

## News from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission

Matt Skinner, Public Information Phone: (405) 521-4180 m.skinner@occemail.com

**September 19, 2019** 

## No Rate Increase in OG&E Case

## Corporation Commission approves settlement in Oklahoma Gas & Electric rate case

Oklahoma will keep its spot as one of the lowest cost states for electricity under a settlement agreement approved today by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC).

The agreement settles a rate case that began with an application from Oklahoma Gas and Electric (OG&E) requesting a \$77.6 million dollar increase.

Commission Chairman Todd Hiett praised the agreement as being in the best interest of Oklahoma.

"Oklahoma is an energy leader, and that includes electricity," Hiett noted. "This agreement keeps Oklahoma ahead of the pack when it comes to the electricity needed to power our increasingly high-tech economy in an environmentally responsible manner."

Commission vice-chair Bob Anthony pointed to tax reform enacted two years ago as a key factor in making the settlement possible.

"Today's decision again shows how public utility customers, big or small, and including low-income individuals, continue to benefit from the lower corporate tax rates of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017,"Anthony said. "Furthermore, the agreement means cleaner power, with the installation of scrubbers at the Sooner plant in Red rock and the conversion of the Muskogee plant to natural gas."

Commissioner Dana Murphy said Commission approval of the agreement means more than simply low-cost electricity.

"Equally as important as affordability is the need for reliable, safe and clean electric service," Murphy said. "This agreement meets all the criteria. The OCC's decision means no increase in rates for nearly 850,000 Oklahomans while allowing the company to recover through rate base approximately \$600 million in capital improvement costs incurred by OG&E."

In addition to reliability and affordability, OG&E estimates the improvements at the Sooner and Muskogee generation plants will mean a 40 percent reduction from 2005 in measured carbon emissions from OG&E generation, as well as a nearly 75 percent cut in nitrogen oxides emissions and a reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions of 90 percent.