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**For Immediate Release**

## **Maryland PSC Schedules Public Hearing for Easton Utilities Commission Electric/Gas Rate Applications**

(BALTIMORE, MD-May 18, 2017) – The Maryland Public Service Commission will hold a public hearing on the applications of Easton Utilities Commission for a \$3.8 million increase in its base rates for electricity and a \$694,000 increase in its base rates for gas. The hearing will be held **Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Town Council Meeting Room, 14 S. Harrison Street in Easton.** Members of the public who wish to comment on the matter are welcome to attend the proceeding before Chief Public Utility Law Judge Terry Romine.

Easton Utilities Commission is a municipal utility that provides electric service to 10,000 customers and gas service to 4,500 customers in the town of Easton, Maryland. This is Easton Utilities' first electric base rate filing since new rates were approved in November of 2008; the last adjustment to Easton's gas rates was in December of 2009.

For residential electric customers, the proposed rates would increase the typical customer's bill by almost \$18.00; for gas customers, the typical customer's bill would increase by nearly \$16.00. Easton proposes to phase in the rate increase: one-half would be effective with the July 1, 2017 customer bills, and the remaining portion to be implemented in the January 1, 2018 billing cycle.

According to its application, the need for the rate increase is a result of higher operating and maintenance expenses and investments in utility plant to enhance reliability, extend service to new customers and to improve existing facilities.

The case filings are available in the electronic docket file (Case No. [9441](#)) which may be viewed or downloaded at [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us).

Members of the public may also submit written comments by **Monday, June 12, 2017** to:

David J. Collins, Executive Secretary  
Maryland Public Service Commission  
William Donald Schaefer Tower  
6 St. Paul Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

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Please be sure to include the case number [9441](#) with all comments. In addition to the mailed comments, the public is encouraged to use the Commission's e-file system at [www.psc.state.md.us/efile/](http://www.psc.state.md.us/efile/) to provide an electronic copy of their comments.

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***About the Public Service Commission:***

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

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