

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: VALLEY GAS COMPANY AND
BRISTOL & WARREN GAS COMPANY
SUPPLEMENTAL LOW INCOME
ENERGY ASSISTANCE PLAN

DOCKET NO. 3030

ORDER

WHEREAS, On November 30, 1999, the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) issued Order No. 16063 approving a Settlement Agreement entered by and between Valley Gas Company, Bristol & Warren Gas Company (collectively “Company”) and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) establishing a Supplemental Low Income Energy Assistance Plan (“Plan”); and

WHEREAS, Under the Plan, the Company contributed \$240,000 funding level to supplement heating assistance for customers eligible to receive grants from the Rhode Island Energy Office Low Income Heating Emergency Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”); and

WHEREAS, The Plan was funded by the collection of a surcharge of \$0.028 per Mcf applicable on firm sales and transportation customers for the period December 1, 1999 through November 30, 2000 and reimbursed to the Company; and

WHEREAS, On November 30, 2000, the Company filed with the Commission a proposal to extend and expand the Plan through November 30, 2001, and to increase the funding level up to \$285,000 to be collected through a surcharge of \$0.0364 per Mcf effective on all firm sales and transportation customers effective with billing cycles in December 2000; and

WHEREAS, On December 14, 2000, the Division filed a memorandum supporting the Company's request to extend the Plan, increase the surcharge and funding level available to customers eligible to receive LIHEAP funds; and

WHEREAS, At an open meeting on December 15, 2000, the Commission considered the Company's proposal and found it to be reasonable and in the best interests of ratepayers; and

Accordingly, it is

(16564) **ORDERED:**

The Valley Gas Company and Bristol & Warren Gas Company proposal to extend and expand the Supplemental Low Income Energy Assistance Plan is hereby approved, effective with cycle billings in December 2000.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETING DECISION ON DECEMBER 15, 2000. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED ON APRIL 3, 2001.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Elia Germani, Chairman

Kate F. Racine, Commissioner

Brenda K. Gaynor, Commissioner

