



**KeySpan Gas East Corporation
d/b/a National Grid**

Financial Statements

For the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditors' Report.....	3
Statements of Income.....	4
Years Ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017	
Statements of Cash Flows.....	5
Years Ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017	
Balance Sheets.....	6
March 31, 2019 and 2018	
Statements of Capitalization.....	8
March 31, 2019 and 2018	
Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity	9
Years Ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017	
Notes to the Financial Statements	10
1 - Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation.....	10
2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies	10
3 - Revenue	17
4 - Regulatory Assets and Liabilities	18
5 - Rate Matters	20
6 - Property, Plant and Equipment	22
7 - Derivative Instruments	23
8 - Fair Value Measurements	25
9 - Employee Benefits	26
10 - Capitalization	35
11 - Income Taxes	36
12 - Environmental Matters	39
13 - Commitments and Contingencies	40
14 - Related Party Transactions	41

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
KeySpan Gas East Corporation

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid (the "Company"), which comprise the balance sheets and statements of capitalization as of March 31, 2019 and 2018 and the related statements of income, cash flows, and changes in shareholders' equity for the two years in the period ended March 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Company's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Predecessor Auditors' Opinion on 2017 Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Company as of and for the year ended March 31, 2017, were audited by other auditors whose report, dated August 18, 2017, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Deloitte + Touche LLP

July 3, 2019

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(in thousands of dollars)

	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Operating revenues	\$ 1,260,484	\$ 1,137,078	\$ 976,183
Operating expenses:			
Purchased gas	504,563	421,835	314,192
Operations and maintenance	269,120	283,652	283,808
Depreciation	72,671	68,402	73,628
Other taxes	174,223	167,925	135,848
Total operating expenses	1,020,577	941,814	807,476
Operating income	239,907	195,264	168,707
Other income and (deductions):			
Interest on long-term debt	(48,695)	(48,695)	(45,720)
Other interest, including affiliate interest	(39,218)	(2,480)	(6,519)
Other income (deductions), net	10,304	(819)	2,679
Total other deductions, net	(77,609)	(51,994)	(49,560)
Income before income taxes	162,298	143,270	119,147
Income tax expense	43,688	52,335	42,361
Net income	\$ 118,610	\$ 90,935	\$ 76,786

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands of dollars)

	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 118,610	\$ 90,935	\$ 76,786
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	72,671	68,402	73,628
Accrued interest on tax reserves	23,631	-	-
Regulatory amortizations	14,167	17,953	33,971
Deferred income tax	(39,248)	46,315	49,286
Bad debt expense	6,886	2,268	3,567
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(3,173)	(2,459)	(2,007)
Pension and postretirement benefit expenses, net	15,095	30,865	34,605
Pension and postretirement benefit contributions	(34,206)	(24,391)	(155,143)
Environmental remediation payments	(4,037)	(4,122)	(10,493)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable and other receivable, net, and unbilled revenues	23,718	(70,420)	(33,785)
Accounts receivable from/payable to affiliates, net	6,417	-	-
Inventory	(7,439)	224	12,875
Regulatory assets and liabilities, net	159,390	28,564	6,008
Derivative instruments	2,006	682	3,177
Prepaid and accrued taxes	52,589	26,840	(40,609)
Accounts payable and other liabilities	39,559	33,451	4,585
Other, net	3,669	(925)	446
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>450,305</u>	<u>244,182</u>	<u>56,897</u>
Investing activities:			
Capital expenditures	(364,212)	(316,551)	(240,566)
Cost of removal	(25,965)	(23,355)	(18,856)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(390,177)</u>	<u>(339,906)</u>	<u>(259,422)</u>
Financing activities:			
Payments on long-term debt	-	-	(100,000)
Issuance of long-term debt	-	-	700,000
Payment of debt issuance costs	-	-	(2,934)
Intercompany money pool	(15,587)	94,497	(393,782)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>(15,587)</u>	<u>94,497</u>	<u>203,284</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	44,541	(1,227)	759
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,561	2,788	2,029
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 46,102</u>	<u>\$ 1,561</u>	<u>\$ 2,788</u>
Supplemental disclosures:			
Interest paid	\$ (48,289)	\$ (48,053)	\$ (47,869)
Income taxes refunded (paid)	4,442	17,388	(7,179)
Significant non-cash items:			
Capital-related accruals included in accounts payable	30,502	21,050	27,031

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands of dollars)

	March 31,	
	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 46,102	\$ 1,561
Accounts receivable	217,890	234,405
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(16,929)	(17,485)
Accounts receivable from affiliates	15,506	16,284
Unbilled revenues	69,818	84,463
Inventory	28,218	20,779
Regulatory assets	9,459	15,509
Derivative instruments	843	190
Other	3,442	3,132
Total current assets	374,349	358,838
Property, plant and equipment, net	3,622,205	3,308,444
Other non-current assets:		
Regulatory assets	487,980	488,221
Goodwill	1,018,407	1,018,407
Postretirement benefits assets	46,866	45,956
Other	2,424	4,856
Total other non-current assets	1,555,677	1,557,440
Total assets	\$ 5,552,231	\$ 5,224,722

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands of dollars)

	March 31,	
	2019	2018
LIABILITIES AND CAPITALIZATION		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 77,097	\$ 63,684
Accounts payable to affiliates	62,879	34,440
Taxes accrued	65,449	12,860
Customer deposits	15,373	15,184
Interest accrued	30,953	17,419
Regulatory liabilities	124,096	83,197
Intercompany money pool	43,206	81,593
Derivative instruments	5,365	2,711
Environmental remediation costs	12,402	6,004
Other	13,728	14,015
Total current liabilities	450,548	331,107
Other non-current liabilities:		
Regulatory liabilities	893,864	804,833
Asset retirement obligations	16,083	15,126
Deferred income tax liabilities, net	420,017	432,963
Postretirement benefits	41,759	65,649
Environmental remediation costs	52,163	62,245
Other	85,249	39,267
Total other non-current liabilities	1,509,135	1,420,083
Commitments and contingencies (Note 13)		
Capitalization:		
Shareholders' equity	2,397,204	2,278,594
Long-term debt	1,195,344	1,194,938
Total capitalization	3,592,548	3,473,532
Total liabilities and capitalization	\$ 5,552,231	\$ 5,224,722

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
STATEMENTS OF CAPITALIZATION
(in thousands of dollars)

			March 31,	
			2019	2018
Total shareholders' equity			\$ 2,397,204	\$ 2,278,594
Long-term debt:	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>		
<i>Unsecured Notes:</i>				
Senior Note	5.82%	April 1, 2041	500,000	500,000
Senior Note	2.74%	August 15, 2026	700,000	700,000
Total debt			1,200,000	1,200,000
Unamortized debt discount			(4,656)	(5,062)
Long-term debt			1,195,344	1,194,938
Total capitalization			\$ 3,592,548	\$ 3,473,532

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(in thousands of dollars)

	Common Stock	Cumulative Preferred Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Total
Balance as of March 31, 2016	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,898,411	\$ 212,462	\$ 2,110,873
Net income	-	-	-	76,786	76,786
Balance as of March 31, 2017	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,898,411	\$ 289,248	\$ 2,187,659
Net income	-	-	-	90,935	90,935
Balance as of March 31, 2018			\$ 1,898,411	\$ 380,183	2,278,594
Net income	-	-	-	118,610	118,610
Balance as of March 31, 2019	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,898,411</u>	<u>\$ 498,793</u>	<u>\$ 2,397,204</u>

The Company had 100 shares of common stock authorized, issued and outstanding, with a par value of \$0.01 per share and 1 share of preferred stock, authorized, issued and outstanding, with a par value of \$1 per share at March 31, 2019 and 2018.

KEYSPAN GAS EAST CORPORATION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid (“the Company”) is a gas distribution company engaged principally in the transportation and sale of natural gas to approximately 605,000 customers in Nassau and Suffolk Counties in Long Island, New York and the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens, New York.

Prior to April 30, 2018, the Company was a wholly-owned subsidiary of KeySpan Corporation (“KeySpan”), which was a wholly-owned subsidiary of National Grid USA (“NGUSA” or the “Parent”), a public utility holding company with regulated subsidiaries engaged in the generation of electricity and the transmission, distribution, and sale of both natural gas and electricity. NGUSA is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of National Grid North America Inc. (“NGNA”) and an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of National Grid plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales. Effective April 30, 2018 KeySpan merged into NGUSA and from that point forward the Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NGUSA.

The accompanying financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”), including the accounting principles for rate-regulated entities. The financial statements reflect the ratemaking practices of the applicable regulatory authorities.

The Company has evaluated subsequent events and transactions through July 3, 2019, the date of issuance of these financial statements, and concluded that there were no events or transactions that require adjustment to, or disclosure in, the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended March 31, 2019.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates

In preparing financial statements that conform to U.S. GAAP, the Company must make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities included in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Regulatory Accounting

The New York Public Service Commission (“NYPSC”) regulates the rates the Company charges its customers. In certain cases, the rate actions of the NYPSC can result in accounting that differs from non-regulated companies. In these cases, the Company defers costs (as regulatory assets) or recognizes obligations (as regulatory liabilities) if it is probable that such amounts will be recovered from, or refunded to, customers through future rates. In accordance with ASC 980, “Regulated Operations,” regulatory assets and liabilities are reflected on the balance sheet consistent with the treatment of the related costs in the ratemaking process.

Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognized for gas distribution services provided on a monthly billing cycle basis. The Company records unbilled revenues for the estimated amount of services rendered from the time meters were last read to the end of the accounting period (See Note 3, “Revenue” for additional details).

Other Taxes

The Company collects taxes and fees from customers such as sales taxes, other taxes, surcharges, and fees that are levied by state or local governments on the sale or distribution of gas. The Company accounts for taxes that are imposed on customers

(such as sales taxes) on a net basis (excluded from revenues), while taxes imposed on the Company, such as excise taxes, are recognized on a gross basis. Excise taxes collected and paid for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$15.7 million, \$14.9 million, and \$3.4 million, respectively.

The state of New York imposes on corporations a franchise tax that is computed as the higher of a tax based on income or a tax based on capital. To the extent the Company's state tax based on capital is in excess of the state tax based on income, the Company reports such excess in other taxes and taxes accrued in the accompanying financial statements.

Income Taxes

Federal and state income taxes have been computed utilizing the asset and liability approach that requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the tax consequences of temporary differences by applying enacted statutory tax rates applicable to future years to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax basis of existing assets and liabilities. Deferred income taxes also reflect the tax effect of net operating losses, capital losses, and general business credit carryforwards. The Company assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate whether sufficient future taxable income of the appropriate tax character will be generated to realize the benefits of existing deferred tax assets. When the evaluation of the evidence indicates that the Company will not be able to realize the benefits of existing deferred tax assets, a valuation allowance is recorded to reduce existing deferred tax assets to the net realizable amount.

The effects of tax positions are recognized in the financial statements when it is more likely than not that the position taken, or expected to be taken, in a tax return will be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. The financial effect of changes in tax laws or rates is accounted for in the period of enactment. Deferred investment tax credits are amortized over the useful life of the underlying property.

NGNA files consolidated federal tax returns including all of the activities of its subsidiaries. Each subsidiary determines its tax provision based on the separate return method, modified by a benefits-for-loss allocation pursuant to a tax sharing agreement between NGNA and its subsidiaries. The benefit of consolidated tax losses and credits are allocated to the NGNA subsidiaries giving rise to such benefits in determining each subsidiary's tax expense in the year that the loss or credit arises. In a year that a consolidated loss or credit carryforward is utilized, the tax benefit utilized in consolidation is paid proportionately to the subsidiaries that gave rise to the benefit regardless of whether that subsidiary would have utilized the benefit. The tax sharing agreement also requires NGNA to allocate its parent tax losses, excluding deductions from acquisition indebtedness, to each subsidiary in the consolidated federal tax return with taxable income. The allocation of NGNA's parent tax losses to its subsidiaries is accounted for as a capital contribution and is performed in conjunction with the annual intercompany cash settlement process following the filing of the federal tax return.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at cost which approximates fair value.

Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company recognizes an allowance for doubtful accounts to record accounts receivable at estimated net realizable value. The allowance is determined based on a variety of factors including, for each type of receivable, applying an estimated reserve percentage to each aging category, taking into account historical collection and write-off experience, and management's assessment of collectability from individual customers, as appropriate. The collectability of receivables is continuously assessed and, if circumstances change, the allowance is adjusted accordingly. Receivable balances are written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts when the accounts are disconnected and/or terminated and the balances are deemed to be uncollectible.

Inventory

Inventory is composed of materials and supplies as well as gas in storage. Materials and supplies are stated at weighted average cost, which represents net realizable value, and are expensed or capitalized as used. There were no material write-offs of obsolete inventory for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, or 2017.

Gas in storage is stated at weighted average cost and the related cost is recognized when delivered to customers. Existing rate orders allow the Company to pass directly through to customers the cost of gas purchased, along with any applicable authorized delivery surcharge adjustments. Gas costs passed through to customers are subject to regulatory approvals and are audited annually by the NYPSC.

The Company had materials and supplies of \$4.9 million and \$4.7 million and gas in storage of \$23.3 million and \$16.1 million at March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Derivative Instruments

The Company uses derivative instruments to manage commodity price risk. All derivative instruments are recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. All commodity costs, including the impact of derivative instruments, are passed on to customers through the Company's gas cost adjustment mechanism. Regulatory assets or regulatory liabilities are recorded to defer the recognition of unrealized losses or gains on derivative instruments, respectively. The gains or losses on the settlement of these contracts are recognized as purchased gas on the statements of income and refunded to, or collected from, customers consistent with regulatory requirements.

The Company's accounting policy is to not offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments and related cash collateral receivable or payable with the same counterparty under a master netting agreement, but rather to record and present the fair value of the derivative instrument on a gross basis, with related cash collateral recorded within restricted cash and special deposits on the balance sheet.

Natural Gas Long-Term Arrangements

The Company enters into long-term gas contracts to procure gas to serve its gas customers. Those contracts include Asset Management Agreements, Baseload, and Peaking gas contracts. The Company evaluates whether such agreements are leases, derivative instruments, or executory contracts; and performs an assessment under the guidance for Variable Interest Entities included in Topic 810, "Consolidations," and applies the appropriate accounting treatment.

Fair Value Measurements

The Company measures derivative instruments and pension and postretirement benefit other than pension plan assets at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The following is the fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value:

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that a company has the ability to access as of the reporting date;
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are directly observable for the asset or liability or indirectly observable through corroboration with observable market data;
- Level 3: unobservable inputs, such as internally-developed forward curves and pricing models for the asset or liability due to little or no market activity for the asset or liability with low correlation to observable market inputs; and
- Not categorized: certain investments are not categorized within the fair value hierarchy. These investments are typically in commingled funds or limited partnerships that are not publicly traded and have ongoing subscription and redemption activity. As a practical expedient, the fair value of these investments is the Net Asset Value ("NAV") per fund share, derived from the underlying securities' quoted prices in active markets.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Company uses valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at original cost. The cost of repairs and maintenance is charged to expense and the cost of renewals and betterments that extend the useful life of property, plant and equipment is capitalized. The capitalized cost of additions to property, plant and equipment includes costs such as direct material, labor and benefits, and an allowance for funds used during construction ("AFUDC").

Depreciation is computed over the estimated useful life of the asset using the composite straight-line method. Depreciation studies are conducted periodically to update the composite rates and are approved by the NYPS. The average composite rates for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were 1.7 %, 1.8%, and 1.8%, respectively.

Depreciation expense includes a component for the estimated cost of removal, which is recovered through rates charged to customers. Any difference in cumulative costs recovered and costs incurred is recognized as a regulatory liability. When property, plant and equipment is retired, the original cost, less salvage, is charged to accumulated depreciation, and the related cost of removal is removed from the associated regulatory liability. The Company recognized a regulatory asset for the amount that was in excess of cost recovered of \$8.2 million at March 31, 2019 and a regulatory liability for the amount that was in excess of costs incurred of \$17.4 million at March 31, 2018.

Allowance for Funds Used During Construction

The Company records AFUDC, which represents the debt and equity costs of financing the construction of new property, plant and equipment. The equity component of AFUDC is reported in the accompanying statements of income as non-cash income in other deductions net. The debt component of AFUDC is reported as a non-cash offset to other interest, including affiliate interest. After construction is completed, the Company is permitted to recover these costs through their inclusion in rate base. The Company recorded AFUDC related to equity of \$3.2 million, \$2.5 million, and \$2.0 million and AFUDC related to debt of \$2.0 million, \$1.5 million, and \$1.0 million for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. The average AFUDC rates for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were 5.6%, 5.9%, and 4.8%, respectively.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company tests the impairment of long-lived assets when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable. The recoverability of an asset is determined by comparing its carrying value to the estimated undiscounted cash flows that the asset is expected to generate. If the comparison indicates that the carrying value is not recoverable, an impairment loss is recognized for the excess of the carrying value over the estimated fair value. For the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, there were no impairment losses recognized for long-lived assets.

Goodwill

The Company tests goodwill for impairment annually on January 1, and when events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the Company below its carrying amount. The Company has early adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2017-04, "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment," which eliminates step two from the two-step goodwill impairment test required under the current standard. The goodwill impairment test requires a recoverability test performed based on the comparison of the Company's estimated fair value with its carrying value, including goodwill. If the estimated fair value exceeds the carrying value, then goodwill is not considered impaired. If the carrying value exceeds the estimated fair value, the Company is required to recognize an impairment charge for such excess, limited to the carrying amount of goodwill.

Historically, the fair value of the Company was calculated for the annual goodwill impairment test utilizing both the income and market-based approaches. For the year ended March 31, 2019, the fair value of the Company was calculated utilizing

only the income approach. The Company believes that this approach provides the most reliable information about the fair value of the Company's estimated fair value. Based on the resulting fair value from the annual analyses, the Company determined that no adjustment to the goodwill carrying value was required at March 31, 2019 or 2018.

Asset Retirement Obligations

Asset retirement obligations are recognized for legal obligations associated with the retirement of property, plant and equipment, primarily associated with the Company's gas distribution facilities. Asset retirement obligations are recorded at fair value in the period in which the obligation is incurred, if the fair value can be reasonably estimated. In the period in which new asset retirement obligations, or changes to the timing or amount of existing retirement obligations are recorded, the associated asset retirement costs are capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset. In each subsequent period the asset retirement obligation is accreted to its present value. The Company applies regulatory accounting guidance and both the depreciation and accretion costs associated with asset retirement obligation are recorded as increases to regulatory assets on the balance sheet. These regulatory assets represent timing differences between the recognition of costs in accordance with U.S. GAAP and costs recovered through the ratemaking process.

The following table represents the changes in the Company's asset retirement obligations:

	Years Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Balance as of the beginning of the year	\$ 15,984	\$ 15,254
Accretion expense	894	870
Liabilities settled	(76)	(140)
Balance as of the end of the year	<u>\$ 16,802</u>	<u>\$ 15,984</u>

The Company had a current portion of asset retirement obligations of \$0.7 million and \$0.9 million included in other current liabilities on the balance sheet at March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Employee Benefits

The Company participates with other NGUSA subsidiaries in defined benefit pension plans and postretirement benefit other than pension ("PBOP") plans for its employees, administered by NGUSA. The Company recognizes its portion of the pension and PBOP plans' funded status on the balance sheet as a net liability or asset. The cost of providing these plans is recovered through rates; therefore, the net funded status is offset by a regulatory asset or liability. The pension and PBOP plans' assets are commingled and allocated to measure and record pension and PBOP funded status at the year-end date. Pension and PBOP plan assets are measured at fair value, using the year-end market value of those assets.

New and Recent Accounting Guidance

Accounting Guidance Recently Adopted

Pension and Postretirement Benefits

In March 2017, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2017-07, "Compensation—Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost," which changes certain presentation and disclosure requirements for employers that sponsor defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit plans. The ASU requires the service cost component of the net benefit cost to be classified within the same line item as other compensation in operating income in an entity's statement of income and the other

components of net benefit cost to be classified outside of operating income on a retrospective basis. In addition, as prescribed by the ASU, only the service cost component will be eligible for capitalization when applicable, on a prospective basis.

The Company adopted this new guidance on April 1, 2018. Although required by the standard, the Company elected not to retrospectively adjust the accompanying 2018 and 2017 financial statements as management determined that such retrospective application, is not material to the Company's statements of income for the years ended March 31, 2018 and 2017 presented herein. The adoption of this ASU did not have a material effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows, and financial position.

Statements of Cash Flows

In November 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-18, "Statements of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Restricted Cash," which requires entities to show the changes in the total of cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash, and restricted cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows. The Company has adopted the new guidance and the application of the new guidance did not impact the Company's statement of cash flows as the Company does not have restricted cash.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-15, "Statements of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments," which provides guidance about the classification of certain cash receipts and payments within the statements of cash flows, including debt prepayment or extinguishment costs, contingent consideration payments made after a business combination, proceeds from the settlement of insurance claims and policies, and distributions received from equity method investments. . The application of the new guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's results or the presentation of its statements of cash flows.

Revenue Recognition

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)." The FASB further amended ASC 606 through various updates issued thereafter. The underlying principle of this ASU is that an entity will recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration the entity expects to be entitled to, in exchange for those goods or services. The Company adopted the new guidance on April 1, 2018, using the modified retrospective method applied to contracts that were not completed as of April 1, 2018, and the Company did not recognize an adjustment to retained earnings for the cumulative effect of adopting the standard.

The adoption of ASC 606 did not have a material impact on the presentation of the Company's results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. The Company has added additional disclosures as required under ASC 606 (see Note 3, "Revenue" for additional details).

Financial Instruments – Classification and Measurement

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-01, "Financial Instruments—Overall (Subtopic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." The new guidance eliminates the available-for-sale and cost method classification for equity securities and requires that all equity investments, other than those accounted for using the equity method of accounting, be measured and recorded at fair value with any changes in fair value recognized through net income. However, for equity investments that do not have a readily determinable fair value an entity may choose to measure equity investments at cost minus impairment, if any, plus or minus changes resulting from observable price changes in orderly transactions for identical or similar investments. If any entity elects to use the measurement alternative for equity investments without readily determinable fair values, those investments must be qualitatively assessed for impairment at each reporting period and if impairment exist the investment is required to be measured at fair value. The guidance does not impact the classification or measurement of investments in debt securities. The guidance also amended certain disclosure requirements related to financial instruments. The application of the new guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's results of operations, cash flows, and financial position.

Accounting Guidance Not Yet Adopted

Leases

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02 “Leases” (Topic 842) related to lease accounting. For the Company, the new standard is effective for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020, and interim periods within. Under the new standard, a lease is defined as a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to control the use of identified assets for a period of time in exchange for consideration. Under the requirements of the new standard, lessees will need to recognize leases on the balance sheet as a right-of-use asset and a related lease liability, which will be equal to the present value of the estimated future lease payments. The right-of-use asset at inception will be based on the liability, subject to certain adjustments, such as initial direct costs. The new standard requires leases to be classified as either operating or financing which will impact the amount and classification of lease related expenses on the statements of income. Under the new standard, lessor accounting is largely unchanged. The new standard also has additional disclosure requirements.

The new standard provides the Company with transition practical expedients including a package of three expedients that must be taken together and allows the Company to: not reassess whether existing contracts contain leases, carryforward the existing classification of any leases, and not reassess initial direct costs associated with existing leases. The Company has exercised its option to elect the package of practical expedients. The Company will make the election under the new standard to not reflect a right-of-use asset or related liability for leases with a term of 12 months or less. The Company has also elected the practical expedient to not reevaluate land easements existing at adoption if they were not previously accounted for as leases. The Company will not make the election to combine the lease components and the associated non-lease components of an arrangement and account for as a single lease component and will also not elect the expedient to use hindsight in determining the lease term for existing leases at the time of adoption.

The Company will recognize and measure the cumulative effect of the new standard at the beginning of the earliest period presented using the modified retrospective approach. The Company determined the impact the ASUs will have on its financial statements by reviewing its lease population and identifying lease data needed for the disclosure requirements. The Company will implement a new lease accounting system in fiscal year 2020, to ensure ongoing compliance with the ASU’s requirements. The Company did not recognize any operating lease liabilities and right-of-use assets on the balance sheets upon transition at April 1, 2019. Implementation of the new guidance will not materially impact our results of operations or cash flows, as we do not expect significant changes to our pattern of expense recognition as a result of the new standard.

Financial Instruments

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13 “Financial Instruments—Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Statements” requires a financial asset (or a group of financial assets) measured at amortized cost basis to be presented at the net amount expected to be collected. The FASB further amended Topic 326 through additional updates issued thereafter. The allowance for credit losses is a valuation account that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset(s) to present the net carrying value at the amount expected to be collected on the financial asset. Credit losses relating to available-for-sale debt securities should be recorded through an allowance for credit losses. For the Company, the requirements of the new standard will be effective for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, and interim periods within, with early adoption permitted from the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 and interim periods within. The Company is currently assessing the impact of this standard.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the financial statements to conform the prior period’s balances to the current period’s presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on reported income, total assets, or stockholders’ equity as previously reported.

3. REVENUE

The following table presents, for the year ending March 31, 2019, revenue from contracts with customers, as well as additional revenue from sources other than contracts with customers, disaggregated by major source:

	Year ended March 31, 2019	
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Revenue from Contracts with Customers:		
Gas Distribution	\$	1,201,094
Off System Sales		83,740
Total Revenue from Contracts with Customers		1,284,834
Revenue from Regulatory Mechanisms		(31,295)
Other Revenue		6,945
Total Operating Revenues	\$	1,260,484

Gas Distribution: The Company owns and maintains a natural gas distribution network in downstate New York. Distribution revenues are primarily from the sale of gas and related services to retail customers. Distribution sales are regulated by the NYPSC, which is responsible for determining the prices and other terms of services as part of the rate making process. The arrangement where a utility provides a service to a customer in exchange for a price approved by a regulator is referred to as a tariff sales contract. Gas distribution revenues are derived from the regulated sale and distribution of natural gas to residential, commercial, and industrial customers within the Company's service territory under the tariff rates. The tariff rates approved by the regulator are designed to recover the costs incurred by the Company for products and services provided and along with a return on investment.

The performance obligation for distribution sales is to provide natural gas to the customers on demand. The natural gas supplied under the tariff represents a single performance obligation as it is a series of distinct goods or services that are substantially the same. The performance obligation is satisfied over time because the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the natural gas as the Company provides these services. The Company records revenues related to the distribution sales based upon the approved tariff rates and the volume delivered to the customers, which corresponds with the amount the Company has the right to invoice.

The distribution revenue also includes estimated unbilled amounts, which represent the estimated amounts due from retail customers for natural gas provided to customers by the Company, but not yet billed. Unbilled revenues are determined based on estimated unbilled sales volumes for the respective customer classes and then applying the applicable tariff rate to those volumes. Actual amounts billed to customers when the meter readings occur, may be different from the estimated amounts.

Certain customers have the option to obtain natural gas from other suppliers. In those circumstances' revenue is only recognized for providing delivery of the commodity to the customer.

Off System Sales (OSS): Represents direct sales of gas to participants in the wholesale natural gas marketplace, which occur after customers' demands are satisfied.

Revenue from Regulatory Mechanisms: The company records revenues in accordance with accounting principles for rate-regulated operations that are arrangements between the Company and the regulator that are not accounted for as contracts with customers. These include various deferral mechanisms such as capital trackers, energy efficiency programs, and programs that qualify as Alternative Revenue Programs ("ARPs"). ARPs enable the Company to adjust rates in the future, in response to past activities or completed events. The Company's gas distribution rates have a revenue decoupling mechanism ("RDM") which allows for annual adjustments to the Company's delivery rates as a result of the reconciliation between allowed revenue and billed revenue. The Company also has other ARPs related to the achievement of certain objectives, demand side management initiatives, and certain other rate making mechanisms. The Company recognizes ARPs with a

corresponding offset to a regulatory asset or liability account when the regulatory specified events or conditions have been met, when the amounts are determinable, and are probable of recovery (or payment) through future rate adjustments.

Other Revenues: Includes other transactions that are not considered contracts with customers.

4. REGULATORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Company records regulatory assets and liabilities that result from the ratemaking process. The following table presents the regulatory assets and regulatory liabilities recorded on the balance sheet:

		March 31,	
		2019	2018
		<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Regulatory assets			
Current:			
Derivative instruments	\$	4,510	\$ 2,504
Facilities system surcharge		2,031	-
Gas costs adjustment		-	7,098
Gas safety and reliability surcharge		2,802	-
Rate adjustment mechanisms		-	1,862
Temporary state assessment		-	1,804
Other		116	2,241
Total		9,459	15,509
Non-current:			
Environmental response costs		142,421	179,338
Postretirement benefits		87,706	89,879
Property taxes		110,875	104,954
Rate mitigation		32,209	32,209
Temperature control/interruptible sharing		49,420	50,393
Other		65,349	31,448
Total		487,980	488,221
Regulatory liabilities			
Current:			
Energy efficiency		8,389	8,097
Gas costs adjustment		25,319	-
Revenue decoupling mechanism		82,025	74,822
Other		8,363	278
Total		124,096	83,197
Non-current:			
Carrying charges		110,161	92,890
Delivery rate adjustment		82,870	82,870
Environmental response costs		45,428	16,060
Postretirement benefits		93,679	80,732
Property taxes		77,969	28,984
Regulatory tax liability, net		353,626	379,928
Other		130,131	123,369
Total		893,864	804,833
Net regulatory liabilities	\$	(520,521)	\$ (384,300)

Carrying charges: The Company records carrying charges on regulatory balances for which cash expenditures have been made and are subject to recovery, or for which cash has been collected and is subject to refund as approved in accordance with the PSC. Carrying charges are not recorded on items for which expenditures have not yet been made.

Delivery rate adjustment: The NYPSC authorized a surcharge for recovery of regulatory assets of \$10 million beginning January 1, 2009, which increased incrementally by \$10 million and aggregating to a maximum of approximately \$100 million over the term of a previous rate agreement. The regulatory asset amount was over-recovered, with the remaining amounts due to be refunded to customers. The timing for the disposition of any associated deferred balances will be determined by future NYPSC rulings.

Derivative instruments: The Company evaluates open derivative instruments for regulatory deferral by determining if they are probable of recovery from, or refund to, customers through future rates. Derivative instruments that qualify for recovery are recorded at fair value, with changes in fair value recorded as regulatory assets or regulatory liabilities in the period in which the change occurs.

Energy efficiency: Represents the difference between revenue billed to customers through the Company's energy efficiency charge and the costs of the Company's energy efficiency programs as approved by the NYPSC.

Environmental response costs: Represents deferred costs associated with the Company's shares of estimated costs to investigate and perform certain remediation activities at former manufactured gas plant ("MGP") sites and related facilities. The Company believes future costs, beyond the expiration of current rate plans, will continue to be recovered through rates. The regulatory liability represents the excess of amounts received in rates over the Company's actual site investigation and remediation ("SIR") costs.

Facilities system surcharge: On May 1, 2018, the Company entered the New York Facilities Agreement ("NYFA") with The Brooklyn Union Gas Company and Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. to design, maintain and operate their respective constructed portion of a system of gas mains and associated facilities for receiving and distributing natural gas. On October 18, 2018, the NYPSC issued an order to allow the Company to recover or refund NYFA costs as compared to the amount reflected in base rates. An initial surcharge was implemented on November 1, 2018, effective for the five-month period ending March 31, 2019.

Gas costs adjustment: The Company is subject to rate adjustment mechanisms for commodity costs, whereby an asset or liability is recognized resulting from differences between actual revenues and the underlying cost being recovered or differences between actual revenues and targeted amounts as approved by the NYPSC. These amounts will be refunded to, or recovered from, customers over the next year.

Gas safety and reliability surcharge: The regulatory asset represents the recovery of costs to incrementally replace leak prone pipes, costs to repair leaks that do not present an immediate risk to public safety, and positive revenue adjustments earned for achieving performance metrics. The surcharge is reconciled on a calendar year basis and included in the delivery rate adjustment recovered from firm sales and firm transportation customers in the following fiscal year.

Postretirement benefits: The regulatory asset balance represents the Company's, unamortized, non-cash accrual of net pension actuarial gains and losses in addition to actual costs associated with Company's pension plans in excess of amounts received in rates that are to be collected in future periods. The regulatory liability represents the Company's, unamortized, non-cash accrual of net PBOP actuarial gains and losses in addition to excess amounts received in rates over actual costs of the Company's PBOP plans that are to be passed back in future periods.

Property taxes: The property tax regulatory asset represents 85% of actual property and special franchise tax expenses above the rate allowance for future collection from the Company's customers. The property tax regulatory liability represents the balance of property tax refunds received by the Company due to be refunded to customers. A tax refund of \$50.4 million received in July 2018 from the Town of Hempstead is included as a deferred liability, pending future disposition by the NYPSC (see Note 13, "Commitments and Contingencies" for additional details).

Rate adjustment mechanisms: In addition to commodity costs, the Company is subject to a number of additional rate adjustment mechanisms whereby an asset or liability is recognized resulting from differences between actual revenues and the underlying cost being recovered or differences between actual revenues and targeted amounts as approved by the NYPSC.

Rate mitigation: As part of the NGUSA and KeySpan merger settlement, the NYPSC authorized a negotiated five year revenue increase that was partially replaced with “rate mitigators” comprising, but not limited to, the recovery of certain deferred costs and the amortization of deferral balances established by prior rate agreements. The timing for the disposition of any associated deferred balances will be determined by future NYPSC rulings.

Regulatory tax liability, net: Represents over-recovered federal and state deferred taxes of the Company primarily as a result of regulatory flow through accounting treatment, state income tax rate changes and excess federal deferred taxes as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (“Tax Act”).

Revenue decoupling mechanism (“RDM”): As approved by the NYPSC, the gas RDM allows for an annual adjustment to the Company’s delivery rates as a result of the reconciliation between allowed and actual billed revenues. Any difference is recorded as a regulatory asset or regulatory liability.

Temperature control/interruptible (“TC/IT”) sharing: Under a previous rate agreement, the Company was subject to an annual price cap on interruptible and temperature control customers and was allowed to defer related amounts, subject to sharing with customers – 90% to customers and 10% to shareholders. This mechanism was discontinued under the current rate agreement. In conjunction with its 2019 rate case filing (see Note 5, “Rate Matters”, for additional details) the Company proposed to combine this and other regulatory assets and liabilities into a single net deferral liability to be refunded to customers.

Temporary state assessment: In June 2009, the NYPSC authorized utilities, including the Company, to recover the costs required for payment of the Temporary State Energy & Utility Service Conservation Assessment (“Temporary State Assessment”), including carrying charges. The Temporary State Assessment was subject to reconciliation over a five year period which began July 1, 2009. On June 18, 2014, the NYPSC issued an order authorizing certain utilities, including the Company, to recover the Temporary State Assessment subject to reconciliation, including carrying charges, from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. The Temporary State Assessment factor was discontinued as of June 2017, however the Company was allowed to continue to defer the general assessment expenses through March 31, 2018. The timing for the disposition of any associated deferred balances will be determined by future NYPSC rulings.

5. RATE MATTERS

Rate Case Filing

On January 29, 2016, the Company and Brooklyn Union Gas Company (the “New York Gas Companies”) filed to adjust their base gas rates, to be effective from January 1, 2017. The filing requested to increase gas delivery base revenues.

On September 7, 2016, the New York Gas Companies filed a Joint Proposal establishing a three year rate plan beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019. The NYPSC issued an order approving the Joint Proposal on December 15, 2016 and the new rates went into effect beginning January 1, 2017.

The rate plan provided for a revenue increase of \$112 million in the first year, an additional \$19.6 million in the second year, and an additional \$27 million in the third year, for a cumulative three year increase of \$402 million, for the Company. In an effort to mitigate the potential bill impacts that the revenue increases would have on customers in the first year, the revenue increases are levelized over the three year rate period. As such, for U.S. GAAP reporting, revenues are recognized equal to the amounts actually billed to customers during each period rather than per the provisions of the rate plan. The settlement

is based upon a 9% return on equity (“ROE”) and 48% common equity ratio and includes an earnings sharing mechanism in which customers will share earnings when the Company’s ROE is in excess of 9.5%.

Key provisions of the settlement include funding for removal of a specific mileage of leak prone pipe (“LPP”) in each rate year. Additionally, recovery of proactive LPP replacement costs incurred in excess of this mileage are permitted and recovered through the Gas Safety and Reliability Surcharge. This also includes a positive revenue adjustment mechanism for unit cost savings versus those specific in rates.

The Company has capital tracker mechanisms that reconcile the Company's capital expenditures to the amounts permitted in rates. The Net Utility Plant and Depreciation Expense tracker is a downward only reconciliation that applies to the Companies’ aggregate total average net plant and depreciation expense combined. The reconciliation is summed at the end of rate year Three (December 31, 2019) to determine whether any underspend is owed to customers. Under the City/State Construction Reconciliation, the Company is authorized to defer 90% of the revenue requirement impact difference (excluding operations and maintenance expense) between actual and forecast city/state construction costs for future recovery from or return to customers.

The Company’s RDM was also adjusted to include revenue-per-class RDMs for industrial and commercial customers not previously subject to the RDM.

Each rate year, the Company will fully reconcile actual SIR expense to the Forecast Rate Allowance. Any under or over expenditures will be deferred for future refund to or recovery from customers. In the event that the Company incurs unanticipated expenses relating to SIR costs incremental to the forecast rate allowance, the Company may file a petition requesting that the Commission approve recovery of incremental costs through the Company’s SIR Recovery Surcharge.

On April 30, 2019, the Company and The Brooklyn Union Gas Company filed to increase revenues by \$49.4 million (6%) and \$236.8 million (19.3%), respectively, for the twelve months ending March 31, 2021 (“Rate Year”). The filings propose to invest over \$1.5 billion in the Rate Year to modernize the New York Gas Companies’ gas infrastructure by replacing aging pipelines, implementing safety improvements, enhancing storm hardening and resiliency, and reducing methane emissions. The filings also include proposals to enhance gas safety and promote a sustainable and affordable path toward a low-carbon energy future. The New York Gas Companies included three additional years of data to facilitate the possibility of a multi-year rate settlement.

Tax Act

In response to the Tax Act, the NYPSC issued an Order Instituting Proceeding under Case 17-M-0815 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission on Changes in Law that May Affect Rates. This proceeding was instituted to solicit comments on the Tax Act’s implications and places the utilities on notice of the NYPSC’s intent to protect ratepayers’ interest and to ensure that any cost reductions from the changes in federal income taxes are deferred for future ratepayer benefit. On August 9, 2018, the NYPSC issued an order in its generic proceeding considering the impacts of federal tax reform. NYPSC Staff had advocated that all New York utilities implement a sur-credit by October 1st that would reflect the immediate effects of the Tax Act and also return any deferred benefits to customers. In response, the Company filed a proposal to (i) delay any sur-credit to January 1 to offset scheduled rate increases and (ii) retain any deferred benefits, including accumulated deferred federal income taxes (“ADFIT”), for future rate moderation.

The NYPSC’s order effectively approved all aspects of the Company’s proposal. The NYPSC agreed that the Company should be allowed to defer both the pass back of calendar year 2018 tax savings and the amortization of excess ADFIT balances, and use the benefits as a rate moderator when base rates are next revised in 2020/2021. Specifically the NYPSC approved the Company’s proposal to implement a sur-credit to reflect the lower tax rate effective January 1, 2019 to offset planned rate increases and retain the calendar year 2018 deferred amounts for future rate mitigation and/or to offset investments. Deferring the tax benefits until January 1, 2019 results in a deferred balance of \$31 million.

Operations Staffing Audit

In January 2014, the NYPSC initiated an operational audit to review internal staffing levels and use of contractors for the core utility functions of the investor owned utilities operating in New York, including the Company. On June 26, 2014, the NYPSC selected a third party to conduct the audit. On February 21, 2017, the third party submitted its final report, which contained recommendations for all of National Grid's New York utilities designed to improve the staffing and workforce management processes. The report contained 27 recommendations for National Grid. The Company filed its implementation plan on March 23, 2017. On December 15, 2017, the NYPSC issued an Order approving the Company's implementation plan without modification, with updates to be made every four months to the NYPSC on the status of implementation. The Company submitted its most recent update on April 15, 2019.

New York Management Audit

In 2018, the NYPSC initiated a comprehensive management and operations audit of National Grid's three New York electric and gas utilities. New York law requires periodic management audits of all utilities at least once every five years. National Grid last underwent a New York management audit in 2014/2015, when the NYPSC audited our New York gas business. The audit will be process oriented and forward looking, and presents opportunities to obtain feedback on how to improve service to customers and meet regulatory expectations. Areas of focus will include the traditional audit areas of corporate governance, budgeting and finance, customer, work management, and long-term planning, as well as organization design, information systems, gas safety, and grid modernization. The final audit report is due in September 2019.

Update of Rates and Statement of Operating Conditions for Interstate Transportation Service

The Company is a so-called "Hinshaw Pipeline" in that it uses its distribution system to provide limited interstate transportation service. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") rules and regulations require Hinshaw Pipelines to obtain a blanket certificate to sell or transport gas in interstate commerce at specific rates and to subsequently make new rate election filings in certain circumstances. The FERC regulations require the Company to make a new rate election if the state approved rate used for the Company's current rate election is changed to reflect the reduced income tax rates adopted in the Tax Act. On January 1, 2019, the New York Public Service Commission put in place rate adjustments for the Company to reflect its reduced tax costs because of the Tax Act. Accordingly, the Company was required to make a new rate election at FERC. On March 4, 2019, the Company filed with FERC tariff records to reflect revised rates in compliance with the above-referenced rules and regulations. On April 25, 2019, FERC approved the tariff filing made by the Company to update its rates and Statement of Operating conditions for the use of its distribution system to provide interstate transportation service.

6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The following table summarizes property, plant and equipment at cost along with accumulated depreciation and amortization:

	March 31,	
	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Plant and machinery	\$ 4,217,199	\$ 3,901,511
Land and buildings	73,985	72,394
Assets in construction	164,119	127,923
Software and other intangibles	51,995	51,995
Total property, plant and equipment	4,507,298	4,153,823
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(885,093)	(845,379)
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 3,622,205	\$ 3,308,444

7. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The Company utilizes derivative instruments to manage commodity price risk associated with its natural gas purchases. The Company's commodity risk management strategy is to reduce fluctuations in firm gas sales prices to its customers.

The Company's financial exposures are monitored and managed as an integral part of the Company's overall financial risk management policy. The Company engages in risk management activities only in commodities and financial markets where it has an exposure, and only in terms and volumes consistent with its core business.

The volume of outstanding gas derivative instruments at March 31, 2019 and March 31, 2018 was 26.3 million dekatherms and 29.1 million dekatherms, respectively.

Derivative Financial Instruments

The following tables reflect the gross and net amounts of the Company's derivative assets and liabilities at March 31, 2019 and 2018:

March 31, 2019					
<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>					
	Gross amounts of recognized assets (liabilities)	Gross amounts offset in the Balance Sheets	Net amounts of assets (liabilities) presented in the Balance Sheets <i>C=A+B</i>	Gross amounts not offset in Balance Sheets <i>D</i>	Net amount <i>E=C-D</i>
	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C=A+B</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E=C-D</i>
ASSETS:					
Current Assets					
Gas contracts	\$ 843	\$ -	\$ 843	\$ -	\$ 843
Other non-current assets					
Gas contracts	12	-	12	-	12
Total	<u>855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>855</u>
LIABILITIES:					
Current Liabilities					
Gas contracts	(5,365)	-	(5,365)	-	(5,365)
Total	<u>(5,365)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,365)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,365)</u>
Net liabilities	<u>\$ (4,510)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (4,510)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (4,510)</u>

March 31, 2018
(in thousands of dollars)

	Gross amounts of recognized assets (liabilities) <i>A</i>	Gross amounts offset in the Balance Sheets <i>B</i>	Net amounts of assets (liabilities) presented in the Balance Sheets <i>C=A+B</i>	Gross amounts not offset in Balance Sheets <i>D</i>	Net amount <i>E=C-D</i>
ASSETS:					
Current Assets					
Gas contracts	\$ 190	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ -	\$ 190
Other non-current assets					
Gas contracts	17	-	17	-	17
Total	<u>207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207</u>
LIABILITIES:					
Current Liabilities					
Gas contracts	(2,711)	-	(2,711)	-	(2,711)
Total	<u>(2,711)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,711)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,711)</u>
Net liabilities	<u>\$ (2,504)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (2,504)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (2,504)</u>

The Company enters into enabling agreements that allow for payment netting with its counterparties, which reduces its exposure to counterparty risk by providing for the offset of amounts payable to the counterparty against amounts receivable from the counterparty.

The changes in fair value of the Company's rate recoverable contracts are offset by changes in regulatory assets and liabilities. As a result, the changes in fair value of those contracts had no impact in the accompanying statements of income. All of the Company's derivative instruments are subject to rate recovery as of March 31, 2019 and 2018.

Credit and Collateral

The Company is exposed to credit risk related to transactions entered into for commodity price risk management. Credit risk represents the risk of loss due to counterparty non-performance. Credit risk is managed by assessing each counterparty's credit profile and negotiating appropriate levels of collateral and credit support.

The credit policy for commodity transactions is managed and monitored by the Finance Committee to National Grid plc's Board of Directors ("Finance Committee"), which is responsible for approving risk management policies and objectives for risk assessment, control and valuation, and the monitoring and reporting of risk exposures. NGUSA's Energy Procurement Risk Management Committee ("EPRMC") is responsible for approving transaction strategies, annual supply plans, and counterparty credit approval, as well as all valuation and control procedures. The EPRMC is chaired by the Vice President of U.S. Treasury and reports to both the NGUSA Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

The EPRMC monitors counterparty credit exposure and appropriate measures are taken to bring such exposures below the limits, including, without limitation, netting agreements, and limitations on the type and tenor of trades. In instances where a counterparty's credit quality has declined, or credit exposure exceeds certain levels, the Company may limit its credit exposure by restricting new transactions with the counterparty, requiring additional collateral or credit support, and negotiating the early termination of certain agreements. Similarly, the Company may be required to post collateral to its counterparties.

The Company's credit exposure for all commodity derivative instruments, applicable payables and receivables, and instruments that are subject to master netting agreements, was a liability of \$4.5 million and \$2.5 million as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The aggregate fair value of the Company's commodity derivative instruments with credit-risk-related contingent features that were in a liability position at March 31, 2019 and 2018 was \$0.1 million and \$0.6 million, respectively. The Company had no collateral posted for these instruments at March 31, 2019 and 2018. At March 31, 2019, if the Company's credit rating were to be downgraded by one, two, or three levels, it would be required to post additional collateral to its counterparties of zero, zero, or \$0.3 million, respectively. At March 31, 2018, if the Company's credit rating had been downgraded by one, two, or three levels, it would have been required to post additional collateral to its counterparties of zero, zero, or \$0.6 million, respectively.

8. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following tables present assets and liabilities measured and recorded at fair value on the balance sheet on a recurring basis and their level within the fair value hierarchy as of March 31, 2019 and 2018:

	March 31, 2019			Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>			
Assets:				
Derivative instruments				
Gas contracts	\$ -	\$ 19	\$ 836	\$ 855
Total	-	19	836	855
Liabilities:				
Derivative instruments				
Gas contracts	-	5,186	179	5,365
Total	-	5,186	179	5,365
Net (liabilities) assets	\$ -	\$ (5,167)	\$ 657	\$ (4,510)

	March 31, 2018			Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>			
Assets:				
Derivative instruments				
Gas contracts	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 101	\$ 207
Total	-	106	101	207
Liabilities:				
Derivative instruments				
Gas contracts	-	2,428	283	2,711
Total	-	2,428	283	2,711
Net liabilities	\$ -	\$ (2,322)	\$ (182)	\$ (2,504)

Derivative instruments: The Company's Level 2 fair value derivative instruments primarily consist of over-the-counter ("OTC") gas swap contracts and gas purchase contracts with pricing inputs obtained from the New York Mercantile Exchange and the Intercontinental Exchange ("ICE"), except in cases where the ICE publishes seasonal averages or where there were

no transactions within the last seven days. The Company may utilize discounting based on quoted interest rate curves, including consideration of non-performance risk, and may include a liquidity reserve calculated based on bid/ask spread for the Company's Level 2 derivative instruments. Substantially all of these price curves are observable in the marketplace throughout at least 95% of the remaining contractual quantity, or they could be constructed from market observable curves with correlation coefficients of 95% or higher.

The Company's Level 3 fair value derivative instruments primarily consist of OTC gas option contracts and gas purchase contracts, which are valued based on internally-developed models. Industry-standard valuation techniques, such as the Black-Scholes pricing model, Monte Carlo simulation, and Financial Engineering Associates libraries are used for valuing such instruments. For valuations that include both observable and unobservable inputs, if the unobservable input is determined to be significant to the overall inputs, the entire valuation is categorized in Level 3. This includes derivative instruments valued using indicative price quotations whose contract tenure extends into unobservable periods. In instances where observable data is unavailable, consideration is given to the assumptions that market participants would use in valuing the asset or liability. This includes assumptions about market risks such as liquidity, volatility, and contract duration. Such instruments are categorized in Level 3 as the model inputs generally are not observable. The Company considers non-performance risk and liquidity risk in the valuation of derivative instruments categorized in Level 2 and Level 3.

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the Company's gas derivative instruments are implied volatility and gas forward curves. A relative change in commodity price at various locations underlying the open positions can result in significantly different fair value estimates.

9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Company participates with other NGUSA subsidiaries in qualified and non-qualified non-contributory defined benefit plans (the "Pension Plans") and PBOP plans (together with the Pension Plan (the "Plans")), covering substantially all employees.

Plan assets are maintained for all of NGUSA and its subsidiaries in commingled trusts. In respect of cost determination, plan assets are allocated to the Company based on its proportionate share of projected benefit obligation. The Plans' costs are first directly charged to the Company based on the Company's employees that participate in the Plans. Costs associated with affiliated service companies' employees are then allocated as part of the labor burden for work performed on the Company's behalf. The Company applies deferral accounting for pension and PBOP expenses associated with its regulated gas operations. Any differences between actual pension costs and amounts used to establish rates are deferred and collected from, or refunded to, customers in subsequent periods. Pension and PBOP service costs are included within operations and maintenance expense and non-service costs are included within other (deductions) income, net in the accompanying statements of income. Portions of the net periodic benefit costs disclosed below have been capitalized as a component of property, plant and equipment.

Pension Plans

The Qualified Pension Plans are defined benefit plans which provides union employees, as well as non-union employees hired before January 1, 2011, with a retirement benefit. Supplemental non-qualified, non-contributory executive retirement programs provide additional defined pension benefits for certain executives. During the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, the Company made contributions of approximately \$33.6 million, \$13.5 million, and \$13.2 million, respectively, to the Qualified Pension Plans. The Company expects to contribute approximately \$27.2 million to the Qualified Pension Plans during the year ending March 31, 2020.

Benefit payments to Pension Plan participants for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were approximately \$14.6 million, \$19.3 million, and \$12.9 million, respectively.

PBOP Plans

The PBOP plan provides health care and life insurance coverage to eligible retired employees. Eligibility is based on age and length of service requirements and, in most cases, retirees must contribute to the cost of their coverage. During the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, the Company made contributions of approximately zero, \$10.4 million, and \$141.4 million, respectively, to the PBOP Plans. The Company does not expect to contribute to the PBOP Plans during the year ending March 31, 2020.

Benefit payments to PBOP plan participants for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$7.9 million, \$6.0 million, and \$14.5 million, respectively.

Defined Contribution Plan

NGUSA has a defined contribution pension plan that covers substantially all employees. For the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, the Company recognized an expense in the accompanying statements of income of \$2.4 million \$2.2 million, \$1.3 million, respectively, for matching contributions.

Net Periodic Benefit Costs

The Company's net periodic benefit pension cost for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$13.7 million, \$15.8 million, and \$17.8 million, respectively.

The Company's net periodic benefit PBOP (benefit) cost for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$(1.1) million, \$0.6 million, and \$8.2 million, respectively.

Amounts Recognized in Regulatory Assets/Liabilities

The following tables summarize the Company's changes in actuarial gains/losses and prior service costs recognized in regulatory assets/liabilities for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017:

	Pension Plans		
	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Net actuarial loss (gain)	\$ 6,980	\$ (126)	\$ (7,122)
Amortization of net actuarial loss	(10,982)	(12,289)	(12,915)
Amortization of prior service cost, net	(32)	(32)	(32)
Total	<u>\$ (4,034)</u>	<u>\$ (12,447)</u>	<u>\$ (20,069)</u>
Included in regulatory assets	<u>\$ (4,034)</u>	<u>\$ (12,447)</u>	<u>\$ (20,069)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (4,034)</u>	<u>\$ (12,447)</u>	<u>\$ (20,069)</u>

	PBOP Plans		
	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Net actuarial gain	\$ (1,337)	\$ (8,428)	\$ (44,578)
Amortization of net actuarial gain (loss)	1,641	566	(3,538)
Amortization of prior service benefit, net	515	496	515
Total	<u>\$ 819</u>	<u>\$ (7,366)</u>	<u>\$ (47,601)</u>
Included in regulatory liabilities	<u>\$ 819</u>	<u>\$ (7,366)</u>	<u>\$ (47,601)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 819</u>	<u>\$ (7,366)</u>	<u>\$ (47,601)</u>

Amounts Recognized in Regulatory Assets/Liabilities – not yet recognized as components of net actuarial loss

The following tables summarize the Company's amounts in regulatory assets/liabilities on the balance sheet that have not yet been recognized as components of net actuarial loss at March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017:

	Pension Plans		
	At March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Net actuarial loss	\$ 35,228	\$ 39,230	\$ 51,645
Prior service cost	337	369	401
Total	<u>\$ 35,565</u>	<u>\$ 39,599</u>	<u>\$ 52,046</u>
Included in regulatory assets	<u>\$ 35,565</u>	<u>\$ 39,599</u>	<u>\$ 52,046</u>
Total	<u>\$ 35,565</u>	<u>\$ 39,599</u>	<u>\$ 52,046</u>
	PBOP Plans		
	At March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Net actuarial gain	\$ (22,615)	\$ (22,920)	\$ (15,058)
Prior service benefit	(443)	(957)	(1,453)
Total	<u>\$ (23,058)</u>	<u>\$ (23,877)</u>	<u>\$ (16,511)</u>
Included in regulatory liabilities	<u>\$ (23,058)</u>	<u>\$ (23,877)</u>	<u>\$ (16,511)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (23,058)</u>	<u>\$ (23,877)</u>	<u>\$ (16,511)</u>

The amount of net actuarial loss to be amortized from regulatory assets during the year ending March 31, 2020 for the Pension Plans is \$7.1 million; the net actuarial loss and prior service benefit to be amortized from regulatory liabilities during the year ending March 31, 2020 for the PBOP Plans is \$1.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

Amounts Recognized on the Balance Sheet

The following table summarizes the portion of the funded status above that is recognized on the Company's balance sheet at March 31, 2019 and 2018:

	Pension Plans		PBOP Plans	
	Years Ended March 31,		Years Ended March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>			
Projected benefit obligation	\$ (378,245)	\$ (376,487)	\$ (266,116)	\$ (259,197)
Allocated fair value of plan assets	336,486	310,838	312,982	305,153
Funded status	<u>\$ (41,759)</u>	<u>\$ (65,649)</u>	<u>\$ 46,866</u>	<u>\$ 45,956</u>
Other non-current assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,866	\$ 45,956
Other non-current liabilities	(41,759)	(65,649)	-	-
Total	<u>\$ (41,759)</u>	<u>\$ (65,649)</u>	<u>\$ 46,866</u>	<u>\$ 45,956</u>

Expected Benefit Payments

Based on current assumptions, the following benefit payments are expected subsequent to March 31, 2019 in respect of the Company:

<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	Pension	PBOP
Years Ended March 31,	Plans	Plans
2020	\$ 15,453	\$ 7,376
2021	15,965	7,758
2022	16,560	8,117
2023	17,035	8,518
2024	17,535	8,858
2025-2029	93,090	47,578
Total	<u>\$ 175,638</u>	<u>\$ 88,205</u>

Assumptions Used for Employee Benefits Accounting

	Pension Plans		
	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Benefit Obligations:			
Discount Rate	4.10%	4.10%	4.30%
Rate of compensation increase	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
Expected return on plan assets	6.50%	6.25%	6.50%
Net Periodic Benefit Costs:			
Discount Rate	4.10%	4.30%	4.25%
Rate of compensation increase	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
Expected return on plan assets	6.25%	6.50%	6.50%

	PBOP Plans		
	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Benefit Obligations:			
Discount Rate	4.10%	4.10%	4.30%
Rate of compensation increase	n/a	n/a	n/a
Expected return on plan assets	6.50%-7.25%	6.25%-6.75%	6.50%-6.75%
Net Periodic Benefit Costs:			
Discount Rate	4.10%	4.30%	4.25%
Rate of compensation increase	n/a	n/a	n/a
Expected return on plan assets	6.25%-6.75%	6.50%-6.75%	6.25%-6.75%

The Company selects its discount rate assumption based upon rates of return on highly rated corporate bond yields in the marketplace as of each measurement date. Specifically, the Company uses the Hewitt AA Above Median Curve along with the expected future cash flows from the Company retirement plans to determine the weighted average discount rate assumption.

The expected rate of return for various passive asset classes is based both on analysis of historical rates of return and forward looking analysis of risk premiums and yields. Current market conditions, such as inflation and interest rates, are evaluated in connection with the setting of the long-term assumptions. A small premium is added for active management of both equity and fixed income securities. The rates of return for each asset class are then weighted in accordance with the actual asset allocation, resulting in a long-term return on asset rate for each plan.

Assumed Health Cost Trend Rate

	March 31,	
	2019	2018
Health care cost trend rate assumed for next year		
Pre 65	7.25%	7.50%
Post 65	5.75%	5.75%
Prescription	9.75%	10.25%
Rate to which the cost trend is assumed to decline (ultimate)	4.50%	4.50%
Year that rate reaches ultimate trend		
Pre 65	2028	2028
Post 65	2026	2026
Prescription	2027	2027

Plan Assets

NGUSA, as the Plans' sponsor, manages the benefit plan investments to minimize the long-term cost of operating the Plans, with a reasonable level of risk. Risk tolerance is determined as a result of a periodic study which analyzes the Plans' liabilities and funded status and results in the determination of the allocation of assets across equity and fixed income securities. Equity investments are broadly diversified across U.S. and non-U.S. stocks, as well as across growth, value, and small and large capitalization stocks. Likewise, the fixed income portfolio is broadly diversified across market segments. Small investments are also approved for private equity, real estate, and infrastructure with the objective of enhancing long-term returns while improving portfolio diversification. For the PBOP Plans, since the earnings on a portion of the assets are taxable, those investments are managed to maximize after tax returns consistent with the broad asset class parameters established by the allocation study. Investment risk and return are reviewed by NGUSA's Investment Committee on a quarterly basis.

The Pension Plan is a trustee non-contributory defined benefit plan covering all eligible represented employees of the Company and eligible non-represented employees of the participating National Grid companies. The PBOP Plans are both a contributory and non-contributory, trustee, employee life insurance and medical benefit plan sponsored by NGUSA. Life insurance and medical benefits are provided for eligible retirees, dependents, and surviving spouses of NGUSA.

The target asset allocations for the benefit plans as of March 31, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	Pension Plans		Union PBOP Plans		Non-Union PBOP Plans	
	March 31,		March 31,		March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
U.S. equities	20%	20%	34%	34%	45%	45%
Global equities (including U.S.)	7%	7%	12%	12%	0%	0%
Global tactical asset allocation	10%	10%	17%	17%	0%	0%
Non-U.S. equities	10%	10%	17%	17%	25%	25%
Fixed income securities	40%	40%	20%	20%	30%	30%
Private equity	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Real estate	5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Infrastructure	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Fair Value Measurements

The following tables provide the fair value measurement amounts for the pension and PBOP assets at the Plan level:

	March 31, 2019				Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Not categorized	
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>				
Pension Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 4,505	\$ -	\$ 71,620	\$ 76,125
Accounts receivable	142,262	-	-	-	142,262
Accounts payable	(251,231)	-	-	-	(251,231)
Equity	376,893	-	-	1,298,495	1,675,388
Fixed income securities	-	1,230,062	-	671,615	1,901,677
Preferred securities	-	11,302	-	-	11,302
Private equity	-	-	-	299,528	299,528
Real estate	-	-	-	219,668	219,668
Other	124,129	367	-	324,661	449,157
Total	<u>\$ 392,053</u>	<u>\$ 1,246,236</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,885,587</u>	<u>\$ 4,523,876</u>
PBOP Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 18,938	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,938
Accounts receivable	3,922	-	-	-	3,922
Accounts payable	(1)	-	-	-	(1)
Equity	170,220	-	-	532,528	702,748
Fixed income securities	3,246	227,196	-	-	230,442
Private equity	-	-	-	700	700
Other	89,751	-	-	236,443	326,194
Total	<u>\$ 286,076</u>	<u>\$ 227,196</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 769,671</u>	<u>\$ 1,282,943</u>

	March 31, 2018				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Not categorized	Total
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>				
Pension Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,331	\$ 20,844	\$ -	\$ 72,420	\$ 94,595
Accounts receivable	196,817	-	-	-	196,817
Accounts payable	(298,572)	-	-	-	(298,572)
Equity	582,386	-	-	1,238,311	1,820,697
Fixed income securities	149	1,093,506	-	637,665	1,731,320
Preferred securities	-	11,725	-	-	11,725
Private equity	-	-	-	260,209	260,209
Real estate	-	-	-	208,488	208,488
Other	2,370	-	-	303,504	305,874
Total	<u>\$ 484,481</u>	<u>\$ 1,126,075</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,720,597</u>	<u>\$ 4,331,153</u>
PBOP Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,390	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ 22	\$ 15,418
Accounts receivable	1,733	-	-	-	1,733
Accounts payable	(136)	-	-	-	(136)
Equity	241,131	-	-	536,938	778,069
Fixed income securities	6,428	236,732	-	192	243,352
Preferred securities	-	4	-	-	4
Private equity	-	-	-	4,310	4,310
Real Estate	-	-	-	63	63
Other	35,738	-	-	229,677	265,415
Total	<u>\$ 300,284</u>	<u>\$ 236,742</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 771,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,308,228</u>

The methods used to fair value pension and PBOP assets are described below:

Cash and cash equivalents: Cash and cash equivalents that can be priced daily are classified as Level 1. Active reserve funds, reserve deposits, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, and commingled cash equivalents are classified as Level 2. Cash and cash equivalents invested in commingled money market investment funds which have Net Asset Value (“NAV”) pricing per fund share are excluded from the fair value hierarchy.

Accounts receivable and accounts payable: Accounts receivable and accounts payable are classified as Level 1. Such amounts are short-term and settle within a few days of the measurement date.

Equity and preferred securities: Common stocks, preferred stocks, and real estate investment trusts are valued using the official close of the primary market on which the individual securities are traded. Equity securities are primarily comprised of securities issued by public companies in domestic and foreign markets plus investments in commingled funds, which are valued on a daily basis. If the Company can exchange shares of the publicly traded securities and the fair values are primarily sourced from the closing prices on stock exchanges where there is active trading, the securities are classified as Level 1 investments. If there is less active trading, then the publicly traded securities would typically be priced using observable data, such as bid and ask prices, and these measurements are classified as Level 2 investments. Mutual funds with publicly quoted prices and active trading are classified as Level 1 investments. For investments in commingled funds that are not publicly traded and have ongoing subscription and redemption activity, the fair value of the investment is the NAV as a practical expedient per fund share, derived from the underlying securities’ quoted prices in active markets. These investments are excluded from the fair value hierarchy.

Fixed income securities: Fixed income securities (which include corporate debt securities, municipal fixed income securities, U.S. Government and Government agency securities including government mortgage backed securities, index linked government bonds, and state and local bonds) convertible securities, and investments in securities lending collateral (which include repurchase agreements, asset backed securities, floating rate notes and time deposits) are valued with an institutional

bid valuation. A bid valuation is an estimated price a dealer would pay for a security (typically in an institutional round lot). Oftentimes, these evaluations are based on proprietary models which pricing vendors establish for these purposes. In some cases there may be manual sources when primary vendors do not supply prices. Fixed income investments are primarily comprised of fixed income securities and fixed income commingled funds. The prices for direct investments in fixed income securities are generated on a daily basis. Prices generated from less active trading with wider bid ask prices are classified as Level 2 investments. Mutual funds with publicly quoted prices and active trading are classified as Level 1 investments. For commingled funds that are not publicly traded and have ongoing subscription and redemption activity, the fair value of the investment is the NAV a practical expedient per fund share. These investments are excluded from the fair value hierarchy.

Private equity and real estate: Commingled equity funds, commingled special equity funds, limited partnerships, real estate, venture capital, and other investments are valued using evaluations (NAV, as a practical expedient, per fund share) based on proprietary models, or based on the NAV. Investments in private equity and real estate funds are primarily invested in privately held real estate investment properties, trusts, and partnerships as well as equity and debt issued by public or private companies. The Company’s interest in a fund or partnership is estimated based on the NAV. The Company’s interest in these funds cannot be readily redeemed due to the inherent lack of liquidity and the primarily long-term nature of the underlying assets. Distribution is made through the liquidation of the underlying assets. The Company views these investments as part of a long-term investment strategy. These investments are valued by each investment manager based on the underlying assets. The funds utilize valuation techniques consistent with the market, income, and cost approaches to measure the fair value of certain real estate investments. The majority of the underlying assets are valued using significant unobservable inputs and often require significant management judgment or estimation based on the best available information. Market data includes observations of the trading multiples of public companies considered comparable to the private companies being valued. Investments in limited partnerships with redemption restrictions and that use NAV are excluded from the fair value hierarchy.

While management believes its valuation methodologies are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the NAV as a practical expedient could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

10. CAPITALIZATION

The aggregate maturities of long-term debt for the years subsequent to March 31, 2019 are as follows:

<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
<u>Years Ending March 31,</u>	
2020	\$ -
2021	-
2022	-
2023	-
2024	-
Thereafter	<u>1,200,000</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 1,200,000</u></u>

The Company’s debt agreements and banking facilities contain covenants, including those relating to the periodic and timely provision of financial information by the issuing entity. Failure to comply with these covenants, or to obtain waivers of those requirements, could in some cases trigger a right, at the lender’s discretion, to require repayment of some of the Company’s debt and may restrict the Company’s ability to draw upon its facilities or access the capital markets. During the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company was in compliance with all such covenants.

Debt Authorizations

On February 8, 2019 the NYPSC authorized the Company to issue up to \$400 million of long-term debt in one or more transactions through March 31, 2022. The Company did not issue any debts under the authorization during the year ended March 31, 2019.

Dividend Restrictions

Pursuant to the NYPSC's orders, the ability of the Company to pay dividends to NGUSA is conditioned upon maintenance of a utility capital structure with debt not exceeding 58% of total utility capitalization. At March 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company was in compliance with the utility capital structure required by the NYPSC. In accordance with the NYPSC order approving the acquisition of KeySpan, the Company is permitted to declare dividends in an amount not to exceed retained earnings accumulated since the date of acquisition plus unappropriated retained earnings, unappropriated undistributed earnings and accumulated other comprehensive income existing immediately prior to the date of acquisition.

Preferred Stock

In connection with the acquisition of KeySpan by NGUSA, the Company became subject to a requirement to issue a class of preferred stock, having one share (the "Golden Share"), subordinate to any existing preferred stock. The holder of the Golden Share would have voting rights that limit the Company's right to commence any voluntary bankruptcy, liquidation, receivership, or similar proceeding without the consent of the holder of the Golden Share. The NYPSC subsequently authorized the issuance of the Golden Share to a trustee, GSS Holdings, Inc. ("GSS"), who will hold the Golden Share subject to a Services and Indemnity Agreement requiring GSS to vote the Golden Share in the best interests of New York State ("NYS"). On July 8, 2011, the Company issued the Golden Share with a par value of \$1.

11. INCOME TAXES

Components of Income Tax Expense

	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Current tax expense (benefit):			
Federal	\$ 68,566	\$ 3,627	\$ (245)
State	14,370	2,393	(6,681)
Total current tax expense (benefit)	<u>82,936</u>	<u>6,020</u>	<u>(6,926)</u>
Deferred tax expense (benefit):			
Federal	(37,601)	37,350	40,489
State	(1,647)	8,965	8,798
Total deferred tax expense (benefit)	<u>(39,248)</u>	<u>46,315</u>	<u>49,287</u>
Total income tax expense	<u>\$ 43,688</u>	<u>\$ 52,335</u>	<u>\$ 42,361</u>

Statutory Rate Reconciliation

The Company's effective tax rates for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 are 26.9%, 36.5%, and 35.6%, respectively. The following table presents a reconciliation of income tax expense at the federal statutory tax rate of 21.0%, 31.55%, and 35.0% respectively, to the actual tax expense:

	Years Ended March 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>		
Computed tax	\$ 34,082	\$ 45,202	\$ 41,702
Change in computed taxes resulting from:			
Audit and related reserve movements	-	-	(5,325)
State income tax, net of federal benefit	10,051	7,775	6,701
Other items, net	(445)	(642)	(717)
Total changes	<u>9,606</u>	<u>7,133</u>	<u>659</u>
Total income tax expense	<u>\$ 43,688</u>	<u>\$ 52,335</u>	<u>\$ 42,361</u>

The Company is included in the NGNA and subsidiaries consolidated federal income tax return and New York unitary state income tax return. The Company has joint and several liability for any potential assessments against the consolidated group.

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Act was signed into law. The Tax Act includes significant changes to various federal tax provisions applicable to the Company, including provisions specific to regulated public utilities. The most significant changes include the reduction in the corporate federal income tax rate from 35.0% to 21.0% effective January 1, 2018, the elimination of bonus depreciation for certain property acquired or placed in service after September 27, 2017 and extension of the normalization requirements for ratemaking treatment of excess deferred taxes.

On August 3, 2018, the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") and the U.S. Department of Treasury released proposed regulations associated with the bonus depreciation rules enacted as part of the Tax Act. The proposed regulations would enable utilities to claim additional bonus depreciation on property acquired and placed in service between September 28, 2017 and March 31, 2018. The Company adopted the guidance in the proposed regulations and claimed the additional six months of bonus depreciation on its fiscal year 2018 Federal income tax return.

In accordance with ASC 740, "Income Taxes," the effect of changes in tax law are required to be recognized in the period of enactment, which for the Company was the period ended March 31, 2018. Since the Company's fiscal year end is March 31, the statutory rate applicable for the Company's fiscal year ended March 31, 2018, was a blended tax rate of 31.55%. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019 and future period, the federal income tax rate is 21.0%. In addition, ASC 740 requires deferred income tax assets and liabilities to be measured at the enacted tax rate expected to apply when temporary differences are to be realized or settled. As a result, the Company remeasured its federal deferred income tax assets and liabilities using the newly enacted tax rate of 21.0%.

On December 22, 2017, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Staff Accounting Bulletin ("SAB") 118, which provides guidance on accounting for the effects of the Tax Act. SAB 118 provides a measurement period that should not extend beyond one year from the Tax Act enactment date to complete the accounting under ASC 740, "Income Taxes". To the extent that a company's accounting for certain income tax effects of the Tax Act is incomplete, a company can determine a reasonable estimate for those effects and record a provisional estimate in the financial statements. As of March 31, 2019, any and all provisional amounts previously recorded in accordance with SAB 118 have been adjusted to reflect their final amounts.

As of March 31, 2018, the remeasurement amounted to a decrease in net deferred income tax liability of \$275.8 million of which \$0.4 million was recorded to deferred income tax expense and \$276.2 million recorded as a regulatory liability for the refund of excess accumulated deferred income taxes to the ratepayers ("excess ADIT"). During the current period, the Company adjusted the remeasurement of the net deferred income tax liability by \$17.8 million, which was recorded as a decrease to a regulatory liability for excess ADIT. As of March 31, 2019, the regulatory liability for excess ADIT on a pre-tax basis prior to amortization amounted to \$356.9 million (\$258.4 million post-tax.)

Deferred Tax Components

	March 31,	
	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Deferred tax assets:		
Environmental remediation costs	\$ 58,300	\$ 20,024
Future federal benefit on state taxes	20,145	18,447
Net operating losses	50,182	53,737
Regulatory liabilities - post retirement benefits	21,001	5,827
Regulatory liabilities - taxes	103,828	111,470
Regulatory liabilities - other	124,740	89,658
Other items	25,652	39,583
Total deferred tax assets	403,848	338,746
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property related differences	712,521	654,046
Regulatory assets - environmental response costs	31,918	45,754
Regulatory assets - other	62,049	53,542
Other items	17,377	18,367
Total deferred tax liabilities	823,865	771,709
Deferred income tax liabilities, net	\$ 420,017	\$ 432,963

Net Operating Losses

The amounts and expiration dates of the Company's net operating losses carryforward as of March 31, 2019 are as follows:

	Carryforward Amount	Expiration Period
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	
Federal	\$ 252,029	2033-2038
NYS	415,482	2035-2037

As a result of the accounting for uncertain tax positions, the amount of deferred tax assets reflected in the financial statements is less than the amount of the tax effect of the federal and state net operating loss carryforward reflected on the income tax returns.

The Company recognizes interest related to unrecognized tax benefits in other interest, including affiliate interest and related penalties, if applicable, in other income (deductions), net, in the accompanying statements of income. As of March 31, 2019, and 2018, the Company has accrued for interest related to unrecognized tax benefits of \$24.1 million, and \$0.5 million, respectively. During the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, the Company recorded interest expense of \$23.6 million, zero and \$1.0 million, respectively. No tax penalties were recognized during the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018 or 2017.

It is reasonably possible that other events will occur during the next twelve months that would cause the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits to increase or decrease. However, the Company does not believe any such increases or decreases would be material to its results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

During the year ended March 31, 2019, the Company reached a settlement with the IRS for the tax years ended August 24, 2007, March 31, 2008 and March 31, 2009. The outcome of the settlement did not have a material impact to the Company's results of operations, financial position, or cash flows. The IRS continues its examination of the next cycle which includes the income tax returns for the years ended March 31, 2010 through March 31, 2012. The examination is expected to conclude in the next fiscal year and result in a settlement agreement with the IRS. The Company does not anticipate the settlement to have a material impact on the Company's financial position. As a result of both settlements with the IRS a payment of \$36.7 million is expected to be made within the next 12 months. The income tax returns for the years ended March 31, 2013 through March 31, 2019 remain subject to examination by the IRS.

The state of New York is in the process of examining the Company's New York State income tax returns for the years ended March 31, 2009 through March 31, 2012. The income tax returns for the subsequent years through March 31, 2019 remain subject to examination by the state of New York.

The following table indicates the earliest tax year subject to examination for each major jurisdiction:

Jurisdiction	Tax Year
Federal	March 31, 2010
New York	March 31, 2009

12. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The normal ongoing operations and historic activities of the Company are subject to various federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. Under federal and state Superfund laws, potential liability for the historic contamination of property may be imposed on responsible parties jointly and severally, without regard to fault, even if the activities were lawful when they occurred.

The Company has identified numerous MGP sites and related facilities, which were owned or operated by the Company or its predecessors. These former sites, some of which are no longer owned by the Company, have been identified to the NYPSC and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") for inclusion on appropriate site inventories. Administrative Orders on Consent ("ACO") or Voluntary Cleanup Agreements have been executed with the DEC to address the investigation and remediation activities associated with certain sites. Expenditures incurred for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$4.0 million, \$4.1 million, and \$10.5 million, respectively.

The Company estimated the remaining costs of environmental remediation activities were \$64.6 million and \$68.2 million at March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. These costs are expected to be incurred over approximately 32 years, and these undiscounted amounts have been recorded as estimated liabilities on the balance sheet. However, remediation costs for each site may be materially higher than estimated, depending on changing technologies and regulatory standards, selected end use for each site, and actual environmental conditions encountered. The Company has recovered amounts from certain insurers and potentially responsible parties, and, where appropriate, the Company may seek additional recovery from other insurers and from other potentially responsible parties, but it is uncertain whether, and to what extent, such efforts will be successful.

By rate orders, the NYPSC has provided for the recovery of SIR costs. Accordingly, as of March 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company has recorded net environmental regulatory assets of \$97.0 million and \$163.3 million, respectively.

The Company believes that its ongoing operations, and its approach to addressing conditions at historic sites, are in substantial compliance with all applicable environmental laws. Where the Company has regulatory recovery, it believes that the obligations imposed on it because of the environmental laws will not have a material impact on its results of operations or financial position.

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Purchase Commitments

The Company has entered into various contracts for gas delivery, storage, and supply services. Certain of these contracts require payment of annual demand charges, which are recoverable from customers. The Company is liable for these payments regardless of the level of service required from third parties.

The Company's commitments under these long-term contracts for the years subsequent to March 31, 2019 are summarized in the table below:

<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>	Gas
<u>Years Ending March 31,</u>	<u>Purchases</u>
2020	\$ 258,595
2021	252,839
2022	236,887
2023	209,374
2024	132,128
Thereafter	285,231
Total	<u>\$ 1,375,054</u>

Legal Matters

Several lawsuits have been filed that allege damages resulting from contamination associated with the historic operations of a former MGP located in Bay Shore of New York State. The Company continues to conduct its remediation effort in Bay Shore pursuant to an ACO with the New York State DEC. The Company intends to contest each of the lawsuits vigorously.

On July 16, 2018 the Company received a tax refund of \$50.4 million from the Town of Hempstead pursuant to a judgment for claims related to garbage tax levies for the tax years 1996 through 2012. Both parties have appealed certain aspects of the judgment. At the time the proceeds were received the Company established a regulatory liability for the benefit of customers, pending future disposition by the NYPSC.

In addition to the matters described above, the Company is subject to various legal proceedings arising out of the ordinary course of its business. The Company does not consider any of such proceedings to be material, individually or in the aggregate, to its business or likely to result in a material adverse effect on its results of operations, financial position, or cash flows.

Other Contingencies

At March 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company had accrued workers compensation, auto, and general insurance claims which have been incurred but not yet reported ("IBNR") of \$11.0 million, \$9.1 million, respectively. IBNR reserves have been established for claims and/or events that have transpired, but have not yet been reported to the Company for payment.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Accounts Receivable from and Accounts Payable to Affiliates

NGUSA and its affiliates provide various services to the Company, including executive and administrative, customer services, financial (including accounting, auditing, risk management, tax, and treasury/finance), human resources, information technology, legal, and strategic planning, that are charged between the companies and charged to each company.

The Company records short-term receivables from, and payables to, certain of its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. The amounts receivable from, and payable to, its affiliates do not bear interest and are settled through the intercompany money pool. A summary of outstanding accounts receivable from affiliates and accounts payable to affiliates is as follows:

	Accounts Receivable from Affiliates		Accounts Payable to Affiliates	
	March 31,		March 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands of dollars)</i>			
The Brooklyn Union Gas Company	\$ 1,399	\$ 9,356	\$ 1,985	\$ -
KeySpan Corporation	-	877	-	6,833
National Grid Electric Services, LLC	-	205	363	4,052
National Grid Engineering Services, LLC	75	1,774	142	85
NGUSA	540	703	41,826	1,625
NGUSA Service Company	13,399	3,298	18,527	21,733
Other	93	71	36	112
Total	<u>\$ 15,506</u>	<u>\$ 16,284</u>	<u>\$ 62,879</u>	<u>\$ 34,440</u>

Intercompany Money Pool

The settlement of the Company's various transactions with NGUSA and certain affiliates generally occurs via the intercompany money pool in which it participates. The Company is a participant in the Regulated Money Pool and can both borrow and invest funds. Borrowings from the Regulated Money Pool bear interest in accordance with the terms of the Regulated Money Pool Agreement. As the Company fully participates in the Regulated Money Pool rather than settling intercompany charges with cash, all changes in the intercompany money pool balance are reflected as investing or financing activities in the accompanying consolidated statements of cash flows. For the purpose of presentation in the statements of cash flows, it is assumed all amounts settled through the intercompany money pool are constructive cash receipts and payments, and therefore are presented as such.

The Regulated Money Pool is funded by operating funds from participants. NGUSA has the ability to borrow up to \$3 billion from National Grid plc for working capital needs including funding of the Regulated Money Pool, if necessary. The Company had short-term intercompany money pool borrowings of \$43.2 million and \$81.6 million at March 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The average interest rates for the intercompany money pool were 2.4%, 1.6%, and 1.1% for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

Service Company Charges

The affiliated service companies of NGUSA provide certain services to the Company at their cost. The service company costs are generally allocated to associated companies through a tiered approach. First and foremost, costs are directly charged to the benefited company whenever practicable. Secondly, in cases where direct charging cannot be readily determined, costs are allocated using cost/causation principles linked to the relationship of that type of service, such as number of employees, number of customers/meters, capital expenditures, value of property owned, and total transmission and distribution

expenditures. Lastly, all other costs are allocated based on a general allocator determined using a 3-point formula based on net margin, net property, plant and equipment, and operations and maintenance expense.

Charges from the service companies of NGUSA to the Company are mostly related to traditional administrative support functions, of which for the years ended March 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017 were \$315.4 million \$308.8 million, and \$331.8 million, respectively.