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Utah Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 45585
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0585
Docket 06-057-T04

Please be aware that the Brian Head Town Council strongly supports the proposal to remove GSS and EAC rates from Questar Gas Company's tariff. Natural gas service has clearly benefited rural Utah. We appreciate the accommodations made several years ago to bring gas service to Brian Head Town. However, the various arrangements made to cover the cost of bringing that service to rural Utah have resulted in some areas receiving disproportionate economic-development advantages over others.

GSS and EAC rates were tools that allowed rapid expansion of a critical service. But these arrangements favored faster growing communities. Those communities have been able to join Utah's economic mainstream faster. Higher rates in Brian Head only keep us from catching up, or even competing. For the benefit of the whole state, it's time to level the playing field. Removing the extra charges from our rates will help accomplish this.

Economic development in rural Utah will benefit all of Utah. It will take pressure off the Wasatch Front and Washington County. It will provide more options to businesses and industries considering relocating to Utah. It will provide jobs and income beyond agriculture and the service sector. More competitive natural gas rates will provide the jumpstart we need.

The minimal cost of this jumpstart was the rationale used by the legislature to help some communities receive gas service in the first place. Because of 1998's HB180, all Questar Gas customers pay a few cents extra every month to cover a portion of the costs of taking gas service to Panguitch, Cedar Fort and Brian Head (Brian Head residents currently pay \$30.00 per month towards the installation costs). Using this similar practice for other communities is a good example of the type of cooperation and compromise we are requesting. We urge the PSC to approve the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H.C. Deutschlander".

H.C. Deutschlander
Mayor, Brian Head

cc: Brian Head Town Council



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