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Public Comment Hearings Set for Columbia Gas STRIDE Proposal

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(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Maryland Public Service Commission has scheduled two public comment hearings on the gas infrastructure enhancement plan filed by Columbia Gas of Maryland. Columbia Gas provides natural gas distribution services to 34,000 customers in the western Maryland counties of Allegany, Garrett and Washington.

Columbia Gas, a subsidiary of NiSource, Inc., has filed for approval of its 2024-2028 Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement (STRIDE) plan and an associated surcharge. Columbia's investment plan accelerates cost recovery of eligible gas system infrastructure replacements and is estimated to range from \$17 million to \$22.4 million a year to be collected over a five-year period beginning January 1, 2024. As proposed, the estimated monthly surcharge under Columbia's STRIDE Plan would be \$2.00 for a residential customer.

The utility's customers and other interested parties are welcome to attend and provide comments. Public Utility Law Judge Christine L. Burke will preside over the hearings scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Ramada Plaza by Wyndham Hagerstown (Antietam Room)
1718 Underpass Way in Hagerstown

Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Cumberland
21 N. Wineow Street in Cumberland

Written comments will also be accepted until October 2, 2023, and can be sent by mail or submitted electronically through the online portal at

<https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/> Comments sent by mail should be addressed to: Andrew Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. So that they are noted in the proper case file, comments should reference **Case No. [9709](#)**. Only one copy is necessary.

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About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities and suppliers, telephone companies (land lines), private water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Charles County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

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