..DID: 12635

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## NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

July 31, 2000

Honorable Janet Hand Deixler Secretary State of New York Public Service Commission Three Empire Plaza Albany, New York 12223

Dear Secretary Deixler:

The attached tariff leaves issued by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation are transmitted for filing in compliance with the requirements of the Public Service Commission and the Commission\*s Order approving the Settlement Agreement issued July 27, 2000 in Case 99-G-0336.

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First Revised Leaf No.

197.10

Balancing Services Cost Recovery Statement No. 1

To: P.S.C. No. 218 Gas

Effective: August 1, 2000

As indicated, on July 27, 2000, the Commission issued an Order approving the Company\*s Gas Rate and Restructuring Settlement Agreement filed June 12, 2000 in Case 99-G-0336 ("Rate Order\*). Ordering Paragraph 3 authorizes tariff revisions to be filed on not less than one days notice to implement revised gas rates and settlement provisions in compliance with the June 12, 2000 Settlement Agreement.

Provisions of the Settlement Agreement related to the Company\*s new Monthly and Daily Balancing Programs are being delayed until September 1, 2000, at the request of Signatory Parties to this proceeding. The remaining rate provisions of the tariff are being implemented effective August 1, 2000, as provided for by the Settlement Agreement.

At the time the Settlement Agreement was finalized, it was the intent of the Company to be able to implement the impacts on Gas Customers of the recent New York State Tax Law changes in this compliance filing. However, at this time, the Company and Staff have not determined the final estimate of the New York State Net Income Tax to be included in gas delivery service rates. It is now the Company\*s intent to continue to work with Staff to finalize the numbers and implement both the Revenue Tax (GRT) changes and the New York State Net Income Tax impacts on October 1, 2000. Revised gas tariff leaves reflecting these changes will be filed with the Commission as soon as possible prior to October 1, 2000.

Sections VII F, G and H of the Settlement Agreement call for a One Bill Option to be made available by Niagara Mohawk for customers taking delivery service on Service Classification Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 "on the Implementation Date or as soon after such date as modifications to Niagara Mohawk billing system necessary to provide the service can be completed." These provisions are set forth on Leaf 197.6.1 which becomes effective August 1, 2000. It should be noted however, that in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, the Company currently expects to implement this billing option effective November 1, 2000, assuming necessary computer enhancements can be implemented by that date. It also should be noted that the Company will provide this billing option for Service Classification No. 7 customers as well who were inadvertently not specified in the Settlement Agreement.

The Company\*s Gas Rate and Restructuring Settlement Agreement filed June 12, 2000 provided that the balancing charge for Daily Balancing would be billed to customers through August 31, 2000 and thereafter billed to Marketers. Since finalization of the June 12, 2000 Settlement Agreement, the parties have agreed to revise the dates to provide that billing to customers would continue through December 31, 2000. A Joint Errata Statement has been executed by the parties to reflect this change, and was approved by a One Commission Order on July 27, 2000. The present filing reflects the new understanding of the parties.

In accordance with Ordering Paragraph 3 of the Rate Order, the Company is proceeding with newspaper publication to be made on August 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2000.

Received: 7/31/2000

Marcia G. Collier Manager Gas Rates