



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

September 7, 2016

E-FILED

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Re: City of DuBois-Bureau of Water Request for Approval to Increase Water Rates
Docket No. R-2016-2554150**

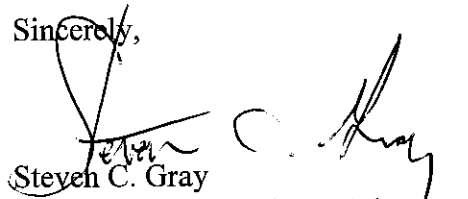
Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

I am delivering for filing today the Prehearing Memorandum, on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate, in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies have been served on all known parties in this proceeding, as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Steven C. Gray
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney ID No. 77538

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Mark A. Hoyer
Mr. Brian Kalcic
Parties of Record

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY	:	
COMMISSION	:	
	:	
v.	:	DOCKET NO. R-2016-2554150
	:	
CITY OF DUBOIS - BUREAU OF WATER	:	

**OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE
PREHEARING MEMORANDUM**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”) is authorized to represent the interests of small business consumers of utility services before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to the provisions of the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 - 399.50 (“the Act”). In order to discharge this statutory duty, the Small Business Advocate deems it necessary to participate as a party to this proceeding. Representing the OSBA in this matter is Assistant Small Business Advocate Steven C. Gray. Please address all correspondence as follows:

Steven C. Gray, Esquire
Office of Small Business Advocate
300 North Second Street, Suite 202
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101
(717) 783-2525
(717) 783-2831 (fax)
sgray@state.pa.us

II. FILING BACKGROUND

On June 30, 2016, the City of DuBois - Bureau of Water (“City of DuBois” or the “City”) filed Supplement No. 22 to Tariff Water-Pa. P.U.C. No. 4 (“Supplement No. 22”) with the Commission. Supplement No. 22, if approved by the Commission, would provide the City with a general rate increase of \$257,604 per year.

On July 13, 2016, the OSBA filed a Complaint against Supplement No. 22.

III. IDENTIFICATION OF WITNESSES AND TENTATIVE ISSUES

Assisting in the development and presentation of the OSBA’s case in this proceeding will be:

Mr. Brian Kalcic
Excel Consulting
Suite 720
225 South Meramec Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105
(314) 725-2511
excel.consulting@sbcglobal.net

After an initial review of the materials submitted by the City, the OSBA has identified the following issues:

1. Whether the City of DuBois’ proposed increases to Inside-City customers versus Outside-City customers are appropriate, just, and reasonable.
2. Whether the City of DuBois’ proposed revenue allocation for Outside-City customer classes is appropriate, just, and reasonable.
3. Whether the City of DuBois’ proposed rate design for Outside-City customers is just and reasonable.

The OSBA reserves the right to pursue additional issues as they arise throughout the

proceeding.

The OSBA will participate in this case to assure that the interests of Outside-City small business customers are adequately represented and protected.

IV. SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

The OSBA requests that all parties serve a hard copy of any document filed in this case upon the OSBA and the OSBA witness identified above. In addition to hard copies of pleadings, briefs, and exceptions, the OSBA requests hard copies of responses to discovery propounded by the OSBA or any other party. Service by electronic mail only is not acceptable.

V. SETTLEMENT

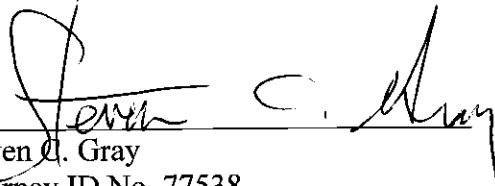
The OSBA notes its willingness to enter into settlement discussions at the appropriate phase of this proceeding and will actively participate in the scheduled mediation.

VI. HEARING AND BRIEFING SCHEDULE

At the time of this writing, the parties are discussing a proposed procedural schedule.

In light of the Governor's desire to limit the travel of State Offices under his jurisdiction, the OSBA respectfully requests that evidentiary hearings take place in Harrisburg.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven C. Gray", written over a horizontal line.

Steven C. Gray
Attorney ID No. 77538
Assistant Small Business Advocate

For:

John R. Evans
Small Business Advocate

Office of Small Business Advocate
300 North Second Street, Suite 202
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dated: September 7, 2016

