.13%	14,100	\$7.88	\$7.94	\$7.79	\$6.97	\$6.71	\$6.54	\$6.26	\$5.99	\$5.81	\$5.80	\$5.53	\$5.35
Tariff 200SCI & 200SCIV	Small Commercial & Industrial	6.30%	26,491	\$13.30	\$13.41	\$13.14	\$47.97	\$46.19	\$45.04	\$43.11	\$41.26	\$40.04	\$39.93	\$38.07	\$36.85
Tariff 200LCI	Large Commercial & Industrial	14.61%	46,586	\$54.25	\$54.71	\$53.62	\$11.76	\$11.32	\$11.04	\$10.56	\$10.11	\$9.81	\$9.78	\$9.33	\$9.03
Tariff 291S	Sales 5,000 - 29,999 Dth	0.37%	57	\$637.99	\$643.43	\$630.53	\$564.12	\$543.22	\$529.65	\$506.96	\$485.16	\$470.86	\$469.55	\$447.75	\$433.29
Tariff 601S	Wholesale (Municipals)	0.01%	2	\$653.51	\$659.08	\$645.86	\$577.85	\$556.43	\$542.53	\$519.29			\$480.97		
Tariff 705	CNG	0.05%	10	\$487.51	\$491.66	\$481.80	\$431.06	\$415.09	\$404.72	\$387.38	\$370.73	\$359.80	\$358.79	\$342.14	\$331.09

			Recovery Period		15 Years			20 Years			25 Years			30 Years	
Total Extraordinary Costs (See T	able CMS-1 of Slaughter Testimony)	\$1,371,369,996	Bond Rating	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA	Α	AA	AAA
			Bond Financing Rate	2.29%	2.01%	1.84%	2.61%	2.33%	2.14%	2.84%	2.54%	2.35%	3.00%	2.71%	2.51%
		Trac	litional Financing Rate (Current WACC)	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%	8.88%
		Ne	t Present Value Savings (in Millions)	\$538.0	\$560.8	\$575.2	\$601.5	\$628.9	\$646.8	\$647.5	\$679.5	\$700.5	\$682.7	\$717.4	\$740.4
		Allocation % - Based on Febru	ary												
Tariff	Tariff Description	2021 Usage	Customer Count	Fix	ed Monthly	Fee	Fix	ed Monthly	Fee	Fix	ed Monthly	Fee	Fixe	d Monthly	/ Fee
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice A	Residential Option A less than 50 Dth	13.83%	210,696	\$6.46	\$6.51	\$6.38	\$5.71	\$5.50	\$5.36	\$5.13	\$4.91	\$4.77	\$4.75	\$4.53	\$4.39
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice B	Residential Option B Greater than 50 Dth	64.82%	595,292	\$10.71	\$10.80	\$10.58	\$9.47	\$9.12	\$8.89	\$8.51	\$8.14	\$7.90	\$7.88	\$7.52	\$7.27
Tariff 102 & 102V	Residential Low Income	0.00%	14,100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tariff 200SCI & 200SCIV	Small Commercial & Industrial	6.30%	46,586	\$54.25	\$54.71	\$53.62	\$47.97	\$46.19	\$45.04	\$43.11	\$41.26	\$40.04	\$39.93	\$38.07	\$36.85
Tariff 200LCI	Large Commercial & Industrial	14.61%	26,491	\$13.30	\$13.41	\$13.14	\$11.76	\$11.32	\$11.04	\$10.56	\$10.11	\$9.81	\$9.78	\$9.33	\$9.03
Tariff 291S	Sales 5,000 - 29,999 Dth	0.37%	57	\$637.99	\$643.43	\$630.53	\$564.12	\$543.22	\$529.65	\$506.96	\$485.16	\$470.86	\$469.55	\$447.75	\$433.29
Tariff 601S	Wholesale (Municipals)	0.01%	2	\$653.51	\$659.08	\$645.86	\$577.85	\$556.43	\$542.53	\$519.29	\$496.97	\$482.31	\$480.97	\$458.64	\$443.83
Tariff 705	CNG	0.05%	10	\$487.51	\$491.66	\$481.80	\$431.06	\$415.09	\$404.72	\$387.38	\$370.73	\$359.80	\$358.79	\$342.14	\$331.09

Monthly Impact to Other Residentials if Low Income Excluded														
Tariff	Tariff Description	Customer Count												
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice A	Residential Option A less than 50 Dth	210,696	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.12	\$0.11	\$0.11	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.09
Tariff 101 & 101V Rate Choice B	Residential Option B Greater than 50 Dth	595,292	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.12	\$0.11	\$0.11	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.09

EXHIBIT CMS-4 Securitization - Percent of Residential Bill

25 YI	EARS		
RESIDENTIAL A & B	Option A	Option B	Average A&B
Monthly Service Charge	\$16.36	\$33.50	
Annual Service Charge	\$196.32	\$402.00	
Delivery Fee per Dth	\$4.1143	\$0.00	
Normal Dth	46.77	NA	
Delivery Fee Total	\$192.45	\$0.00	
Total Revenue	\$388.77	\$402.00	
Current PGA Rate	\$5.977	\$5.977	
Annual Usage (use normal for estimate)	46.77	77.98	
Total Gas Cost	\$279.57	\$466.06	
Average Total Bill excluding taxes	\$668.34	\$868.06	
Average Tax Rate	7.071%	7.071%	
Average Taxes	\$47.26	\$61.38	
Average Total Bill before Securitization	\$715.60	\$929.44	
Monthly Securitization Charge	\$4.77	\$7.90	
Annual Securitization Charge	\$57.24	\$94.80	
Average Taxes on Securitization Charge	\$4.05	\$6.70	
Average Total Bill After Securitization	\$776.89	\$1,030.94	
Securitization % of Total Bill	7.37%	9.20%	8.72%
% of Customers	26.19%	73.81%	

# **BEFORE THE**

# CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICATION OF OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ONE GAS, INC., FOR A FINANCING	) ) )
ORDER APPROVING SECURITIZATION OF COSTS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2021 WINTER WEATHER	) Cause No. PUD 202100079
EVENT PURSUANT TO THE "FEBRUARY 2021 REGULATED UTILITY	) ) )
CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT"	)

# DRAFT ONG FINANCING ORDER

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# BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICATION OF OKLAHOMA	)				
NATURAL GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION	)				
OF ONE GAS, INC., FOR A FINANCING	)				
ORDER APPROVING SECURITIZATION	)	Cause No. PUD 202100079			
OF COSTS ARISING FROM THE	)				
FEBRUARY 2021 WINTER WEATHER	)				
EVENT PURSUANT TO THE	)				
"FEBRUARY 2021 REGULATED	)				
UTILITY CONSUMER PROTECTION	)				
ACT"	•				

#### DRAFT FINANCING ORDER

#### INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Senate Bill 1050 (the "Act"), which includes the February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act, 74 Okla. Stat. §§ 9070-9081 (the "Act"), the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma recognized "the significant economic impact of the extreme weather event that occurred during the month of February 2021 herein the "2021 Winter Weather Event" and the "unprecedented utility costs [that] will be passed through to Oklahoma customers of utilities from regulated utility entities." 74 Okla. Stat. § 9071. To mitigate the effects on such Oklahoma customers, the Act authorized Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, a division of One Gas, Inc. ("ONG" or the "Utility"), and other utilities subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission, to request the recovery of these extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs (collectively referred to herein and in the Act as "qualified costs") through the securitization to mitigate the impact of such costs on utility existing and future ratepayers taking gas delivery service for consumption, within the sponsoring utility's service territory in effect as of the issuance date of this Financing Order (collectively referred to herein as "customers") customers, allowing customers to pay their utility bills at a lower amount over a longer period of time. In addition,

Section 13 of the Act amended 74 Okla. Stat. § 5062.8 to expand the authority of the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (the "Authority" or the "ODFA") under the Authority's enabling act<sup>1</sup> (as amended, the "Authority Act") to include authority to issue ratepayer-backed bonds authorized by the Act.

On April 29, 2021, ONG filed an application to seek a determination of prudently incurred costs associated with the 2021 Winter Weather Event eligible for recovery through securitization, and to demonstrate that a securitization would result in substantial revenue requirement savings as compared to conventional utility financing, and otherwise satisfy the requirements of the Act.

In this Financing Order, we have determined that ONG is eligible to recover [\$XX] of 2021 Winter Weather Event related costs as qualified costs, together with adjustments for carrying costs through the date of issuance of any ratepayer-backed bonds calculated in the manner described herein, and bond issuance costs (collectively, the "Approved Qualified Costs"), through securitization, and approve such recovery. In this Financing Order we also (i) approve the issuance of "ratepayer-backed bonds" (the "Bonds") by the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (the "Authority" or "ODFA") to finance the recovery of the Approved Qualified Costs, (2) approve the proposed financing structure and parameters for any final bond issuance; (3) authorize the creation of securitization property in favor of the Utility, including the right to impose and collect irrevocable and nonbypassable charges (herein, "WESCR Charges"), (4) authorize the sale of such securitization property to the ODFA to secure repayment of the Bonds; (5) approve a "nonbypassable mechanism" to ensure that customers of the utility cannot evade paying the WESCR Charge as long as the Bonds are outstanding; (6) approve a "true-up and reconciliation" procedure to ensure that the WESCR Charges will be adjusted from time to time such that the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 74-5102 et seq. (2014).

amounts collected will be sufficient to pay the Bonds and associated financing costs; and (7) approve a tariff to implement the WESCR Charge, all as described in the Act and more fully described in this Financing Order.

In Part I of this Financing Order we provide a statutory overview of the Act to give context to thisthe Financing Order ("Order").

In Part II, we discuss our determination and quantification of the 2021 Winter Weather Event-related qualified costs eligible for recovery under the Act.

In Part III, we describe how the Utility has demonstrated a securitization will result in customer savings and otherwise satisfy the requirements of the Act.

In Part IV, we describe how the Utility proposes to structure the securitization and allocate, impose and collect the WESCR Charges in a manner which satisfies the requirements of the Act.

In Part V, we describe a securitization <u>rate-payer backed</u> bond structure designed to recover the Approved Qualified Costs in a manner which will be consistent with <u>expected</u> rating agency criteria to ensure the highest possible ratings on the Bonds and thus maximize savings to customers.

In Part VI, we describe certain <u>B</u>bond issuance costs and ongoing financing costs associated with the <u>B</u>bond issuance process and their recovery from <u>B</u>bond proceeds or WESCR Charges, as appropriate.

#### I. BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY OVERVIEW

In February 2021, the State experienced an extreme weather event that brought nearly two weeks of record cold temperatures to the State. The extreme cold weather resulted in a shortage of natural gas supply, the failure of certain infrastructure, and enhanced demand for natural gas and electric power. The extreme weather conditions resulted in extraordinary costs for regulated utilities operating in the State. To mitigate such extraordinary costs the Oklahoma Legislature enacted, and the Governor of Oklahoma signed into law the Act to provide financing options to lower the immediate economic impact on consumers. The February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act portions of the Act arehe Act is codified at 74 Okla. Stat. §§ 9070 - 9081.

The Act authorizes the Commission, in any case where a regulated utility is requesting recovery of extreme purchase costs or extraordinary costs or both related to the 2021 Winter Weather Event eligible for recovery under the Act, to approve the recovery of such costs through securitization in order to mitigate the impact of such recovery on customer bills.<sup>2</sup> The Act provides that the Commission must consider certain factors ("Section 9073 factors") when determining whether the costs mitigated by the recovery through ratepayer-backed bonds, including whether the existence of substantial revenue requirement savings through the issuance of the bonds as compared to conventional financing methods, a longer amortization schedule to pay the bonds than would ordinarily be practicable or feasible for the utility to implement such cost recovery and the ability to issue bonds at a cost which would not exhaust the potential savings.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is also required to review the extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs of the uUtility and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9073.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9073(C).

determine whether the amounts incurred would otherwise be recoverable from customers as fair, just, and reasonable expenses and prudently incurred.<sup>4</sup>

Upon the determination that the costs are subject to recovery under the Act<sub>5</sub> and may be mitigated by the issuance of ratepayer-backed bonds, the Commission is authorized and required to make additional finding and conclusions in a Financing Order to support the issuance of ratepayer-backed bonds, as provided in Section 5(A) of the Act ("Required Findings and Conclusions"). The Utility and the Authority have submitted testimony addressing the Required Findings, and in Part IV of this Financing Order, we address these Required Findings and Conclusions.

The Act authorizes the creation of a new property right, called securitization property, to secure payment of the ratepayer-backed bonds.<sup>5</sup> The securitization property consists of the right to receive revenues, in the form of a customer utility charge (herein referred to as the "winter event securitization cost recovery charge" or "WESCR Charge"), which must be imposed on and collected from customers through a nonbypassable mechanism to ensure that customers cannot avoid paying the WESCR Charge. The nonbypassable mechanism must provide that the WESCR Charge is payable by each utility customer within the service territory of the utility in effect as of the date of the applicable Financing Order and such charge cannot be modified or avoided by the customer through switching utility providers, switching fuel sources or materially changing usage, and must be paid by the customer for as long as the ratepayer-backed bonds are outstanding.<sup>6</sup> In addition, the nonbypassable mechanism also requires a "true-up and reconciliation" process by which the WESCR Charge must be adjusted from time to time to ensure that expected revenues

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9073(E).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9075(A)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9072(5).

Securitization property constitutes a present contract right susceptible of ownership, sale, assignment, transfer, and security interest, and the property will continue to exist until the Bonds issued pursuant to this Financing Order are paid in full and all ongoing financing costs of the Bonds have been recovered in full.<sup>8</sup> In addition, the interests of a pledgee or secured party in securitization property (as well as the revenues and collections arising from the property) are not subject to setoff, counterclaim, surcharge or defense by the Utility or by any customer, or in connection with the bankruptcy of the Utility or any other entity.<sup>9</sup>

The Act authorizes the sale of the securitization property by the Utility to the Authority, which in turn and simultaneously, will issue the Bonds, and pledge the securitization property and any other collateral to the payment of the Bonds.

The Act further provides: "Upon issuance of any Financing Order, the periodic determination of factors for customer collection with true-up and reconciliation shall not be removed, adjusted or interrupted by any other regulatory determination of the Commission, except where adjustments are warranted as a result of an audit of amounts actually collected from customers and provided to the Authority or where insurance proceeds, government grants or other funding sources offset or reduce the amount of extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs to be recovered from customers. No adjustments shall in any manner impair or prevent the collection

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9072(12).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9075(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9075(D).

of sufficient revenues to service and repay ratepayer-backed bonds." <sup>10</sup> In this Financing Order, we have determined that any insurance proceeds, government grants or other funding sources will not be applied to the payment of the Bonds, but will instead be credited to customers through another mechanism described in this Financing Order.

The Act amends the Authority's enabling act (the "Authority Act") to authorize the ODFA to issue ratepayer-backed bonds authorized pursuant to the Act. In the Authority Act, In the Authority's enabling act (the "Authority Act"), the State of Oklahoma has pledged to and agreed with the owners of any Bonds issued by the ODFA under the Act that the State will not limit or alter the rights vested in the Authority, including the rights to be held by the Authority in this Order and the securitization property, to fulfill the terms of any agreements made with the owners thereof or in any way impair the rights and remedies of the owners until the Bonds, together with the interest thereon, with interest on any unpaid installments of interest, and all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of the owners, are fully met and discharged (the "State Pledge")<sup>12</sup>. This Financing Order requires the Authority to include in the Bonds a recitation of the State Pledge.

The Commission may adopt a Financing Order providing for the retiring and refunding of the Bonds.<sup>13</sup> ODFA and the Utility have not requested, and this Financing Order does not grant any authority to refinance the Bonds authorized by this Financing Order. This Financing Order does not preclude ODFA and the Utility from filing a request for a Financing Order for the Utility

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 9074(H).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 74 Okla. Stat. § 74-5102 et seq. (2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 74 Okla. Stat § 74-5062.15 (2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 74 Okla. Stat § 9077(D).

to retire or refund the Bonds approved in this Financing Order upon a showing that the <u>c</u>Customers would benefit and that such a financing is consistent with the terms of the Bonds.

To facilitate compliance and consistency with applicable statutory provisions, this Financing Order adopts the definitions in the Act.

## II. DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED COSTS

[Conclusion: In this Financing Order the Commission hashave determined that ONG is eligible to recover [\$XX] of 2021 Winter Weather Event related costs, together with adjustment for carrying costs are qualified costs under the Act (collectively, the "Weather-Related Qualified Costs") and approves such recovery.]

## III. SATISFACTION OF SECTION 9073 FACTORS

The Act provides that the Commission must consider the Section 9073 factors when determining whether the costs will be mitigated by the recovery through ratepayer-backed bonds, including whether substantial revenue requirement savings will be realized through (i) the issuance of the Bbonds as compared to conventional financing methods; (ii) a longer amortization schedule to pay the Bbonds than would ordinarily be practicable or feasible for the utility to implement such cost recovery and (iii) the ability to issue Bbonds at a cost which would not exhaust the potential savings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests, Attachment PUD-ONG-1-7.

here. The Commission will ensure substantial revenue requirement savings by requiring that the weighted average interest rate of the Bonds not exceed \_\_% per annum.

[The Utility has also proposed that the Bonds be amortized over a \_\_\_ year period, which is a longer amortization period than would ordinarily be practicable or feasible for the Utility to finance such cost recovery.]schedule cthan would ordinarily be practicable or feasible for the Utility to finance its obligations.]

Further, the Utility has demonstrated that the cost of issuing the Bonds will not materially impact potential savings to customers. [The Utility has estimated that even if projected costs of issuance were doubled, savings would still be significant.]

Further, in the Issuance Advice Letter, the Utility will provide an updated savings analysis based upon the actual pricing <u>terms</u> of the Bonds and the final costs of issuance.

Accordingly, in this Financing Order, we determine that the Utility has demonstrated that the issuance of the Bonds will satisfy the Section 9073 factorscriteria and should be approved.

## IV. DISCUSSION OF CERTAIN FINANCING ORDER REQUIREMENTS

Section 4(A) of the Act, which <u>is will be</u> codified at 74 OKLA. STAT. §9073 (A), requires this Commission to include findings and conclusions with respect to certain matters. Certain of these matters, not otherwise discussed in this Financing Order, are addressed below.

Bond Maturities: The Utility has requested that the Bonds be amortized on a scheduled basis over a period not to exceed of \_\_ years, using a relatively level annual debt service structure level debt amortization, subject to true-up and reconciliation. The Company proposed a \_\_-year recovery period, in part, for reasons of maintaining rate affordability, with a \_\_-year recovery period allowing for an estimated WESCR Charge of \$ per dekatherm or, in the case of

a fixed fee of \$\_\_ per month.<sup>15</sup> This proposed recovery period complies with Section 5(A) of the Act and is consistent with prior cost recovery orders of this Commission<sup>16</sup>. In this Financing Order, we find the Utility's proposal to be reasonable and approve the payment of the Bonds based upon level debt service and with a final scheduled maturity no later than \_\_ years from the date of issuance and a legal final maturity which may be longer, based upon rating agency and market considerations, not exceeding 30 years from the issuance date not later than two years after.

Irrevocable and Nonbypassable Mechanism to impose and adjust winter event securitization charges: The Utility has proposed a mechanism, as more fully described in the direct testimony of Cory Slaughter and Exhibit CMS-1, to impose a monthly per capita charge, which per capita charge will be based on the WESCR Customer Class (as described below) on all of its customers in order to generate sufficient cash flow to pay the Bonds and related ongoing financing costs on a timely basis as scheduled. The WESCR Charge would be payable by all sales customers excluding those enrolled in the Utility's Voluntary Fixed Price Plan ("VFP") during the winter storm. Customers, even those enrolled enrolling in the Utility's Voluntary Fixed Price Plan ("VFP") for future enrollment periods will pay the WESCR Charge. VFP which allows for residential and small commercial customers to pay a fixed price per dekathermdekatherm for the plan year, which runs from each November 1 through October 31.<sup>17</sup> The Utility will calculate the WESCR Charge based upon the pro forma tariff set forth in Exhibit CMS-1 and the allocation among tariff groups described in Table CMS-3 (each a "WESCR Customer Class"). The mechanism and, as described below, the allocation among WESCR Customer Classes, will, subject to the filing of a non-standard true-up adjustment described below, remain in effect until the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Direct testimony of Cory Slaughter, -p 13, line 13-15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Order No. 379117; see Direct Testimony of Cory Slaughter, -p 14, line 6-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Direct Testimony of Cory Slaughter, p. 18, line 8-11.

complete repayment and retirement of the Bonds and ongoing financing costs authorized by this Financing Order.

Exhibit CMS-1 also describes features demonstrating how the WESCR Charge will be nonbypassable to customers. {The WESCR Charge will be payable by all customers excluding those customers on VFP during the winter storm, the payment responsibility associated with customers electing to terminate gas service, which will no longer be responsible for payment of the WESCR Charge, other than any applicable termination fees, will be reallocated among customers in the related WESCR Customer Class. <sup>18</sup> Moreover, as noted by the Utility, Oklahoma law prohibits municipalities from adopting ordinances, rules or codes that would restrict connections to natural gas suppliers <sup>19</sup>. In respect of customers who reduce service, the Utility notes that a fixed WESCR Charge based on WESCR Customer Class would not be impacted by a reduction in usage. <sup>20</sup>] -In this Financing Order, we find that the nonbypassable mechanism satisfies the requirements of the Act, and is expected to be consistent with obtaining the highest possible ratings on the Bonds.

Frequency of True-Ups and Reconciliation:

The Utility has proposed that the WESCR Charge be adjusted (or trued-up) semi-annually to ensure that the WESCR Charge collections are sufficient to ensure the timely payment of the ratepayer-backed bBonds, while limiting the administrative burden on the Utility.<sup>21</sup> The Utility has further testified that the Utility as Servicer shallshould submit a true-up adjustment letter to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Exhibit CMS-1; see Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests PUD-ONG-1-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests PUD-ONG-1-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests PUD-ONG-1-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Direct Testimony of Cory Slaughter, p. 18, line 2-5.

the Commission file for any such adjustments to be effective with the Commission on a semi-annual basis. This Order provides the Utility the flexibility to set the true-up dates taking into consideration the closing date of the Bonds and rating agency considerations, as set forth in the final Issuance Advice Letter. Each true-up adjustment shall become effective with revised WESCR Charges the first billing cycle 30 days after the submission of the true-up adjustment letter<del>on each March 31 and September 30, with the revised WESCR Charges to become effective</del> in the first billing cycle of May and November, respectively.<sup>22</sup> Exhibit CMS-1 would provide that the Commission would have 3045 days to review the mathematical accuracy of the recalculated WESCR Charges. Hilltop Securities, as financial advisor to the Authority and the Commission (the "Financial Advisor") has testified that the true-up should be allowed more frequently if required to obtain the highest possible bond ratings. The Financial Advisor has also testified that the true-up should occur quarterly following the final scheduled payment date of the Bonds. The Utility has testified that the Utility should have the authority to implement an optional true-up adjustment at any time if undercollections of WESCR Charges are projected, and also that true-up adjustments should occur on a quarterly basis during the 12 months prior to the scheduled final maturity of the Bonds. In this Financing Order we adopt the recommendations of the Utility regarding optional and quarterly true-up adjustments.] Financial Advisor. The true-ups will be required to be effective semi-annually, and quarterly during the last 12 months prior to the scheduled final maturity following the last scheduled payment of the Bonds and may be implemented at any time on an optional basis if the Servicer projects an undercollection of WESCR Charges and more frequently as required to obtain the highest possible rating on the Bonds. The frequency and timing of true-ups shall be documented in the Issuance Advice Letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Exhibit CMS-1.

In addition, the <u>ServicerUtility</u> will be <u>requiredpermitted</u> to request a non-standard true-up adjustment to reallocate costs among the WESCR Customer Classes if there is a significant change in the number of customers within one or more WESCR Customer Classes. The Utility has proposed that the threshold <u>for requestingrequiring</u> such a non-standard true-up would be a 10% <u>or greater</u> change in the number of customers in one or more WESCR Customer Classes, to be calculated coincident with a routine semi-annual true-up.<sup>23</sup> The Commission finds this request reasonable and consistent with an equitable allocation of the costs of debt service and ongoing financing costs associated with the Bonds.

Each true-up adjustment and non-standard true-up adjustment will be implemented by means of a True-Up Letter or Non-Standard True-Up Letter, the forms of which are included as Exhibit D and Exhibit E, respectively, to this Financing Order, which would calculate a revised WESCR Charge for the Bonds in accordance with the Adjustment Calculation Methodology set forth as Appendix F to this Financing Order. Generally, the WESCR Charge will be calculated by the Servicer as follows:

First, the Servicer will calculate the Periodic Payment Requirement for the next six-month period, or if shorter the period from the adjustment date to and including the next bond payment date, as well as the Periodic Payment Requirement for the next succeeding six—month period including on the following bond payment date (each, a "Payment Period"). The "Periodic Payment Requirement" or "PPR" covers all scheduled (or legally due) payments of principal (including, if any, prior scheduled but unpaid principal payments), interest, and other ongoing financing costs to be paid with WESCR Charge revenues during such Payment Periods. Each PPR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests PUD-ONG-1-2.

includes (a) the principal amortization of the Bonds in accordance with the expected amortization schedule (including deficiencies of previously scheduled principal for any reason); (b) periodic interest on the Bonds (including any accrued and unpaid interest); and (c) ongoing costs consisting of the servicing fee, rating agencies' fees, trustee fees, legal and accounting fees, any taxes imposed on the operations of ODFA in connection with the Bonds, and other ongoing financing costs. The Periodic Billing Requirement will then be calculated, using the most recent information of the Servicer regarding updated forecasts, write off, average days sales outstanding data or other collection data, to determine the amount of WESCR Charge revenue that must be billed during theeach Payment Periods to ensure that sufficient WESCR Charge revenues will be received to satisfy the Periodic Payment Requirement for such Payment Periods. Such amount is referred to as the "Periodic Billing Requirement" or "PBR."

Second, the PBR for each Payment Period is allocated among each WESCR Customer Class using the Allocation Factors (each described below););

Third, the WESCR Charge for each Service Level for each Payment Period is determined by dividing each WESCR Customer Class's respective portion of the PBR for the Payment Period by the number of customers in such WESCR Customer Class, as of the date of the True-Up Letter, for such the Payment Periods; and

Finally, after such calculations are made, the WESCR Charge for each WESCR Customer Class Level for the next Payment Period and the next succeeding Payment Period will be compared and the higher WESCR Charge will be the WESCR Charge effective for such Service Level on the next adjustment date.

The Servicer will use the its latest forecasts of sales, as well as its latest write-off, days sales outstanding and other collection and delinquency experience to calculate the WESCR Charge.

All true-up adjustments to the WESCR Charges would ensure the billing of WESCR Charges necessary to satisfy the Periodic Payment Requirement for the Bonds for each Payment Period during such 12-month period (or shorter period) following the adjustment date of the WESCR Charge. True-up adjustments would take into account be based upon the cumulative differences, regardless of the reason, between the Periodic Payment Requirement and the actual amount of WESCR Charge collections remitted to the bond trustee for the Bonds.

In his testimony, the Financial Advisor also testified that, to ensure the highest possible rating on the Bonds, the true-up adjustments requested by the <u>servicerServicer</u> should be automatic and should be subject to review by the Commission solely for the correction of mathematical error. In this Financing Order, we approve this approach <u>for the True-Up and Non-Standard True-Up processes</u> to ensure the highest possible rating on the Bonds.

Allocation of Revenue Requirements Among Various <u>WESCR</u> Customer Classes:

The Utility has testified that debt service and ongoing financing costs associated with the Bonds should be allocated among WESCR Customer Classes based on actual usage during the month of February 2021<sup>24</sup>. The Utility further testified that, as its customers are not metered in real time, it is not possible to <u>tailor</u> more closely—tailor the cost allocation based on the nine-day duration of the winter storm event.<sup>25</sup> -The resulting allocation among WESCR Customer Classes is set forth in Table CMS-3 (the "Allocation Factors"). Except as adjusted in a non-standard true-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Direct Testimony of Cory Slaughter, p. 11, lines 14-15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Direct Testimony of Cory Slaughter, p 12, lines 3-5.

up adjustment, the Allocation Factors will be fixed for the life of the Bonds. In this Financing Order, we find such allocation methodology reasonable and equitable to customers, and so approve the methodology.

## Frequency of Remittances:

The Financial Advisor has testified that it is customary for a utility as servicer to remit securitization charges to the bond trustee on a daily basis, within two business days of receipt of such charges. The Utility has indicated that as Servicer it is capable of remitting, and will remit WESCR Charges daily within two business days of receipt.<sup>26</sup>

The Financial Advisor has further testified that if the daily remittances are made on an estimated basis, the estimated remittances should be reconciled with actual collections no less often than semi-annually, with any over-remittances being returned to the Utility through a reduction in the amount of future remittances equal to such over-remittance and any under-remittances being paid over to the bond trustee by the Utility as Servicer within five business days. In this Financing Order we adopt these recommendations of the Financial Advisor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Public Utility Division's First Set of Data Requests PUD-ONG-1-12.

#### V. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED FINANCING STRUCTURE

Set forth below is a description of the proposed financing structure, including proposed servicing arrangement. In this Financing Order, we find the structure consistent with the Act and reasonable, and approve its use.

## A. General Description.

The proposed financing structure includes all of the following:

- the creation of securitization property solely in favor of the Utility, which includes
  the right to bill and collect an irrevocable WESCR charges;
- 2. the sale of the securitization property to the ODFA pursuant to the Sale Agreement;
- 3. the issuance of the Bonds by the ODFA, consistent with the parameters established by this Financing Order;
- 4. the transfer of the net proceeds of the Bonds by the ODFA to the Utility<sup>27</sup> in consideration for the sale of the securitization property pursuant to the Sale Agreement;
- 5. the collection on behalf of the ODFA of WESCR Charges by the Utility or its successors, as collection agent and servicerServicer, who will be responsible for billing and collecting the WESCR Charges from ccustomers;

Pursuant to the §8(I) of the Act, the net proceeds from sale of the Bonds to the underwriters will be deposited with the State Treasurer pending disposition at the direction of the Authority. To the extent not needed to pay upfront financing costs or to fund the Debt Service Reserve Subaccount described below or other required subaccounts or reserves, proceeds from sale of the Bonds to the underwriters will be delivered to the Utility pursuant to instructions included in the Sale Agreement between the Authority and the Utility described below

Pursuant to the §8(I) of the Act, the proceeds of the Bonds will be deposited with the State Treasurer pending disposition at the direction of the Authority. The proceeds will be delivered to the Utility pursuant to instructions included in the sale agreement between the Authority and the Utility described below.

- 6. the pledge of the WESCR Charges and rights under the transaction documents (as more fully defined in the Act, the "securitization property") by the ODFA to the bond trustee as security for repayment of the Bonds;
- 6.7. benefits for federal income tax purposes including (i)

  the exclusion of the WESCR Charges from the taxable income of the Utility; (ii)

  avoiding federal corporate income tax on the operations of ODFA; (iii) the Bonds

  constituting obligations of the ODFA. and
- 7.8. an automatic true-up and reconciliation mechanism.

ODFA will issue the Bonds pursuant to an indenture administered by <u>aan</u> bond trustee. The Bonds will be secured by and payable solely out of the securitization property created pursuant to this Financing Order <u>and the Act</u>, and other collateral, including ODFA's rights under the servicing agreement with the Utility. That collateral will be assigned and pledged to the bond trustee by the ODFA for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds and to secure payment due with respect to the Bonds and related financing costs.

Concurrent with the issuance of the Bonds, the Utility will sell the securitization property to ODFA pursuant to a sale agreement between ODFA and the Utility. This transfer will be structured so that it will qualify as a true sale within the meaning of Section 6(F) and that such rights will become securitization property concurrently with the sale to ODFA as provided in Section 6(G) of the Act.

Pursuant to a servicing agreement, the Utility will act as the initial servicerServicer of the WESCR Charges securitization property for the AuthorityUtility, and will undertake to collect WESCR Charges such charges from the cCustomers and remit these collections to the bond trustee on behalf of the ODFA. The Utility as Servicer -will perform routine billing, collection and

reporting duties on behalf of the Authority and will not be permitted to resign as Servicer unless it is no longer legally capable of serving in such capacity and until a successor servicer meeting the requirements set forth in the transaction documents is in place. The Servicer will be responsible for making any required or allowed "Ttrue-Uup and Reconciliation" of the WESCR Charges. If the Servicer defaults on its obligations under the servicing agreement, the Authority, or the bond trustee, may appoint a successor servicer.

WESCR Charges will be calculated and adjusted from time to time, pursuant to the "trueup and reconciliation" nonbypassable mechanism as approved in this Financing Order, to be sufficient at all times to pay all <u>scheduled</u> debt service, any past due amounts and other related ongoing financing costs for the Bonds on a timely basis.

## B. The Indenture and Flow of Funds.

A bond trustee will appointed by the State Treasurer and approved by the Authority. The bond trustee which will act as a representative on behalf of bondholders, remit payments to bondholders, and ensure bondholders' rights are protected in accordance with the terms of the transaction. The indenture will include provisions for a collection account and related subaccounts, all held by the trustee, for the holding of certain proceeds from the sale of the Bonds to the underwriters, and for the collection and administration of the WESCR Charges and payment or funding of the principal and interest on the Bonds and ongoing financing costs. The collection account will include the general subaccount, the debt service reserve subaccount ("DSRS") and the excess funds subaccount, and subaccount and may include other subaccounts as required to accommodate other credit enhancements.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> References to accounts and subaccounts herein are for purposes of clarity. The account names and structure will be set forth in the indenture.

The bond trustee will deposit the WESCR Charge remittances that the servicerServicer remits to the credit of the general subaccount. The bond trustee will on a periodic basis apply moneys in the general subaccount to pay expenses of the ODFA and the Utility as Servicer, related to the Bonds, to pay principal and interest on the Bonds and to pay all other ongoing financing costs. Pending such application, the funds in the general subaccount will be invested by the bond trustee as provided in the indenture, and earnings will be deposited into the general subaccount and applied by the bond trustee to pay principal and interest on the Bonds and all ongoing financing costs in accordance with the terms of the indenture.

When the Bonds are issued, the bond issuance costs will include a deposit into a cost of issuance account (or subaccount) and a deposit estimated at 0.50% of the original principal amount of the Bonds to the credit of the DSRS. The DSRS deposit could be higher if required to obtain the highest possible rating. The exact amount will be determined by the Authority based upon rating agency considerations input and with the advice of the Financial Advisor and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management, and Management and reflected in the Issuance Advice Letter. The DSRS will serve as collateral to ensure timely payment of scheduled principal and interest on the Bonds and all ongoing financing costs. The funds in this subaccount will be invested by the bond trustee as provided in the indenture. Any amounts in the DSRS will be available to be used by the bond trustee to pay principal and interest on the Bonds and certain limited ongoing financing costs if necessary due to a shortfall in WESCR Charge collections. Any funds drawn from the DSRS to pay these amounts due to a shortfall in the WESCR Charge collections will be replenished through future WESCR Charge remittances. Funds remaining in the DSRS will be applied to the final payment of principal on the Bonds.

The excess funds subaccount will hold any WESCR Charge remittances and investment earnings inon the collection account in excess of the amounts needed to pay current principal and interest on the Bonds and to pay the ongoing financing costs. Any balance in or allocated to the excess funds subaccount on a true-up adjustment date will be used as credit in calculating the next true-up adjustment. The money in this subaccount will be invested by the bond trustee as provided in the indenture, and such money (including investment earnings thereon) will be used by the bond trustee to pay principal and interest on the Bonds and ongoing financing costs.

Other credit enhancements in the form of subaccounts may be utilized for the financing if such enhancements are anticipated to provide greater revenue requirement savings to customers as determined -by the Authority, based upon rating agency considerations input and with the advice of the Financial Advisor and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management. Such credit enhancements will be described in the Issuance Advice Letter.

In addition to the collection account, there may be such additional accounts and subaccounts, such as a cost of issuance account, as are necessary to segregate amounts received from various sources, or to be used for specified purposes. Such accounts will be administered and utilized as set forth in the servicing agreement and the indenture.

Upon the maturity of the Bonds and the discharge of all obligations in respect thereof, remaining amounts in the collection account will be released to the Servicer by ODFA to the Utility, for crediting to customers solely on behalf of ODFA, as required by Ordering Paragraph [23].

# C. Servicing Arrangements.

The Financial Advisor has provided extensive testimony concerning the purpose and provisions of the servicing agreement as well as compensation arrangements that reflect investor and rating agency expectations as well as minimize customer costs.

The servicing agreement is an agreement between the Utility, as the initial servicer Servicer of the securitization property, and the Authority, as owner of the securitization property. It sets forth the responsibilities and obligations of the servicer Servicer, including, among other things, billing and collection of winter event securitization charges, responding to customer inquiries, terminating service, filing for true-up adjustments, and remitting collections to the State Treasurer or bond trustee for distribution to bondholders. The servicing agreement prohibits the Utility from resigning as initial servicer Servicer unless it is unlawful for the utility to continue in such a capacity. The Utility's resignation as Servicer would not be effective until a successor servicer assumes its obligations in order to continue servicing the securitization property without interruption. The sServicer may also be terminated from its responsibilities under certain instances, such as the failure to remit collections within a specified period of time, by the Authority Agency or the trustee upon a majority vote of bondholders. Any merger or consolidation of the Servicer with another entity, or any transfer of the Servicer's entity or operational assets in connection with a bankruptcy proceeding would require the merged entity, successor or purchaser to assume the servicer Servicer's responsibility under the servicing agreement. The terms of the servicing agreement are critical to the Rating Agency analysis of the Bonds and the ability to achieve credit ratings in the highest categories.

As compensation for its role as initial <u>S</u>servicer, the Utility is entitled to earn a servicing fee payable out of WESCR Charge collections. It is important to the Rating Agencies' analysis of the transaction that the Utility receives an arm's-length fee as <u>S</u>servicer of the securitization

property. However, it is customary in other utility securitizations for utilities to be allowed to retain paid a fee based upon their "incremental costs" of providing servicing. It is also common for utilities to be required to include the servicing fee, as well as servicing costs not in excess of the servicing fee, as part of their reported revenue requirements in the utility's base rate proceedings. This process ensures that utilities do not ultimately retainare not paid more than what is minimally required to service the Bonds and to ensure that any excess payments be credited back to customers. In this Financing Order, we approve this compensation and reconciliation process.

Utility securitizations to date have also required an increase in the servicing fee should a successor servicer, which is not part of the utility's business and who decouples the securitization charge bill from other bill amounts, assume the obligations of the utility, because the successor servicer would require additional inducement due to its lack of a pre-existing servicing relationship with the utility's customers. Financing orders in uUtility ABS securitizations often approve a substantially higher fee for a successor servicer. The majority of recent transactions have provided for successor servicer annual fees of approximately 0.60% of the initial balance of the bonds or greater. Recent transactions in Texas and Louisiana provided for annual successor servicer fees of up to 0.60% of the initial balance of the bonds; however, recent transactions in California provided that the public utilities commission may approve a higher fee without stating any limit if such fee does not adversely affect the ratings. A defined successor servicer fee is helpful for Rating Agencies, who will use the capped fee in their various stress analyses. Similar to the precedent transactions, the Financial Advisor has recommended that the proposed Financing Order allow a successor servicer to collect a higher servicing fee at a rate approved by the Commission provided, however, that no such approval would be required if the annual fee does not exceed 0.60 exceed

<u>0.60</u>% of the initial balance of the Bonds. The relevant transaction documents should also provide for an annual successor servicing fee, which should be no higher than 0.60% of the initial balance of the Bonds, without Rating Agency confirmation of the then-current ratings on the Bonds.

In this Financing Order, we approve these servicing arrangements.

#### D. Use of Proceeds.

The proceeds of the Bonds, net of bond issuance costs payable by the Authority (including costs payable to the Utility and amounts required to be deposited to the DSRS), will be deposited with the State Treasury and immediately disbursed pursuant to the instructions of the Authority to the Utility to pay the cost of purchasing the securitization property. The Utility, in turn, will use the proceeds, to pay or reimburse itself for the Approved Qualified Costs pursuant to the terms of this Financing Order.

## E. Approval of Final Bond Terms; Issuance Advice Letter.

The Commission recognizes that certain details of the final Bond structure, such as any overcollateralization requirements or credit enhancements to support payment of the Bonds, and the final terms of the Bonds will depend in part upon the requirements of the nationally recognized credit rating agencies which will rate the Bonds and/or, in part, upon the market conditions that exist at the time the Bonds are taken to the market. This Financing Order establishes and approves a financing structure as well as parameters for the Bonds, including maximum final scheduled payment dates, weighted average interest rate on the Bonds, the method by which the Bonds should be amortized, as well as limits on certain costs to be incurred by the Utility, including Utility bond issuance costs and Utility servicing fees. Otherwise, as authorized by the Act, ODFA, with the advice of the Financial Advisor and with the approval of the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management, will determine and approve the final terms of the Bonds consistent with the terms of the this Financing Order. Within two business days of the issuance of the Bonds, ODFA

and the Utility will jointly file with the Commission, for information purposes, an Issuance Advice Letter, substantially in the form attached to this Financing Order, evidencing the final terms of the Bonds, projected (or actual) costs of issuance and ongoing financing costs, projected customer savings, as well the initial WESCR Charges. Failure or delay in filing such report will not affect the <u>validity of Bonds</u> or their security.

#### VI. BOND ISSUANCE AND ONGOING FINANCING COSTS

#### A. Bond Issuance Costs.

Bond issuance costs will be incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and will be recoverable from bond proceeds. Bond issuance costs include, without limitation, the cost of funding the DSRS, underwriting costs (fees and expenses), rating agency fees, costs of obtaining additional credit enhancements (if any), the Commission fees, fees and expenses of Authority's and the Utility's legal advisors (including bond counsel, special counsel and disclosure counsel), fees and expenses of the Financial Advisor, original issue discount, external servicing costs, fees and expenses of bond trustee and its counsel (if any), servicer set up costs, printing and filing costs, non-legal financing proceeding costs and expenses of ODFA, the Utility, the Commission and the State Treasurer or other State officials and miscellaneous administrative costs. ODFA has no control over issuance costs incurred pursuant to a financing under the Act, apart from ODFA related issuance costs. The only issuance costs to be incurred directly by the Utility are servicer set up costs, costs related to regulatory proceedings, miscellaneous administrative costs, external servicing costs and the costs of the Utility's financial and legal advisors (collectively, "Utility Issuance Costs"). The Utility has provided a detailed estimate of its Utility Issuance Costs in its testimony. All other issuance costs (collectively, "non-Utility issuance costs") will be outside the control of the Utility because the issuer of the Bonds, the Authority, is an instrumentality of the

State. The Commission will have control over Utility issuance costs through its jurisdictional control over the Utility, as well as the Issuance Advice Letter process.

The Commission is mindful of the fact that several of the components of bond issuance costs will vary depending upon the size of the final issuance of the Bonds. Specifically, the Commission realizes that some of the following costs may be proportional to the amount of Bonds actually issued, as described in the final Issuance Advice Letter: the DSRS, rating agency fees, bond counsel fees, special counsel fees, disclosure counsel fees, fees and expenses of the State Treasurer, and underwriters' fees, are proportional to the amount of Bonds actually issued. Further, other issuance costs, such as ODFA and Utility legal and accounting fees and expenses, printing expenses and trustee costs will not be known until the issuance of the Bonds or even thereafter, when final invoices are submitted. In this Financing Order, we approve the recovery by the Utility of the Utility Issuance Costs, subject to a cap of \$\_\_\_ (the "Utility Issuance Cost Cap"). All other bond issuance costs are also approved for recovery, subject to the final approval of costs by the Authority.

## **B.** Ongoing Financing Costs.

Costs will be incurred by the Utility, in its role as servicer, as well as by the Authority and other State agencies in connection with the servicing and administration of the Bonds. These costs should not be included in the principal amount of the Bonds, and Bonds and are authorized to be recovered through the WESCR Charges, subject to the true-up of those charges as provided in this Financing Order. The Financial Advisor estimates that these ongoing annual costs (exclusive of debt service on the Bonds and the servicing fee and external accounting costs of the Utility) will be approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the first year following the issuance of the Bonds (assuming the Utility is the initial Servicer), but many ongoing costs will not be known until they are incurred. FThe Utility has proposed an annual servicing fee for acting as initial Servicer following the

thereafter until all WESCR Charges have been billed and collected or written off as uncollectible as long as the Utility continues to act as Servicer. In addition, the Utility, as initial Servicer, has requested that it should be entitled to receive reimbursement for its out-of-pocket costs for external accounting services to the extent external accounting services are required by the servicing agreement, as well as for other items of cost (other than external information technology costs, bank wire fees and legal fees, which are part of the servicing fee) that will be incurred annually to support and service the Bonds after issuance. As discussed, we will direct the Utility to include the servicing fee, as well as servicing costs, as part of the utility's next base rate proceedings, to ensure that the Utility does not retaineoflect more than its incremental costs.

In the event that <u>thea</u> <u>S</u>servicer default occurs, the Authority will be permitted to appoint a successor servicer. The compensation of the successor servicer will be what is required to obtain the services under the servicing agreement. As stated, the Financial Advisor has recommended that the Commission approve a fee up to 0.60% of the initial principal balance of the Bonds in case a successor needs to be appointed, unless the ODFA can reasonably demonstrate to the Commission that the services cannot be obtained at that compensation level under the market conditions at that time. The Commission finds that ODFA, the Utility and the Commission should be permitted to recover from WESCR Charges their ongoing financing costs, as requested by the Utility and ODFA, subject only to the cap on the annual servicing fee described above.

#### VII. FINDINGS OF FACT

The Commission makes the following findings of fact.

## A. Identification and Procedure.

### (1) Identification of Applicant and Background.

- 1. [ONG is a natural gas public utility providing local distribution service to approximately 895,00-0875,000 residential, commercial, and industrial and transportation customers throughout the State of Oklahoma. ONG is incorporated in the State of Oklahoma and is subject to the regulatory authority of the Commission with respect to its retail rates and charges for sales of natural gaselectricity made within the State of Oklahoma.]
- 2. In February 2021, the State experienced an extreme weather event that brought nearly two weeks of record cold temperatures to the State. The extreme cold weather resulted in a shortage of natural gas supply, the failure of certain infrastructure, and enhanced demand for natural gas and electric power. The extreme weather conditions resulted in the Utility incurring extreme purchase costs, extraordinary costs or both<sup>29</sup> that may be mitigated by issuing the Bonds.

## (2) Procedural History.

- 3. On April 29, 2021, the Utility filed the Application for a Financing Order under the Act (the "Application") to seek a determination of prudently incurred costs associated with the 2021 Winter Weather Event eligible for recovery through securitization, and to demonstrate that a securitization would result in substantial revenue requirement savings as compared to conventional utility financing and otherwise satisfy the requirements of the Act.
  - 4. [Describe testimony establishing prudency of costs and demonstrated savings]
  - 5. Prior to issuing this Financing Order, the Commission has consulted with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Terms used herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Act.

Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management regarding the marketability and efficiency of any proposed financing authorized by a Financing Order in accordance with Section 5(B) of the Act.

#### **B.** Amount to be Financed.

- (1) Approval of Qualified Costs and Amount of Bonds.
- 6. The Commission has determined that the Utility has incurred 2021 Winter Weather Event related qualified costs in the aggregate amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, carrying costs in the estimated amount of \$[45.9 million] from [date] through the projected date of issuance of the Bonds [of January 31, 20222024], and that these qualified costs (collectively, "Weather-Related Qualified Costs"), together with bond issuance costs as described in Part VI of this Financing Order (collectively, "Approved Qualified Costs"), are approved for recovery in this Financing Order, and are eligible for recovery through the issuance of the Bonds.
- 7. In its testimony, exhibits, and schedules, the Utility calculated the estimated amount of carrying costs from [date] through January 21, 202224 (the projected date of issuance) at a rate of 0.9021%. The Utility has requested that if the Bonds are not issued by January 31, 202224, the carrying costs it is entitled to recover be adjusted to the Utility's weighted average cost of capital.
- 8. The Utility has proposed that when the Bonds are issued, the Utility shall account for the difference in carrying costs resulting from issuance after the January 31, 202224 date used to calculate Weather-Related Qualified Costs, through the Issuance Advice Letter process. The Utility's proposal is appropriate.
- 9. The ODFA is authorized to issue the Bonds in an amount equal to the sum of the Weather-Related Qualified Costs approved in this Financing Order plus the bond issuance costs

approved in this Financing Order. Such sum, estimated at \$xx, is referred to in this Financing Order as the Authorized Amount.

## (2) Bond Issuance Costs and Ongoing Financing Costs.

- 10. Bond issuance costs (as more fully described in Part VI of this Financing Order) are those that will be incurred in advance of, or in connection with, the issuance of the Bonds, and will be recovered or reimbursed from ratepayer backed Bond proceeds (or, if necessary, from WESCR Charges as described in Finding of Fact 19 below).
- 11. ODFA has no control over bond issuance costs incurred pursuant to a financing under the Act, apart from ODFA-related issuance costs. The only bond issuance costs to be incurred directly by the Utility are [servicer set up costs, costs related to regulatory proceedings, miscellaneous administrative costs, external servicing costs and the costs of Utility's financial and legal advisors], which are referred to as Utility Issuance Costs. All other bond issuance costs (collectively, "non-Utility issuance costs") will be outside the control of the Utility because the issuer of the Bonds (the ODFA) is an instrumentality of the State. The Commission will have control over Utility Issuance Costs through its jurisdictional control over the Utility, as well as the Issuance Advice Letter process.
- 12. Ongoing financing costs (as more fully described in Part VI of this Financing Order) are those costs, in addition to debt service on the Bonds, that will be incurred annually to manage, service and administer the Bonds.
- 13. Other than the servicing fee [(which will cover external information technology costs, bank wire fees, and the fees of the Utility's legal counsel and other costs described herein)], the ongoing financing costs that will be incurred in connection with a financing are outside the control of ODFA, since ODFA cannot control the administrative, legal, rating agency and other fees to be incurred by the Utility on an ongoing basis. However, the Commission will have control

over some of these ongoing financing costs through its jurisdictional control over the Utility.

- 14. The actual bond issuance costs and certain ongoing financing costs will not be known until on or about the date the Bonds are issued; other bond issuance and ongoing financing costs may not be known until such costs are incurred.
- 15. The Utility has provided estimates of its Utility Issuance Costs in Appendix C, [which costs shall be capped in an amount not to exceed \$\_\_\_\_\_\_.] ODFA has provided an estimate of non-Utility issuance costs in Appendix C, which are estimated at \$XX. These costs will not be capped.
- 16. The Utility and the ODFA have also provided estimates of ongoing financing costs for the first year following the issuance of the Bonds to be approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if the Utility is the <u>initial Sservicer</u>, also in Appendix C.
- 17. The ODFA and the Utility shall report to the Commission, in the Issuance Advice Letter, the final estimates of bond issuance costs and ongoing financing costs for the first year following issuance.
- 18. The ODFA's and the Utility's actual or estimated issuance costs, each as specified in the Issuance Advice Letter, shall be paid as follows: the ODFA will pay its non-Utility issuance costs from the proceeds of the Bonds, and the Utility will pay (or reimburse itself) for its Utility Issuance Costs from the net proceeds of the Bonds paid for the purchase price of the securitization property, all at or shortly after delivery of the Bonds.
- 19. Within 90 days of the issuance of the Bonds, the ODFA and the Utility will submit to the Commission a final accounting of their respective issuance costs. If the Utility's actual issuance costs are less than the issuance costs included in the principal amount financed, the revenue requirement for the first semi-annual true-up adjustment shall be reduced by the amount

of such unused funds (together with income earned thereon) and the Utility's unused funds (together with income earned thereon) shall be applied to the Utility's ongoing financing costs. If the ODFA's actual issuance costs are less than those estimated, the amount will be recognized as a credit in the true-up adjustment as part of the WESCR tariff. If ODFA's final issuance costs are more than the estimated issuance costs included in the principal amount financed, ODFA may recover the remaining issuance costs through a true-up adjustment. However, such recovery will be subordinate to the payment of debt service on the Bonds and related financing costs during the true-up period. The Utility's Issuance Costs are capped under this Financing Order. A failure to provide such report will in no way affect the validity of or security for the Bonds.

## (3) Customer Benefits.

- 20. The Act requires the Commission to consider whether the recovery of 2021 Winter Weather Event Costs by the Utility through the issuance of the Bonds will result in substantial revenue requirement savings as compared to conventional financing methods, a longer amortization schedule to pay the Bonds than would ordinarily be practicable or feasible for the <a href="Utility for such recovery">Utility for such recovery</a> and the ability to issue Bonds at a cost which would not exhaust the potential savings.
- 21. As described in the Utility testimony of Mark W. Smith and in this Financing Order, the Utility has demonstrated that the proposed financing will satisfy each of these criteria.

# C. Structure of the Proposed Financing.

- (1) The Utility.
- 22. The Utility will enter into a sale agreement with the ODFA, under which the ODFA will purchase from the Utility the securitization property in consideration of the net proceeds of the Bonds.

- 23. The Utility shall not seek to recover the Approved Qualified Costs covered by this Financing Order, except through the transfer of securitization property as provided in the Act in exchange for the <a href="net\_proceeds">net\_proceeds</a> of a bond issuance, which shall offset and complete the recovery of these costs for the Utility.
- 24. The Utility will service the securitization property pursuant to a servicing agreement with the Authority.

## (2) ODFA.

- 25. ODFA is a public trust created by a Declaration of Trust, dated November 1, 1974, as amended, for the furtherance of public purposes and the benefit of the State of Oklahoma pursuant to the provisions of the Authority Act, as amended by the Act and is authorized to issue ratepayer-backed bonds under the Act. The Authority is an instrumentality of the State of Oklahoma and operates to perform the essential government function of financing utility qualified costs with low costlow-cost capital. The Authority is not an agent of State and has a legal existence separate and distinct from the State of Oklahoma.
- 26. ODFA may issue the Bonds as described in this Financing Order in an aggregate amount not to exceed the Authorized Amount, and ODFA will assign and pledge to the bond trustee, as collateral for payment of the Bonds, the securitization property, including ODFA's right to receive the WESCR Charges as and when collected, and any other collateral under the indenture.

#### (3) Structure, Security and Documents.

- 27. The Bonds will be issued in one or more series, and in one or more tranches for each series, in an aggregate amount not to exceed the Authorized Amount.
- 28. As security to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds and other ongoing financing costs, the ODFA will pledge its interest in the securitization property created by this

Financing Order, the Act and by certain other collateral, including its rights under the Servicing Agreement. The securitization property and other bond collateral will be sufficient to ensure the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, together with ongoing financing costs on a timely basis.

- 29. The Bonds will be issued pursuant to the Lindenture administered by the bond trustee, as described in Part V of this Financing Order. The provisions of the Indenture, including the <u>creation</u> of a collection account and its subaccounts, and such additional accounts as may be required in connection with any additional collateral, in the manner described in Part V of this Financing Order, are reasonable, will lower risks associated with the financing and thus lower the costs to customers, and should, therefore, be approved.
- 30. The Authority will direct the State Treasurer to deposit all <u>proceeds of the sale of the Bonds by the Authority to the underwriters, as well as all revenue received with respect to securitization property and required to be deposited by the State Treasurer into the Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Fund (the "Consumer Protection Fund") with the bond trustee and applied as provided in the Indenture, in a manner consistent with obtaining the highest possible ratings on the Bonds.</u>
- Agreement, a Sale Agreement and a Servicing Agreement (collectively, the "Transaction Documents"), which set out in substantial detail certain terms and conditions relating to the financing and security structure. Each of the Transaction Documents will be reviewed and approved by the Utility, the ODFA and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management. The forms of the Transaction Documents will also be submitted to Commission Staff for their review and comment.

32. The ODFA will also prepare a preliminary official statement, substantially in the form of an official statement to be delivered on the date of pricing of the Bonds, omitting only such information as permitted by Federal securities laws, rules and regulations, to be used by the Utility and the ODFA in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds. The official statement will be reviewed and approved for use by the Utility, the ODFA and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management. The Utility will cooperate with ODFA in the preparation of the Official Statement and provide all information to the ODFA required to comply with applicable federal securities laws and make representations with respect to the information provided to ODFA for inclusion in the preliminary and final official statements.

## (4) Credit Enhancement and Arrangements to Enhance Marketability.

- 33. In the Application, the Utility has not requested approval of floating rate bonds or any hedges or swaps which might be used in connection therewith.
- 34. The Financial Advisor has testified that in current market conditions, it is uncertain whether the benefits of an interest rate swap within the ratepayer-backed Bbond financing will outweigh the costs and risks in this particular case of researching and preparing the swap that could result in lower WESCR Charges.
- 35. An interest rate swap within the Bond financing could expose customers to greater higher risks in relation to the WESCR Charges and the ability of the swap counterparty to meet its obligations.
- 36. The Commission concurs with the Financial Advisor that the use of floating rate debt and the associated swaps or hedges is not advantageous or cost effective for customers.
- 37. In the Application, the Utility has not requested that additional forms of credit enhancement (including letters of credit, overcollateralization accounts, surety bonds, or guarantees) and other mechanisms designed to promote the credit quality and marketability of the

Bonds be used. The Financial Advisor has testified that the Authority should have the flexibility to utilize such additional credit enhancements if such arrangements are reasonably expected to result in net benefits to customers. The Financial Advisor has recommended that the costs of any credit enhancements as well as the costs of arrangements to enhance marketability be included in the amount of issuance costs to be financed.

38. ODFA should be permitted to use, and to recover the bond issuance costs and ongoing financing costs associated with, credit enhancements and arrangements to enhance marketability, if it determines, with the advice of the Financial Advisor and with the approval of the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management, that such enhancements and arrangements provide benefits greater than their tangible and intangible costs. The use of such credit enhancement shall be described in the Issuance Advice Letter.

## (5) Servicer and the Servicing Agreement.

39. Utility will execute a servicing agreement with ODFA, as described in Part V of this Financing Order. The servicing agreement may be amended, renewed or replaced by another servicing agreement, provided that any such amendment, renewal or replacement will not cause any of then-current credit ratings of the Bonds to be suspended, withdrawn or downgraded. The Utility will be the initial servicer but may be succeeded as servicer by another entity under certain circumstances detailed in the servicing agreement. Pursuant to the servicing agreement, the servicer is required, among other things, to collect the applicable WESCR Charges for the benefit and account of the ODFA or its pledgees, to make the true-up adjustments of WESCR Charges required or allowed by this Financing Order, and to account for and remit the applicable WESCR Charges to or for the account of the ODFA or its pledgees in accordance with the remittance procedures contained in the servicing agreement without any charge, deduction or surcharge of any kind (other than the servicing fee specified in the servicing agreement). Under the terms of

the servicing agreement, if any servicer fails to perform its servicing obligations in any material respect, the ODFA, or, the bond trustee upon the instruction of the requisite percentage of holders of the outstanding amount of the Bonds ("requisite bondholders"), shall be authorized to appoint an alternate party to replace the defaulting servicer, in which case the replacement servicer will perform the obligations of the Servicer under the servicing agreement. The obligations of the Servicer under the servicing agreement and the circumstances under which an alternate servicer may be appointed are more fully described in the servicing agreement. The rights of ODFA under the servicing agreement will be included in the collateral assigned and pledged to the bond trustee under the indenture for the benefit of holders of the Bonds.

- 40. [The <u>S</u>servicer shall remit actual or estimated WESCR Charges to the bond trustee within two servicer business days of receipt according to the methodology described in the servicing agreement. If estimated charges are remitted, the Utility <u>as Servicer</u> will reconcile actual and estimated charges no less often than every six months, as described in this Financing Order.]
- 41. The <u>initial S</u>servicer will be entitled to an annual servicing fee fixed at \_\_\_\_% of the initial principal amount of the Bonds. [In addition, the Utility, as initial S servicer, shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for its out-of-pocket costs for external accounting services to the extent external accounting services are required by the servicing agreement, as well as for other items of cost (other than external information technology costs, bank wire fees and legal fees, which are part of the servicing fee)] that will be incurred annually to support and service the Bonds after issuance. The servicer fees collected by the Utility, or by any affiliate of the Utility acting as the S servicer, under the servicing agreement shall be included as an identified revenue credit and reduce revenue requirements for the benefit of the C ustomers in its next rate case

following collection of said fees. The expenses of acting as the servicer shall likewise be included as a cost of service in any such utility rate case. In this Financing Order, the Commission approves the servicing fee as described herein. In this Financing Order the Commission also approves, in the event of a default by the initial servicer resulting in the appointment of a successor servicer, a higher annual servicing fee of up to 0.60% of the initial principal balance of the Bonds unless the ODFA can reasonably demonstrate to the Commission that the services cannot be obtained at that compensation level under the market conditions at that time. The obligations to continue to collect and account for WESCR Charges will be binding upon the Utility, its assigns and successors and any other entity that provides natural gas services or, in the event that the distribution of natural gas service isare not provided by a single entity, any other entity providing retail natural gas distribution service to the ccustomers. The Commission will enforce the obligations imposed by this Financing Order, its applicable substantive rules, and statutory provisions.

- 42. No provision of this Financing Order shall prohibit the Utility from selling, assigning or otherwise divesting any of its <u>natural gas transportation</u> or distribution system or any facilities providing service to the <u>c</u>Customers, by any method whatsoever, including those specified in Ordering Paragraph [31] pursuant to which an entity becomes a successor, so long as each entity acquiring such system or portion thereof agrees to continue operating the facilities to provide service to the <u>c</u>Customers and collect the WESCR Charges under the existing servicing agreement, subject to ODFA approval.
- 43. The servicing arrangements described in Findings of Fact Nos. [3940 through 4244] are reasonable, will reduce risk associated with the proposed financing and should, therefore, result in lower WESCR Charges and greater benefits to the countered and should be

approved.

#### (6) Ratepayer-Backed Bonds.

- 44. ODFA may issue and sell the Bonds in one or more series, and each series may be issued in one or more tranches in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding the Authorized Amount. ODFA, with the advice of the Financial Advisor and with the approval of the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management, will determine and approve the final terms of the Bonds consistent with the terms of the this Financing Order.
- 45. The scheduled final payment date of any series of the Bonds is not expected to exceed \_\_ years from the date of issuance of such series. The legal final maturity date of any series of the Bonds wmay be longer than the scheduled final maturity, based upon rating agency and market considerations, not to exceed 30 years from the date of issuance.ill not be more than two years after the scheduled final payment date. The scheduled final payment date and legal final maturity date of each series and tranche within a series and amounts in each series will be finally determined by the ODFA, consistent with market conditions and indications of the rating agencies and with the advice of the Financial Advisor, at the time the Bonds are priced.
- 46. The Bonds will be amortized using a substantially level <u>annual</u> debt <u>service</u> mortgage--style structure.<del>amortization</del>
  - 47. The weighted average interest rate on the Bonds will not exceed xx% per annum.
- 48. [ODFA will cause the Bonds to be issued no earlier than the fifth business day after pricing of the Bonds.]
- 49. The Utility may file a request for a Financing Order for the <u>ODFAUtility</u> to retire or refund the Bonds approved in this Financing Order upon a showing that the <u>c</u>Customers would benefit and that such a financing is consistent with the terms of the outstanding Bonds as permitted by Section 8(D) of the Act.

50. The Commission finds that the foregoing parameters for the Bonds will ensure that the customers enjoy substantial revenue requirement savings and rate mitigation benefits as required by the Act.

#### (7) WESCR Charges—Imposition and Collection and Nonbypassability.

- 51. The Utility seeks to impose on and to collect from all coustomers, WESCR Charges in an amount sufficient to provide for the timely recovery of its costs approved in this Financing Order (including payment of scheduled principal and interest on the Bonds and ongoing financing costs related to the Bonds on a timely basis). The Utility will seek to bill and collect the WESCR Charges, as servicerServicer on behalf of ODFA, until the Bonds issued pursuant to this Financing Order are paid in full and all ongoing financing costs of the Bonds have been recovered in full.
- 52. WESCR Charges collected pursuant to the WESCR Rider shall be a separate lineitem on the monthly bills of the customers.
- 53. If any customer does not pay the full amount of any bill, the amount paid by the customer to the Utility will be applied pro-rata by the Utility based upon the total amount of the bill and the total amount of the WESCR Charge. The foregoing allocation will facilitate a proper balance between the competing claims to this source of revenue in an equitable manner.
- 54. The Utility, acting as Servicer, and any subsequent servicer, will collect WESCR Charges from all Customers in the manner as described in the testimony of Cory Slaughter. Michael Bartolotta and Isaac Stroup in order to ensure their nonbypassability. The Commission finds that such nonbypassability provisions are appropriate to ensure an equitable allocation of qualified costs among customers and to secure the highest possible ratings for the Bonds.
- 55. In the event that there is a fundamental change in the manner of regulation of public utilities, which allows third parties other than the servicer to bill and collect WESCR

Charges, the Commission shall ensure that WESCR Charges shall be billed, collected and remitted to the <u>servicerServicer</u> in a manner that will not cause any of then-current credit ratings of the Bonds to be suspended, withdrawn or downgraded.

56. The Utility's proposal related to the collection of WESCR Charges, as servicerServicer on behalf of the ODFA, is reasonable and consistent with the nonbypassability mechanism contemplated by the Act, and Act and should be approved. It is reasonable to approve the form of Appendix B to this Financing Order and require that these tariff provisions be filed before any Bonds are issued pursuant to this Financing Order.

#### (8) Periodic Payment Requirements and Allocation of Cost.

- 57. The Periodic Payment Requirement is the required periodic payment for a given period due under the Bonds. As to be more fully specified in the bond documents, each PPR includes: (a) the principal amortization of the Bonds in accordance with the expected amortization schedule (including deficiencies of previously scheduled principal for any reason); (b) periodic interest on the Bonds (including any accrued and unpaid interest); (c) ongoing financing costs <u>as described herein</u> and (d) any deficiency in the DSRS. The initial PPR for the Bonds issued pursuant to this Financing Order will be updated in the Issuance Advice Letter.
- 58. The Periodic Billing Requirement represents the aggregate dollar amount of WESCR Charges that must be billed during a given period so that the WESCR Charge collections will be timely and sufficient to meet the PPR for that period, based upon: (i) forecast usage data and base rate revenues for the period; (ii) forecast uncollectibles for the period; (iii) forecast lags in collection of billed WESCR Charges for the period; and (iv) projected collections of WESCR Charges pending the implementation of the true-up adjustment.
- 59. The Utility's proposed allocation of the PBR among WESCR Customer Classes, as described in the testimony of Cory Slaughter, is reasonable and should be approved, subject to

the filing of a non-standard true-up adjustment to permit a reallocation among WESCR Customer Classes.

#### (9) True-up of WESCR Charges.

- 60. The <u>servicerServicer</u> of the Bonds will be required to make mandatory semiannual adjustments (*i.e.*, every six months, except for the first true-up adjustment period, which may be longer or shorter than six months, but in any event no more than nine months, and must be completed thirty (30) days prior to a date on which the PPR is determined) to the WESCR Charges to:
- (a) correct any under collections or over collections (both actual and projected), for any reason, during the period preceding the next true-up adjustment date; and
- (b) to ensure the projected recovery of amounts sufficient to provide timely payment of the scheduled principal of and interest on the Bonds and all ongoing financing costs (including any necessary replenishment of the DSRS) during the subsequent 12-month period (or in the case of quarterly true-up adjustments described below, the period beginning the 12 months prior to the scheduled final maturity ending the next bond payment date). To the extent any Bonds remain outstanding after the scheduled maturity date of the last tranche of a series of Bonds, mandatory true-up adjustments shall be made quarterly until all Bonds and associated costs are paid in full.
  - 61. The form of true-up notice is attached as Appendix D to the Financing Order.
- 62. True-up filings will take into account be based upon the cumulative differences, regardless of the reason, between the PPR (including scheduled principal and interest payments on the Bonds and ongoing financing costs) and the amount of WESCR Charge remittances to the bond trustee. True-up procedures are necessary to ensure full recovery of amounts sufficient to meet on a timely basis the PPR over the scheduled life of the Bonds. In order to assure adequate WESCR Charge revenues to fund the PPR and to avoid large over collections and under

Servicer's Authority's most recent forecasts of of [usage, demand and base rate revenues and estimates of financing costs [or] total number of customers.] The calculation of the WESCR Charges will also reflect both a projection of uncollectible WESCR Charges and a projection of payment lags between the billing and collection of WESCR Charges based upon the servicer servicer's most recent experience regarding collection of WESCR Charges.

- 63. The <u>servicerServicer</u> will set the initial WESCR Charges and make true-up adjustments in WESCR Charges the based upon the methodology described by Cory Slaughter.<sup>30</sup>
- 64. The <u>servicerServicer</u> may also make interim true-up adjustments more frequently at any time during the term of the Bonds: (i) if the <u>servicerServicer projectsforecasts</u> that WESCR Charge collections will be insufficient to make all scheduled payments of principal, interest and other financing costs in respect of the Bonds during the current or next succeeding payment period or (ii) to replenish any draws on the DSRS. Each such interim true-up shall use the methodology identified in Findings of Fact Nos. [61 to 63] applicable to the semi-annual true-up. The DSRS requirement may be adjusted above 0.50% of the original principal amount of the Bonds (or such higher level identified at the time of the initial issuance of the Bonds, as permitted in this Financing Order), if there is a draw on the DSRS and it is not replenished within [XX] months.
- 65. Semi-annual and quarterly true-up adjustments, if necessary, shall be filed not less than [30] days prior to the first billing cycle of the month in which the revised WESCR Charges will be in effect.

#### (10) Additional True-up Provisions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Oklahoma Natural Gas Company's Response to Office of the Attorney General's First Set of Data Requests OAG-ONG-1-3f.

- 66. The true-up adjustment filing will set forth the Servicer's calculation of the true-up adjustment to the WESCR Charges. The Commission will have [30] days after the date of a true-up adjustment filing in which to confirm the mathematical accuracy of the servicer Servicer's adjustment. Any true-up adjustment filed with the Commission should be effective on its proposed effective date, which shall be not less than [30] days after filing, provided that non-standard true-up adjustments will be effective not less than [45] days after filing. Any necessary corrections to the true-up adjustment, due to mathematical errors in the calculation of such adjustment or otherwise, will be made in future true-up adjustment filings. Any interim true-up may take into account the PPR for the next succeeding 6 months if required by the servicing agreement.
- 67. The true-up mechanism described in this Financing Order and contained in Appendix D to this Financing Order is reasonable and will reduce risks related to the Bonds, resulting in lower WESCR Charges and greater benefits to customers and should be approved.
- 68. [To improve the credit quality of the Bonds in light of the expected final maturity of approximately \_\_\_ years for the Bonds, the true-up methodology approved in this Financing Order requires that any under collections or over collections in one <u>WESCR</u> Customer <u>Celasses</u> will be taken into account in the application of the true-up mechanism to adjust the WESCR Charge for all <u>Ccustomers</u>, not just the <u>WESCR</u> Customer <u>Celasses</u> from which the under collection or over collection arose. We find that this <u>cross collateralization</u> methodology will enhance the credit quality of the <u>ratepayer-backed bB</u>onds and lower WESCR Charges.]
- 69. The <u>servicer Servicer</u> shall request Commission approval of an amendment to the true-up mechanism described herein a Non Standard True-up (under such procedures as shall

be proposed by the <u>servicerServicer</u> and approved by the Commission at the time) – that it deems necessary or appropriate to provide for a change in the Allocation Factors to address a 10% <u>or greater</u> change in the number of customers in one or more WESCR Customer Classes from the threshold numbers set forth in [\_\_\_\_\_\_]. The form of notice for a <u>Non-StandardNon-Standard True-Up</u> Adjustment is attached as Appendix E to this Financing Order. No such change shall cause any of then-current credit ratings of the Bonds to be suspended, withdrawn or downgraded. <u>The Commission's scope of review of a Non-Standard True-Up is limited to the correction of mathematical errors</u>.

#### (11) Use of Proceeds.

- 70. The Authority will direct the State Treasurer to <u>depositpay</u> all bond proceeds received from the sale of the Bonds, net of amounts required to pay non-Utility issuance costs which will be deposited with the bond trustee for payment of such costs, to the Utility to pay the purchase price of the securitization property, on behalf of and as agent of ODFA. The Utility will apply these net proceeds to reduce its Approved Qualified Costs as described in the testimony of Mark W. Smith.
- 71. In accordance with Section 5(G) of the Act, upon the entry of a Financing Order, ONG will not seek to recover the Approved Qualified Costs from customers except through the transfer of securitization property in exchange for the proceeds of a bond issuance, which shall offset and complete the recovery of extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs for the regulated Utility. The use of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds in violation of this Financing Order shall subject the Utility to proceedings pursuant to applicable statutes, orders and the rules and regulations of the Commission but shall not be grounds to rescind, alter, modify or amend this Financing Order and shall not affect the validity, finality and irrevocability of this Financing Order, the securitization property irrevocably created hereby or the Bonds.

### D. Customer Credits for Post Financing Order Insurance Proceeds or Government Grants and Alternative Funds.

- To the extent the Utility receives insurance proceeds or receives grants from the State of Oklahoma or the government of the United States of America, or any similar source of permanent reimbursement, after the date of this Financing Order <u>but prior to the marketing of the Bonds</u>; the purpose of which is to provide for recovery of 2021 Winter Weather Event related qualified costs approved for recovery by this Financing Order, such amounts shall be used to reduce the extreme purchase costs or extraordinary costs of the <u>Uutility</u> recoverable from customers as provided in this Financing Order. [credited process to be included,] as provided in Section 3(G) of the Act.
- 73. To the extent the Utility receives alternative funds after the date of issuance of the Bonds, the Utility is directed by the Commission to credit such amounts to customers, as permitted by Section 8(J) of the Act.

#### VIII. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. ONG is a regulated utility as defined in Section 3(9) of the Act. The Utility is subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission with respect to its rates, charges and terms and conditions of service.
- 2. The Utility is entitled to file the Application, which constitutes, an application for a Financing Order pursuant to Section 4(A) of the Act.
- 3. The Commission has jurisdiction and authority over the Application pursuant to Section 4 of the Act and other applicable law.
- 4. The Commission has authority to approve this Financing Order under Section 5(A) of the Act and the Commission's regulatory jurisdiction over the Utility.
- 5. The Bonds, including the rights embedded in the securitization property, pledged revenues, other Bond collateral and the State Pledge will be validated by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma in compliance with Section 10 of the Act.
- 6. The Bonds [will behave been approved] by the Council of Bond Oversight as provided in the Oklahoma Bond Oversight and Reform Act, 62 OKLA. STAT. § 62-695.8.
- 7. The final structure and terms of the Bonds, consistent with the parameters established of this Financing Order, will be approved by the Authority and the pricing of the Bonds will be approved by the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management pursuant to 62 OKLA. STAT. § 695.7(C).
- 8. Pursuant to Section 8(I) of the Act, the proceeds of the sale of the Bonds and revenues received with respect to the securitization property shall be deposited by the State Treasurer in the Consumer Protection Fund maintained with the bond trustee. The State Treasurer shall apply such moneys as provided in Findings of Fact 7071 and 7172 of this Financing Order.
  - 9. The use of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds in violation of this Financing Order

shall subject the Utility to proceedings pursuant to applicable statutes, orders and the rules and regulations of the Commission but shall not be grounds to rescind, alter, modify or amend this Financing Order and shall not affect the validity, finality and irrevocability of this Financing Order until the indefeasible payment in full of the Bonds and all financing costs related thereto. or the securitization property irrevocably created hereby, or the Bonds.

- 10. The Commission may adopt a Financing Order providing for the retiring and refunding of the Bonds under Section 8(D) of the Act.
- 11. The Commission may, under Section 9 of the Act, require an audit of all amounts received from customers under the WESCR Charge and paid to the Utility, and the amounts paid by the Utility to the ODFA. The audit shall be part of any general rate case filed by the Utility currently affected by a financing order with outstanding Bonds. The Utility shall provide a copy of any audit to the Governor, the Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Authority; provided, however, any part or parts of the audit deemed confidential pursuant to federal or state law or as determined by the Commission, shall be redacted and, provided, further, that the findings of any audit shall not affect the validity, finality and irrevocability of this Financing Order until the indefeasible payment in full of the Bonds and all financing costs related thereto, or the securitization property irrevocably created hereby or the Bonds and shall not impact, or be included as part of, the "true-up and reconciliation" process approved in this Financing Order.
- 12. The securitization approved in this Financing Order satisfies the requirements of Section 4(C)(1) of the Act directing that the total amount of revenues to be collected under this Financing Order result in substantial revenue requirement savings compared to conventional financing methods.

- 13. The securitization approved in this Financing Order satisfies the requirement of Section 4(C)(2) of the Act mandating that the securitization would mitigate the customer utility bill impact by mandating a longer amortization period for recovery than would otherwise be practicable or feasible.
- 14. The issuance of the Bonds approved in this Financing Order in compliance with the criteria established by this Financing Order satisfies the requirement of Section 4(C)(3) of the Act that the issuance of Bonds be completed at a sufficiently low cost such that customer savings are not exhausted or offset.
- 15. The Commission finds that the costs incurred by the Utility during the 2021 Winter Weather Event to be mitigated through securitization would otherwise be recoverable from customers as fair, just and reasonable expenses and were prudently incurred. See Section 4(E) of the Act.
- 16. Recovery of the carrying costs, including the approved rate of return, approved for recovery in this Financing Order compliance with Section 4(F) of the Act. The carrying costs shall begin accruing at the time of the issuance of the Financing Order and continue until the date that the Bonds are issued.
- 17. Pursuant to Section 6(D) of the Act, this Financing Order will remain in effect and unabated notwithstanding the reorganization, bankruptcy or other insolvency proceedings, or merger or sale of the Utility, its successors, or assignees.
- 18. This Financing Order adequately details the amount to be recovered and the period over which the Utility will be permitted to recover nonbypassable WESCR Charges in accordance with the requirements of Section 5(A)(1) and (2) of the Act.
  - 19. The method approved in this Financing Order for collecting and allocating the

WESCR Charges reasonable and satisfies the requirements of Section 4 of the Act.

- 20. As provided in Section 6(B) of the Act, this Financing Order, together with the WESCR Charges authorized by this Financing Order, is irrevocable and not subject to reduction, impairment, or adjustment by further act of the Commission, except for the true-up procedures approved in this Financing Order, as required by Section 5(H) of the Act.
- 21. As provided in Section 6(A) of the Act, the rights and interests of the Utility or its successor under this Financing Order, including the right to impose, collect and receive the WESCR Charges authorized in this Financing Order, are assignable and must become securitization property at the time the Bonds are issued by ODFA.
- 22. The rights, interests and property conveyed to ODFA in the <u>S</u>sale <u>A</u>agreement [and the related bill of sale,] including the irrevocable right to impose, collect and receive WESCR Charges and the revenues and collections from WESCR Charges are securitization property within the meaning of Section 6 of the Act.
- 23. Securitization property will constitute a present property right for purposes of contracts concerning the sale or pledge of property, even though the imposition and collection of the WESCR Charges depend on further acts by the Utility, ODFA, the Commission or others that have not yet occurred, as provided by Section 6(B) of the Act.
- 24. All revenues and collections resulting from the WESCR Charges shall be the further property and right of the owner of the securitization property as provided by Section 6(C) of the Act.
- 25. Upon the transfer by the Utility of securitization property to ODFA, ODFA will have all of the rights, title and interest of the Utility with respect to such securitization property

including the right to impose, collect and receive the WESCR Charges authorized by the Financing Order as provided by Section 6(F) of the Act.

- 26. The Bonds issued under this Financing Order will be ratepayer-backed bonds within the meaning of Sections 3(8) and 8(A) of the Act and the Bonds and holders thereof are entitled to all of the protections provided under Section 8(B) of the Act.
- 27. The procedure by which WESCR Charges are required to be imposed and adjusted on <u>c</u>Customers and be paid to the <u>servicerServicer</u> under this Financing Order or the tariffs approved hereby constitute a nonbypassable mechanism as defined in Section 3(5) of the Act, and the amounts collected from customers with respect to such WESCR Charges are securitization property as defined in Section 3(11) of the Act.
- 28. As provided in Section 6(D) of the Act, the interests of an assignee, the holders of Bonds, and the bond trustee in securitization property and in the revenues and collections arising from that property are not subject to setoff, counterclaim, surcharge, or defense by the Utility or any other person or in connection with the bankruptcy of the Utility or any other entity.
- 29. The methodology approved in this Financing Order to true-up and adjust the WESCR Charges constitutes a "true-up and reconciliation" process which satisfies the requirements of the Act.
- 30. If and when the Utility transfers to the ODFA the right to impose, collect, and receive the WESCR Charges and to issue the Bonds, the <u>servicerServicer</u> will be able to <u>impose</u> and collectrecover the WESCR Charges associated with such securitization property only for the benefit of the ODFA and the holders of the Bonds in accordance with the <u>Servicing Augreement</u>.
- 31. If and when the Utility transfers its rights under this Financing Order to the ODFA under an agreement that expressly states that the transfer is a sale or other absolute transfer in

accordance with the true-sale provisions of Section 6(F) of the Act, then, in accordance with that statutory provision, that transfer will be a true sale of an interest in securitization property and not a secured transaction or other financing arrangement and title, legal and equitable, to the securitization property will pass to the ODFA. This true sale must apply regardless of whether the purchaser has any recourse against the seller, or any other term of the parties' agreement, including the Utility's role as the Servicereollector of WESCR Charges relating to the securitization property, and including the bond trustee's obligation to remit any amounts remaining in the collection account after the Bonds and all financing costs have been paid in full to the Servicer acting solely on behalf of the ODFA, for payment to the Utility's customers or the treatment of the transfer as a financing for tax, financial reporting, or other purposes.

- 32. As provided in Section 6(E) of the Act, a valid and enforceable lien and security interest in the securitization property in favor of the holders of the Bonds or a trustee on their behalf will be created by this Financing Order and the execution and delivery of a security agreement with the holders of the Bonds or a trustee on their behalf in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The lien and security interest will attach automatically from the time that value is received by the Authority for the Bonds and, on perfection through the filing of notice with the Oklahoma Secretary of State, will be a continuously perfected lien and security interest in the securitization property and all proceeds of the securitization property will have priority in the order of filing and will take precedence over any subsequent judicial or other lien creditor.
- 33. As provided in Section 6(G) of the Act, the transfer of an interest in securitization property to an assignee will be perfected against all third parties, including subsequent judicial or other lien creditors, when this Financing Order becomes effective, transfer documents have been delivered to that assignee, and a notice of that transfer has been filed with the Oklahoma Secretary

of State.

- 34. As provided in Section 6(H) of the Act, the priority of a lien and security interest perfected in accordance with Section 6 of the Act will not be impaired by any later modification of this Financing Order or by the commingling of funds with other revenues paid by customers to the Utility, by the Utility tilities to the Authority or otherwise paid.
- 35. As provided in Section 6(H) of the Act, if securitization property is transferred to an assignee, any proceeds of the securitization property will be treated as held in trust for the assignee.
- 36. As provided in Section 6(I) of the Act, if a default or termination occurs under the Bonds, the holders of the Bonds or their representatives, including the trustee, may foreclose on or otherwise enforce their lien and security interest in the relevant securitization property, and the Commission may require any revenues received under the irrevocable and nonbypassable mechanism created by this Financing Order be paid to a new holder of the securitization property.
- 37. As provided by Section 8(F) of the Act, the Bonds authorized by this Financing Order are not an indebtedness of the State or of the Authority, but Authority but shall be special obligations payable solely from revenues received from the securitization property and other pledged collateral.
- As provided in the Authority Act (as amended by the Act), the State of Oklahoma has pledged to and agreed with the owners of any Bonds issued by the ODFA under the Authority Act (as amended by the Act) (including ratepayer-backed bonds issued by the ODFA under the Act) that the State will not limit or alter the rights hereby vested in the Authority to fulfill the terms of the Bonds, the terms of the Authority's resolution or resolutions authorizing the issuance of such Bonds, including the terms of the Indenture, the Servicing Agreement, the Sale Agreement

and any other agreements authorized by those resolutions, and any other agreements of any agreements made with the owners of such Bonds, thereof or in any way impair the rights and remedies of the owners of the Bonds until the Bonds, together with the interest thereon, with interest on any unpaid installments of interest, and all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of the owners, are fully met and discharged (the "State Pledge"<sup>31</sup>) ... For these purposes, "the rights hereby vested in the Authority" stated above include rights embedded in the securitization property and vested in the Authority, rights vested in owners of the Bonds or in the Commission under the Act and this Financing Order to impose, adjust, collect and remit WESCR Charges to or for the benefit of the Authority and owners of the Bonds. Upon the ODFA's issuance of Bonds pursuant to this Financing Order, the State Pledge will give rise to a contract between owners of the Bonds and the State of Oklahoma for purposes of State of Oklahoma law, including the Contract Clause of the Oklahoma Constitution<sup>32</sup>. (the "State Pledge") This Financing Order requires, consistent with the Authority Act, that the Authority include in the Bonds a recitation of the State Pledge.

- 39. After the issuance of the Bonds authorized by this Financing Order, this Financing Order is irrevocable until the payment in full of the Bonds and the related ongoing financing costs. Except in connection with a refinancing or refunding or to implement the true-up mechanism adopted by the Commission, the Commission may not amend, modify, or terminate this Financing Order by any subsequent action or reduce, impair, postpone, terminate, or otherwise adjust WESCR Charges approved in this Financing Order.
  - 40. As provided in Section 8(B) of the Act, the Bonds and the interest earned on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> 74 Okla. Stat § 74-5062.15 (2016)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Article II, Section 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> 74 Okla. Stat § 74-5062.15 (2016).

Bonds shall not be subject to taxation by the state, or by any county, <u>municipality municipality</u>, or political subdivision therein.

- 41. The Authority is required, pursuant to Section 7(B)(1) of the Act, to notify the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Commission upon issuance of a ratepayer-backed bond. The notification shall be in writing and include the amount and terms of the Bonds.
- 42. The Authority is required, pursuant to Section 7(B)(2) of the Act, to submit an annual report regarding the ratepayer-backed bonds issued pursuant to the Act to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General and the Commission as of December 1 each year until the ratepayer-backed bonds, including the Bonds authorized by this Financing Order, are retired.
- 43. Consistent with the Authority Act, the Authority shall include in the Bonds a recitation of the State Pledge

42.

- 43.44. As provided by Section 6(D) of the Act, this Financing Order will remain in full force and effect and unabated notwithstanding the bankruptcy or sale of the Utility, its successors, or assignees.
- 44.45. The Utility retains sole discretion regarding whether or when to assign, sell or otherwise transfer the rights and interests created by this Financing Order or any interest therein, or to cause the issuance of any Bonds authorized by this Financing Order.
- 45.46. This Financing Order is final, is not subject to rehearing by this Commission or, and is not subject to review or appeal, except as expressly provided in Section 5(F) of the Act.
  - 46.47. This Financing Order meets the requirements for a Financing Order under the Act.

47.48. The true-up and reconciliation mechanism, and all other obligations of the State of Oklahoma and the Commission set forth in this Financing Order, are direct, explicit, irrevocable and unconditional upon issuance of the Bonds and are legally enforceable against the State and the Commission in accordance with Oklahoma law.

#### IX. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

Based upon the record, the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and for the reasons stated above, this Commission orders:

#### A. Approval.

- 1. **Approval of Application.** The application of the Utility for the issuance of a Financing Order under Section 5(A) of the Act is approved, as provided in this Financing Order.
- 2. **Authority to Recover Qualified Costs through Securitization.** The Utility's request to recover its 2021 Winter Weather Event related costs, carrying costs and bond issuance costs as provided in this Financing Order, is granted.
- 3. **Authorization for Issuance.** ODFA is authorized to issue the Bonds in the amount equal to the Authorized Amount and with such other terms as are consistent with the terms of this Financing Order approved by the Authority and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management.
- 4. **Proceeds of the Bonds.** The proceeds of the Bonds shall be applied as provided in this Financing Order.
- 5. **Effect of Securitization.** Upon the issuance of this Financing Order, the Utility will not seek to recover the extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs identified and quantified in this Financing Order from customers except through the transfer of securitization property in exchange for the proceeds of a bond issuance, which shall offset and complete the recovery of extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs for the regulated Utility. The use of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds in violation of this Financing Order shall subject the Utility to proceedings pursuant to applicable statutes, orders and the rules and regulations of the Commission but shall not be grounds to rescind, alter, modify or amend this Financing Order and shall not affect the validity, finality and irrevocability of this Financing Order, the securitization property irrevocably created hereby or the Bonds.
- 6. **Recovery of WESCR Charges.** The Utility <u>as Servicer</u> must impose on, and the servicer must collect from all existing and future customers located within the Utility's service area as it existed on the date of this Financing Order and other entities which, under the terms of this Financing Order or the tariffs approved hereby, are required to bill, pay or collect WESCR Charges, as provided in this Financing Order, WESCR Charges in an amount sufficient to provide

for the timely payment of the principal and interest on the Bonds, together with all ongoing financing costs.

- 7. **Provision of Information.** The Utility shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the Commission and its Staff are provided sufficient and timely information relating to the proposed transaction as reasonably requested by the Commission after the date of this Financing Order.
- 8. **Approval of Tariffs.** The form of the WES<u>CR</u> Rider attached as Appendix B to this Financing Order is approved. Before the issuance of any Bonds under this Financing Order, the Utility must file a tariff that conforms to the form of the WES<u>CR</u> Rider tariff provisions attached to this Financing Order.

#### B. WESCR Charges.

- 9. **Imposition and Collection.** The Utility is authorized to impose on, and the servicerServicer is authorized to collect from, all existing and future customers located within the Utility's service area as it existed on the date this Financing Order is issued WESCR Charges in an amount sufficient to provide for the timely recovery of the principal and interest on the Bonds, together with all ongoing financing costs, as approved in this Financing Order.
- 10. **ODFA's Rights and Remedies.** Upon the transfer by the Utility of the securitization property to ODFA, ODFA must have all of the rights, title and interest of the Utility with respect to such securitization property, including, without limitation, the right to exercise any and all rights and remedies with respect thereto, including the right to authorize disconnection of natural gas service and to assess and collect any amounts payable by any customer in respect of the securitization property.
- 11. **Collector of WESCR Charges.** The Utility as Servicer, including any successor to the Utility, or any subsequent servicer of the Bonds, must bill and collect WESCR Charges from all customers [and fromor other entitiesty which, are obligated under approved tariffs or the terms of this Financing Order or the tariffs approved hereby,] is required to bill, or collect WESCR Charges, [for the WESCR Charges attributable to that customer.]
- 12. **Collection Period.** The WESCR Charges shall be imposed and collected until all Bonds and all ongoing financing costs are paid in full.
- 13. **Allocation.** The Utility <u>as Servicer must</u> allocate the WESCR Charges among customer classes in the manner described in this Financing Order.

- 14. **Nonbypassability.** The Utility and any other entity providing natural gas distribution services to any customer within the Utility's service area as it existed on the date this Financing Order is issued are entitled to collect and must remit, in accordance with this Financing Order, the WESCR Charges from such customers, and such customers are required to pay such WESCR Charges. The Commission will ensure that such obligations are undertaken and performed by the Utility and any other entity providing natural gas <u>transportation</u>transmission or distribution services within the Utility's service area as it exists on the date this Financing Order is issued.
- 15. **True-Ups.** True-ups of the WESCR Charges, including non-standard true-ups, must be undertaken and conducted as described in the WES<u>CR</u> Rider. Any necessary corrections to a true-up, due to mathematical errors in the calculation of such adjustment or otherwise, will be made in future true-up adjustment filings. [The servicer must file the true-up adjustments in a compliance docket and must give notice of the filing to all parties in this docket.]
- 16. **Ownership Notification; Line Item.** The Utility as Servicer or any other entity that bills WESCR Charges to customers must, at least annually, provide written notification to each customer for which the entity bills WESCR Charges that the WESCR Charges are the property of ODFA and not of the entity issuing such bill. The Utility as Servicer shall impose the WESCR Charge as a separate line item on Coustomer bills.

#### C. Ratepayer-backed Bonds.

- 17. **Terms**. The final terms of the Bonds, including any credit enhancement, shall be consistent with this Financing Order, and approved by the Authority and the State Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Debt Management.
- 18. **Bond Issuance Costs.** Bond issuance costs described will be recovered from the proceeds of the Bonds in accordance with this Financing Order. The Utility Issuance Costs may not be paid or reimbursed in an amount exceeding \$ .
- 19. **Ongoing Financing Costs Financing Costs.** All ongoing financing costs shall be recovered through the WESCR Charges. The estimated ongoing financing costs as shown on <a href="Appendix Exhibit">Appendix Exhibit</a> C are approved for recovery. As provided in Ordering Paragraph [29], a servicer, other than the Utility, may collect a servicing fee higher than that set forth in Appendix C to this Financing Order, if such higher fee is approved by the Commission.

- 20. **Informational Issuance Advice Letter Filing.** Within <u>twothree</u> business days of the sale of the Bonds, ODFA and the Utility will jointly file with the Commission, for informational purposes only (with the exception of the Utility Certification included as Attachment 4 thereto), an Issuance Advice Letter, substantially in the form attached to this Financing Order, evidencing the final terms of the Bonds, projected (or actual) costs of issuance and ongoing financing costs for the first year following issuance, projected customer savings, as well the initial WESCR Charge.
- 21. **Refinancing.** This Financing Order does not preclude ODFA and the Utility from filing a request for a Financing Order for the Utility to retire or refund the Bonds approved in this Financing Order upon a showing that the <u>c</u>-ustomers would benefit and that such a financing is consistent with the terms of the outstanding Bonds, as permitted by Section 8(D) of the Act.
- 22. **Collateral.** All securitization property and other collateral must be held and administered by the bond trustee under the indenture as described in this Financing Order.
- 23. Distribution Following Repayment. Following repayment of the Bonds authorized in this Financing Order and release of the funds held by the trustee, the Sservicer, solely on behalf of ODFA, must distribute to current customers the final balance of the general, excess funds, and all other subaccounts, whether such balance is attributable to principal amounts deposited in such subaccounts or to interest thereon, remaining after all other qualified costs have paid. distributed been The amounts must be to each WESCR e Customer Celass that paid the WESCR Charges during the last 12 months that the WESCR Rider was in effect. The amount paid to each customer must be determined by multiplying the total amount available for distribution by a fraction, the numerator of which is the total WESCR Charges paid by the WESCR Customer Celass during the last 12 months the WESCR Charges were in effect and the denominator of which is the total WESCR Charges paid by all WESCR Ceustomer Celasses during the last 12 months the WESCR Rider was in effect. The amount allocated toby each WESCR Ceustomer Celass shall be divided by the forecasted billing units for the month in which the refund will take place in order to arrive at a per customer refund amount, per dekatherm. If to be addressed in Utility testimony]
- 24. **Annual Weighted-Average Interest Rate of Bonds.** The effective weighted-average interest rate of the Bonds must not exceed %.

- 25. **Life of Bonds.** The scheduled final payment date of the Bonds authorized by this Financing Order must not exceed years after issuance.
- 26. **Amortization Schedule.** The Commission approves, and the Bonds must be structured, to provide a WESCR Charge that is designed to produce substantially level annual debt service over the expected life of the Bonds.

#### D. Servicing.

- Servicing Agreement. The Commission authorizes the Utility to enter into the Servicing Agreement with ODFA and to perform the servicing duties approved in this Financing Order. The servicerServicer must be entitled to collect servicing fees in accordance with the provisions of the servicing agreement, provided that, as set forth in Appendix C, the annual servicing fee payable to the Utility while it is serving as servicerServicer (or to any other servicer affiliated with the Utility) must not at any time exceed \_\_\_\_% of the initial aggregate principal amount of the Bonds. The annual servicing fee payable to any other servicer not affiliated with the Utility shall be subject to approval by the Commission pursuant to Ordering Paragraph No. [29].
- 28. **Servicing Revenues and Expenses.** The revenues collected by the Utility, or by any affiliate of the Utility acting as the <u>servicerServicer</u> shall be included as an identified revenue credit and reduce revenue requirements for the <u>customers'ratepayers'</u> benefit in any the Utility base rate case. The expenses of acting as the servicer shall likewise be included as a cost of service in any the Utility base rate case, subject to the actual servicer fee.
- 29. Replacement of the Utility as Servicer. Upon the occurrence of an event of default under the servicing agreement relating to servicer's performance of its servicing functions with respect to the WESCR Charges, the ODFA, or a majority of the bondholders, may replace the Utility as the servicer in accordance with the terms of the Servicing Agreement. If the servicing fee of the replacement servicer exceeds 0.60% of the initial aggregate principal amount of the Bonds, the replacement servicer must not begin providing service until (i) the date the Commission approves the appointment of such replacement servicer or (ii) if the Commission does not act to either approve or disapprove the appointment, the date which is [\_\_] days after notice of appointment of the replacement servicer is provided to the Commission. No entity may replace the Utility as the servicer in any of its servicing functions with respect to the WESCR Charges and

the securitization property authorized by this Financing Order, if the replacement would cause any of the then current credit ratings of the Bonds to be suspended, withdrawn, or downgraded.

- 30. **Collection Terms.** The <u>servicerServicer</u> must remit collections of the WESCR Charges to the State Treasurer's Consumer Protection Fund, which shall be maintained by the bond trustee, for ODFA's account in accordance with the terms of the <u>Sservicing Aagreement</u>.
- 31. Contract to Provide Service. The Utility shall agree in the Sale Aagreement and in the Servicing Aagreement to continue to operate its transportation transmission and distribution system (or, if by law, the Utility or its successor is no longer required to own and/or operate both the transportation transmission and distribution systems, then the Utility's distribution system) in order to provide gaselectric services to the Utility's customers; provided, however, that this provision must not prohibit the Utility from selling, assigning, or otherwise divesting its transportation transmission and distribution systems or any part thereof so long as the entities acquiring such system agree to continue operating the facilities to provide gaselectric service to the Utility's customers.
- 32. **Securities Reporting Requirements.** The Utility shall cooperate with ODFA and supply such information to ODFA as is reasonably consistent with information that would be required to comply with any federal securities law reporting obligations with respect to the Bonds and any other information required to comply with federal or state securities law reporting obligations.
- 33. **Service Termination.** In the event that the <u>S</u>servicer is billing customers for WESCR Charges, the <u>servicerServicer</u> must have the right to terminate <u>transportationtransmission</u> and distribution service to <u>the</u> end-use customers for non-payment by <u>the</u> end-use customers under applicable Commission rules.

#### E. Use of Proceeds.

- 34. **Use of Proceeds.** The proceeds of the Bonds will be applied as described in Findings of Fact [7071] and [7172].
  - 35. Miscellaneous Provisions.
- 36. **Continuing Issuance Right.** The Utility has the continuing irrevocable right to cause the issuance of, and ODFA has the continuing right to issue, the Bonds in one or more series in accordance with this Financing Order for a period commencing with the date of this Financing

Order and extending 24 months following the date on which this Financing Order <u>is issued</u> <u>becomes</u> final [and no longer subject to any appeal.]

- 37. **Binding on Successors.** This Financing Order, together with the WESCR Charges authorized in it, must be binding on the Utility and any successor to the Utility that provides transportationtransmission and distribution service directly to customers in the Utility's service area, any other entity that provides transportationtransmission or distribution services to customers within that service area (or if there are separate transportationtransmission and distribution service providers, distribution services), and any successor to such other entity, provided that if by law, the Utility or its successor is no longer required to own and/or operate both the transportationtransmission and distribution systems, then any entity that provides distribution service to customers in the service territory shall be bound by this Financing Order.
- 38. **Flexibility.** Subject to compliance with the requirements of this Financing Order, the Utility and ODFA must be afforded flexibility in establishing the terms and conditions of the Bonds, including repayment schedules, term, payment dates, collateral, credit enhancement, required debt service, reserves, interest rates, use of original issue discount, and other financing costs and the ability of the Utility, at its option, to cause one or more series of Bonds to be issued by the ODFA.
- 39. **Effectiveness of Order.** This Financing Order is effective upon issuance and is not subject to rehearing by the Commission after 30 days from the issuance of the Order. The Order is subject to appeals pursuant to Section 20 of Article IX of the Oklahoma Constitution. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no securitization property must be created hereunder, and the Utility must not be authorized to impose, collect, and receive WESCR Charges, until concurrently with the transfer of the Utility's rights hereunder to the ODFA in conjunction with the issuance of the Bonds.
- 40. **Regulatory Approvals.** All regulatory approvals within the jurisdiction of the Commission that are necessary for the securitization of the WESCR Charges associated with the costs that are the subject of the <u>Aapplication</u>, and all related transactions contemplated in the application, are granted.
- 41. **Payment of Commission's Costs for Professional Services.** In accordance with Section 4(D) of the Act, the ODFA must pay the costs to the Commission of acquiring professional services for the purpose of evaluating the Utility's proposed transaction, including, but not limited

to, the Commission's outside attorneys' fees in the amounts specified in this Financing Order no later than 30 days after the issuance of any Bonds. Such Commission costs shall be non-Utility bond issuance costs and paid from ratepayer backed bBond proceeds (or as otherwise provided in this Financing Order).

- 42. Compliance with Section 4(G) and Section 8(J) of the Act. If the Utility receives insurance proceeds, governmental grants, or any other source of funding not reflected in the Authorized Amount to compensate it for qualified costs or the Commission determines that the actual costs incurred are less than estimated costs, if any, included in the Authorized Amount, the Utility will promptly inform the Commission [and the Commission will take such amounts into account as required by Section 4(G) of the Act. [Utility to specify how credit will work] Such amounts must accrue interest as provided in Section 4(G) of the Act. In addition, if the Utility receives any alternative funds that would otherwise be applied to the Authorized Amount after the date of issuance of the Bonds, the Utility is directed, in accordance with Section 8(J) of the Act, to credit such amounts to the customers using the same methodology. No such adjustment shall impair, diminish or affect the stream of WESCR Charges or the calculation of such charges or otherwise impair the value of the securitization property.
- 43. **Effect.** This Financing Order constitutes a legal Financing Order for the Utility under the Act. The Commission finds this Financing Order complies with the provisions of Sections 4 and 5 of the Act. A Financing Order gives rise to rights, interests, obligations and duties as expressed in Sections 6 and 8 of the Act. It is the Commission's express intent to give rise to those rights, interests, obligations and duties by issuing this Financing Order. The Utility and the servicerServicer are directed to take all actions as are required to effectuate the transactions approved in this Financing Order, subject to compliance with the criteria established in this Financing Order.
- 44. **Further Commission Action.** The Commission guarantees that it will act under this Financing Order as expressly authorized by the Act to ensure that expected WESCR Charge revenues are sufficient to pay on a timely basis scheduled principal and interest on the Bonds issued under this Financing Order and other costs, including fees and expenses, in connection with the Bonds.
- 45. **All Other Motions, etc., Denied.** The Commission denies all other motions and any other request.

46. **Effectiveness.** This Financing Order shall be effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA			
This order is effective this	_ day of		
		J. TODD HIETT, CHAIRMAN	
		BOB ANTHONY, VICE CHAIRMAN	
		DANA L. MURPHY, COMMISSIONER	
PEGGY MITCHELL COMMISSION SECRETARY			

#### FORM OF ISSUANCE ADVICE LETTER

	[SUBMITTED FOR INFORMAT	TON ONLY PU	RPOSESJ
	DAY,	, 202	
THE (	OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMIS	SION	
[insert	rt address]		
<u>SUBJI</u>	ECT: ISSUANCE ADVICE LETTER FOR	RATEPAYER	-BACKED BONDS
Oklaho Securio "Febro OKLA OKLA submit Ratepa in this	ant to the Financing Order adopted on the	e Gas, Inc. for a 12021 Winter Web Protection Act" (the "Utility" ORITY ("ODFA rtain terms and Any c in the Financing	Financing Order Approving ather Event Pursuant to the (the "Financing Order"), or the "Applicant") and "or the "Authority") jointly information related to the apitalized terms not defined to Order or the February 2021
	iling includes the following information:		
(1)	Calculation of total principal amount of Bond	ls issued;	
(2)	The final terms and structure of the Ratepay any credit enhancement, the final estimated be ongoing financing costs for the first year follows:	ond issuance cos	

A calculation of projected customer savings relative to conventional methods of financing

(4) the initial WESCR Charges.

resulting from the issuance of the Bonds

(3)

### 1. PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF BONDS ISSUED (AUTHORIZED AMOUNT)

The total amount of qualified costs, carrying costs and issuance costs being financed (the "Authorized Amount") is presented in Attachment 1.

#### 2. <u>DESCRIPTION OF FINAL TERMS OF BONDS</u>

Set forth below is a si	ummary of the final	terms of the Bond	Issuance.
Ratepayer-Backed Bo Trustee:	ond Title and Series	:	
Closing Date:	, 202		
Bond Ratings: [S&P	; Moody's;	Fitch]	
Amount Issued (Auth	orized Amount): \$		
Ratepayer-Backed Bo	ond Issuance Costs:	See Attachment 1	, Schedule B.
Ratepayer-Backed Bo	ond Ongoing Financ	ing Costs: See At	tachment 2, Schedule B.
			_
	Schedule	d Legal	

		Scheduled	Legal Final
		Final	Final
Tranche	Coupon Rate	Maturity	Maturity
	%	/ /	/ /
	%	/ /	/ /
	%	/ /	/ /

Effective Annual Weighted Average Interest	
Rate of the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds:	%
Weighted Average Life of Series:	years
Call provisions (including premium, if any):	
Expected Sinking Fund Schedule:	Attachment 2, Schedule A
Payments to Bondholders:	Semiannually Beginning,

#### 3. <u>CALCULATION OF PROJECTED SAVINGS</u>

The weighted average interest rate of the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds (excluding costs of issuance
and ongoing financing costs) is less than []%, accordingly, the proposed structuring, expected
pricing, and financing costs of the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds are reasonably expected to result in
substantial revenue requirement savings as compared to conventional methods of financing. The
net present value of the savings, which will avoid or mitigate rate impacts as compared to
conventional methods of financing the qualified costs, is estimated to be \$ (see
Attachment 2, Schedule C), based on an effective annual weighted average interest rate of%
for the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds.

#### 4. <u>INITIAL WESCR CHARGE</u>

Table I below shows the current assumptions for each of the variables used in the calculation of the initial WESCR Charges.

Forecasted <u>customer counts</u> base rate revenue sales for each WESCR Customer Class for the applicable period:	
Ratepayer-Backed Bond debt service for the applicable period:	\$
Charge-off rate for each <u>WESCR</u> Customer <u>C</u> elasses:	
Forecasted annual ongoing financing costs (See Attachment 2,	\$
Schedule B):	
Current Ratepayer-Backed Bond outstanding balance:	\$
Target Ratepayer-Backed Bond outstanding balance as of	\$
/ / :	
Total Periodic Billing Requirement for applicable period:	\$

Based on the foregoing, the initial WESCR Charges calculated for each <u>WESCR</u> Customer <u>Ce</u>lasses are detailed in Attachment 3.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

[In accordance with the Financing Order, the WESCR Charges shall become effective be billed beginning on the first day of the first billing cycle of the next revenue month following the date of issuance of the ratepayer-backed bonds.]

#### **AUTHORIZED OFFICER**

The undersigned are officers of Applicant and Authority, respectively, and authorized to deliver this Issuance Advice Letter on behalf of Applicant and Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPANY

By: \_\_\_\_\_
Name: \_\_\_\_
Title: \_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_
Name: \_\_\_\_
Title: \_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_

# ATTACHMENT 1 SCHEDULE A CALCULATION OF AUTHORIZED AMOUNT

A.	Qualified costs authorized in Cause No. PUD	\$
	202100079 (including any adjustment to carrying costs)	
B.	Estimated bond issuance costs (Attachment 1,	
	Schedule B)	
TOTA	AL AUTHORIZED AMOUNT	\$

## ATTACHMENT 1 SCHEDULE B ESTIMATED ISSUANCE COSTS

	<b>Issuance Costs</b>
Underwriters' Fees & Expenses	\$ -
Underwriters' Counsel Legal Fees & Expenses	\$ -
ODFA Legal & Advisory Fees and Expenses	\$ -
[ODFA Financing Acceptance Fee]	\$ -
State Treasurer Fees and Expenses	\$ -
Bond Counsel Fees	\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -
Rating Agency Fees and Related Expenses	\$ -
Printing	\$ -
Trustee's/Trustee Counsel's Fees & Expenses	\$ -
ODFA Legal and Advisory Fees	\$ -
Original Issuance Discount	\$ -
Commission Fees and Expenses	
	\$ -
Other Credit Enhancements (Overcollateralization Subaccount)	\$ -
Rounding/Contingency	\$ -
Debt Service Reserve Subaccount (DSRS)	
Commission Fees and Expenses	\$ -
<b>Total Non-Utility External Issuance Costs</b>	\$ -
Utility's Financial Advisor Fees & Expenses	\$ -
Utility's Counsel Legal Fees & Expenses	\$ -
Utility's Non-legal Securitization Proceeding Costs & Expenses	\$ -
Utility's Miscellaneous Administrative Costs	\$ -
Servicer's Set-Up Costs	\$ -
External Servicing Costs (Accountant's)	\$ -
Total Utility Issuance Costs	\$ -
<b>Total Estimated Issuance Costs</b>	\$ -
Rounded Amount	<b>\$</b> -

Note: Any difference between the Estimated Issuance Costs financed for, and the actual Issuance Costs incurred by, the ODFA and (except as capped) the Utility will be resolved, if estimates are more or less than actual, through The WESCR Rider or pursuant to the Commission Order issued in this proceeding, as applicable.

# ATTACHMENT 2 SCHEDULE A RATEPAYER-BACKED BOND FUNDING REQUIREMENT INFORMATION

#### **EXPECTED SINKING FUND SCHEDULE**

SERIES, TRANCHE				
Payment Date	Principal Balance	Interest	Principal	Total Payment
	\$	\$	\$	\$

SERIES, TRANCHE				
Payment Date	Principal Balance	Interest	Principal	Total Payment
	\$	\$	\$	\$

SERIES, TRANCHE				
Payment Date	Principal Balance	Interest	Principal	Total Payment
	\$	\$	\$	\$

# ATTACHMENT 2 SCHEDULE B ESTIMATED ONGOING FINANCING COSTS

	Itemized Annual Ongoing Financing Costs
True-Up Administration Fees ^	\$ -
ODFA Administration Fees ^	\$ -
^	\$ -
ODFA Administration Fees^	\$ -
ODFA Legal Fees & Expenses^	\$ -
ODFA Accounting Fees^	\$ -
Trustee's/Trustee's Counsel Fees & Expenses ^	\$ -
Rating Agency Fees and Related Expenses^	\$ -
Miscellaneous ^	\$ -
Cost of Swaps & Hedges^	\$ -
Other Credit Enhancements^	\$ -
Total Non-Utility External Annual Ongoing Financing Costs	\$ -
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Utility as Servicer)	\$ -
Accounting Costs (External)^	\$ - \$ -
Total (Utility as Servicer) Estimated Annual Ongoing Financing Costs	\$ -
Ongoing Servicer Fees as % of original principal amount	%
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Third-Party as Servicer - [ ]% of principal)	\$ -
Other External Ongoing Fees (total of lines marked with a ^ mark above)	\$ -
Total (Third-Party as Servicer) Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs	\$ -

Note: The amounts shown for each category of ongoing financing costs on this attachment are the expected costs for the first year of the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds. Winter event securitization charges will be adjusted at least semi-annually to reflect the actual Ongoing Financing Costs through the true-up process described in the Financing Order, except that the servicing fee is fixed as long as the Utility (or any affiliate) is servicer.

# ATTACHMENT 2 SCHEDULE C BENEFITS VERSUS CONVENTIONAL FINANCING

	Conventional	Ratepayer-Backed	Savings/(Cost) of
	Financing	Bond Financing	Ratepayer-Backed
			Bond Financing
Present Value	\$	\$	\$

The present value discount factor shall be the rate needed to discount future debt service payments on the Bonds to the net proceeds of Bonds, including accrued interest, DSRS and any contingency retained by the trustee.

### **ATTACHMENT 3**

## INITIAL ALLOCATION OF COSTS TO WESCR CUSTOMER CLASSES

(1)	(2)
	WESCR Charge <sup>1</sup>
WESCR Customer Classes	(% of base rate revenues)
	%
	%
	%
	%
	%

Total 100.0000%

(1)	(2)
WESCR Customer Classes	Threshold Customer Numbers

ı

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Determined in accordance with the methodology in Appendix B to the Financing Order.

### **ATTACHMENT 4**

## **UTILITY CERTIFICATION**

THE OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COM	MISSION	
Jim Thorpe Building, 2101 N. Lincoln		
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105		
Pursuant to the Financing Order adopted of Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, a Division Securitization of Costs Arising from the Few "February 2021 Regulated Utility Common OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPAN calculation of the WESCR Charges include accordance with Financing Order. If the WESCR Charges contained any mathemat implementation of the true-up and reconcilia	of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing or of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing or of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing or of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing of One Gas, Inc. for a F	Order Approving to Pursuant to the nancing Order"), certifies that the vere calculated in alculation of the
Any capitalized terms not defined in this certhe Financing Order or the February 2021 l Stat. §§ 9071-9081.		
	Respectfully submitted,	
	OKLAHOMA NATURAL GA	AS COMPANY
	By:	
	Name: Title:	
	1 1110.	

[INSERT APPENDIX B]

#### **ESTIMATED ISSUANCE COSTS**

	<b>Issuance Costs</b>
Underwriters' Fees & Expenses	
Underwriters' Counsel Legal Fees & Expenses	
ODFA Legal & Advisory Fees and Expenses	
ODFA Financing Acceptance Fee	
State Treasurer Fees and Expenses	
Bond Counsel Fees	
Rating Agency Fees and Expenses	
Commission Fees and Expenses	
Printing	
Trustee's/Trustee Counsel's Fees & Expenses	
Original Issuance Discount	
Cost of Swaps & Hedges	
Other Credit Enhancements (Overcollateralization Subaccount)	
Rounding/Contingency	
Debt Service Reserve Subaccount (DSRS)	
<b>Total Non-Utility External Issuance Costs</b>	
Utility's Financial Advisor Fees & Expenses	
Utility's Counsel Legal Fees & Expenses	
Utility's Non-legal Securitization Proceeding Costs & Expenses	
Utility's Miscellaneous Administrative Costs	
Servicer's Set-Up Costs	
External Servicing Costs (Accountant's)	
Total ODFA Issuance Costs	
<b>Total Estimated Issuance Costs</b>	

Note: Any difference between the Estimated Issuance Costs financed for, and the actual Issuance Costs incurred by, the Authority, the Commission and (except as capped) the Utility will be resolved, if estimates are more or less than actual, through the WES<u>CR</u> Rider or as otherwise authorized by the Financing Order.

#### **ESTIMATED ONGOING FINANCING COSTS**

	Itemized Annual Ongoing Financing
Torra II.a A desiriatoration France	Costs
True-Up Administration Fees ^	
ODFA Administration Fees ^	
ODFA Legal Fees ^	
Trustee's/Trustee's Counsel Fees & Expenses ^	
Rating Agency Fees and Related Expenses^	
Miscellaneous ^	
٨	
Other Credit Enhancements ^	
<b>Total Non-Utility External Annual Ongoing Financing Costs</b>	
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Utility as Servicer) *	
Accounting Costs (External) ^	
<b>Total Utility Annual Ongoing Financing Costs</b>	
<b>Total (Utility as Servicer) Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs</b>	
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Third-Party as Servicer - 0.60% of principal)	
Other External Ongoing Fees (total of lines marked with a ^ mark above)	
Total (Third Party as Servicer) Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs	

Note: The amounts shown for each category of ongoing financing costs on this attachment are the expected costs for the first year of the Ratepayer-Backed Bonds. Winter event securitization charges will be adjusted at least semi-annually to reflect the actual Ongoing Financing Costs through the true-up process described in the Financing Order, except that the servicing fee is fixed as long as the Utility (or its affiliate) is Servicer.

### TRUE-UP LETTER

[ODFA Letterhead]

Date:	, 202
Oklahoma Corpo Jim Thorpe Offic 2101 N Lincoln E Oklahoma City, C	Blvd #129
Fii W	oplication of Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, a Division of One Gas, Inc. for a nancing Order Approving Securitization of Costs Arising from the February 2021 inter Weather Event Pursuant to the "February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer otection Act", Cause No. PUD 202100079
Dear	_;
Oklahoma Nature Securitization of "February 2021 (Financing Applie as Servicer of the as assignee of the WESCR Charge. thereto in the Fin	Financing Order adopted on the day of, 202_ in Application of al Gas Company, a Division of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing Order Approving Costs Arising from the February 2021 Winter Weather Event Pursuant to the Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act", Cause No. PUD 202100079 cation) (the "Financing Order"), Oklahoma Natural Gas Company (the "Utility"), Ratepayer-Backed Bonds, or any successor Servicer on behalf of bond trustee CODFA shall apply [semi-annually] for a mandatory periodic adjustment to the Any capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed ancing Order or the February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act, 9071-9081 (the "Act").
prior to the first b The Commission to confirm the ma correction not ma	I true-up adjustment shall be filed with the Commission not less than [xx] days illing cycle of the month in which the revised WESCR Charges will be in effect. staff will have [xx] days after the date of the true-up adjustment filing in which athematical accuracy of the servicer's adjustment. However, any mathematical deprior to the effective date of the WESCR Charge will be made in future trueings and will not delay the effectiveness of the WESCR Charge.
variables used in Charge. Attachm Customer Celass underlying the cu	a approved by the Commission in the Financing Order, this filing modifies the the WESCR Charge calculation and provides the resulting modified WESCR ents 1, 2 and 3 show the resulting values of the WESCR Charge for each <u>WESCR</u> , as calculated in accordance with the Financing Order. The assumptions errent WESCR Charge were filed by the Utility and the ODFA in an [Issuance Letter dated

Respectfully submitted,	
[Utility]	
By: Name:	
Title:	

Attachments

# ATTACHMENT 1 CALCULATION OF WESCR CHARGES

Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs
True-Up Administration Fees ^
ODFA Administration Fees ^
ODFA Legal Fees ^
Trustee's/Trustee's Counsel Fees & Expenses ^
Rating Agency Fees and Related Expenses^
Miscellaneous ^
^
Other Credit Enhancements ^
Total Non-Utility External Annual Ongoing Financing Costs
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Utility as Servicer) *
Accounting Costs (External) ^
Total Utility Annual Ongoing Financing Costs
Total (Utility as Servicer) Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs
Ongoing Servicer Fees (Third-Party as Servicer - 0.60% of principal)
Other External Ongoing Fees (total of lines marked with a ^ mark above)
Total (Third Party as Servicer) Estimated Ongoing Financing Costs

Input Values For WESCR Charges	
Projected <u>revenuesusage</u> for payment period (See Attachment 3)	
Forecast uncollectables for payment period	
Average Days Sales Outstanding	
Balance of Collection Account (Net of Capital Subaccount) (As of xx/xx, which is the Calculation Cut-off Date)	
Projected WESCR Charges Between Calculation Cut-off Date and Proposed Effective Date of True-Up Adjustment	

A. Ratepayer-Backed Bond Principal	
B. Ratepayer-Backed Recovery Bond Interest	
C. Ongoing Financing Costs for the applicable payment period (See Table 1 above)	
Periodic Payment Requirement(Sum of A, B and C)	
Periodic Billing Requirement (See Attachment 2)	

### ATTACHMENT 2 WESCR CHARGE CALCULATIONS

[Calculation Workpapers to be included.]

### **ATTACHMENT 3**

### WESCR CHARGE FOR PAYMENT PERIOD

WESCR Customer Class

WESCR Charge

#### FORM OF NON STANDARD TRUE-UP LETTER

## TRUE-UP LETTER

[ODFA Letterhead]

Date:	, 202
Jim Thorpe 2101 N Lind	Corporation Commission Office Building coln Blvd #129 City, OK 7310
Re:	Application of Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, a Division of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing Order Approving Securitization of Costs Arising from the February 2021 Winter Weather Event Pursuant to the "February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act", Cause No. PUD 202100079
Dear	<u>-</u> :
Oklahoma N Securitization "February 2" "Financing of the Ratepay the ODFA, 110% or great Any capitalia	the Financing Order adopted on the day of, 202_ in Application of Jatural Gas Company, a Division of One Gas, Inc. for a Financing Order Approving on of Costs Arising from the February 2021 Winter Weather Event Pursuant to the 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act", Cause No. PUD 202100079 (the Order"), Oklahoma Natural Gas and Electric Company (the "Utility"), as Servicer of er-Backed Bonds, or any successor Servicer on behalf of bond trustee as assignee of may apply for a Non Standard True-Up to change the Allocation Factors to address a ster change in the number of customers in one or more WESCR Customer Classes. Teed terms not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Financing February 2021 Regulated Utility Consumer Protection Act, 74 Okla. Stat. §§ 9071-act").
than [xx] da calculating the date of servicer's ac of the WES	tandard True-up shall be filed with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission not less ys prior to the first billing cycle of the month in which the revised methodology for WESCR Charges will be in effect. [The Commission staff will have [xx] days after the true-up adjustment filing in which to confirm the mathematical accuracy of the ljustment. However, any mathematical correction not made prior to the effective date CR Charge will be made in future true-up adjustment filings and will not delay the sof the WESCR Charge.]
Attachments	show the revised methodology for calculating the WESCR Charges.

Respectfully submitted,
[Utility]
By:
Name:
Title:

Attachments

[ATTACHMENTS TO COME]

#### **Adjustment Calculation Methodology**

The Adjustment Calculation Methodology is based upon three basic steps: *first*, determine the revenue requirement necessary to pay the Recovery Bonds on a payment date; *second*, allocate this revenue requirement among each service level (each, a "Service Level") based upon the energy allocation factor (the "Energy Allocation Factor"), and *third*, determine the WESCR Charge for each Service Level based upon forecasted consumption by such Service Level during the related payment period (a "Payment Period"), using the most recent sales forecasts.

#### **Step 1: Determination of Revenue Requirement**

Each True-Up Letter will show the revenue requirement and resulting WESCR Charge for each of the next two Payment Periods following the proposed adjustment date. The first Payment Period means the period commencing on an adjustment date (or, in the case of the initial charge calculations, the Closing Date) and ending on (and including) the first Payment Date following the adjustment date (the "First Payment Period"); the second payment period means the period commencing on the first day of the calendar month of the first Payment Date following the adjustment date and ending on (and including) the next Payment Date (the "Second Payment Period").

The revenue requirement for each Payment Period will include all scheduled (or legally due) payments of principal (including, if any, prior scheduled but unpaid principal payments) and interest on the Recovery Bonds and all other Ongoing Financing Costs payable on such related Payment Date (collectively, the "Periodic Payment Requirement" or "PPR"). The PPR is then adjusted by the Servicer using forecasts, billing uncollectibles and average days sales outstanding data or other collection data, to determine the "Periodic Billing Requirement", or "PBR", for such Payment Period. The PBR is the amount of WESCR Charge revenue that must be billed during the Payment Period to ensure that sufficient WESCR Charge revenues will be received on or prior to the Collection Cut-Off Date to satisfy the PPR for such Payment Date. The Collection Cut-Off Date is the last day of the calendar month immediately preceding the Payment Date.

Excess funds from prior Payment Periods will be held in an excess funds subaccount. To take into account cash flow from existing <u>WESCRFixed Recovery</u> Charges and any excess funds held under the bond indenture from prior WESCR Charge collections, the PPR for the First Payment Period (other than the First Payment Period following the Closing Date) is adjusted in two steps:

- First, the PPR for the First Payment Period is decreased by the amount of any funds held by the Trustee in the general subaccount or the excess funds subaccount as of date no earlier than fifteen business days prior to the calculation date (the "Calculation Cut-Off Date").
- Second, the PPR is further decreased by the amount of WES<u>CR</u> Charge collections projected to be collected under the then-current WES<u>CR</u> Charges after the Calculation Cut-Off Date.

# Steps 2 and 3: Allocation of Periodic Billing Requirement and Determination of WESCR Charge

Based upon the calculation of the revenue requirement in Step 1, the PBR is allocated among each Service Level and the WESCR Charge for each Service Level is calculated as follows:

- Step 1: Determine the PPR for the First Payment Period, as adjusted as described in Step 1, as well as the PBR for such First Payment Period.
- Step 2: Allocate the PBR for the First Payment Period using the Allocation Factor for WESCR Customer Class.
- Step 3: Determine a fixed monthly charge for each WESCR Customer Class for the First Payment Period (a "Clearing Rate") by dividing each WESCR Customer Class's respective portion of the PBR for the First Payment Period by the number of customers in such WESCR Customer Class, as of the date of the True-Up Letter, for such the Payment Period.
- Step 4: Determine the PBR for the Second Payment Period as well as the PBR for the Second Payment Period.
- Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 and 3 to allocate the PBR and determine the Clearing Rate for each WESCR Customer Class Level.
- Step 6: Compare the Clearing Rates for each WESCR Customer Class in each Payment Period, and the highest Clearing Rate will be the WESCR Rate for the WESCR Customer Class effective upon the next adjustment date. Any excess funds collected in the First or Second Payment Period will be taken into account in the next True-Up Letter as described in Step 1 above.