COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1923 (717) 783-5048 800-684-6560



March 2, 2020

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

Re: Petition for Expedited Approval of PGW's

Letter Request to Amend its Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan Pursuant to 2019 Amendments to Policy Statement at

Docket No. M-2019-3012599 Docket No. P-2020-3018867

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached for electronic filing please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies have been served per the attached Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy M. Appleby

Assistant Consumer Advocate PA Attorney I.D. # 85824

Churchy M. apoliby

E-Mail: CAppleby@paoca.org

Enclosures:

cc: Office of Administrative Law Judge (OALJ)

Certificate of Service

*284384

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Petition for Expedited Approval of PGW's:

Letter Request to Amend its Universal : Docket No. P-2020-3018867

Service and Energy Conservation Plan

Pursuant to 2019 Amendments to Policy : Statement at Docket No. M-2019-3012599 :

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the following document, the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated this 2nd day of March 2020.

SERVICE BY E-MAIL & INTER-OFFICE MAIL

Richard A. Kanaskie, Esquire Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120 John R. Evans, Esquire Office of Small Business Advocate 555 Walnut Street 1st Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC

Lauren M. Burge, Esquire

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800 West Montgomery Ave.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Philadelphia, PA 19122

600 Grant Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

44th Floor

SERVICE BY E-MAIL & FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID

Elizabeth R. Marx, Esquire Ria M. Pereira, Esquire Pennsylvania Utility Law Project 118 Locust Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Deanne M. O'Dell, Esquire Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC 213 Market Street, 8th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Christy M Appleby
Assistant Consumer Advocate
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Phillip D. Demanchick Assistant Consumer Advocate PA Attorney I.D. # 324761 E-Mail: PDemanchick@paoca.org Counsel for:

Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street

5th Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923 Phone: (717) 783-5048

Fax: (717) 783-7152 Dated: March 2, 2020

*284386

BEFORE THE PENNYSLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition for Expedited Approval of PGW's Letter

Request to Amend its Universal Service and

Energy Conservation Plan Pursuant to 2019

Amendments to Policy Statement at Docket No.

M-2019-3012599

Docket No. P-2020-3018867

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION OF THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.71-74, the Office of Consumer Advocate hereby gives Notice of Intervention in the above-captioned proceeding. A copy of all correspondence and notices, documents, orders or other communications with respect to the above-captioned proceeding should be addressed to the following:

Christy M. Appleby
Phillip D. Demanchick
Assistant Consumer Advocates
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street
5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
Phone: (717) 783-5048

Fax: (717) 783-7152

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Christy M. Appleby
Christy M. Appleby
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 85824
E-Mail: CAppleby@paoca.org

Phillip D. Demanchick Assistant Consumer Advocate PA Attorney I.D. # 324761 E-Mail: PDemanchick@paoca.org

DATED: March 2, 2020

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PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE PURSUANT TO 71 P.S. SECTION 309-4(e)

Act 161 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, 71 P.S. § 309-2, as enacted July 9, 1976, authorizes the Consumer Advocate to represent the interests of consumers before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC or Commission). In accordance with Act 161, and for the following reasons, the Acting Consumer Advocate determined to file a Notice of Intervention and Answer, and to participate in proceedings before the Commission involving the Petition for Expedited Approval of PGW's Letter Request to Amend its Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan Pursuant to 2019 Amendments to Policy Statement at Docket No. M-2019-3012599

On January 6, 2020, Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW or Company) voluntarily proposed a pilot program implementing new maximum energy burdens (pilot programs) for its Customer Assistance Program (CAP), the Customer Responsibility Program (CRP). PGW proposes to reduce the energy burdens to 6% for customers with income at or below 51-100% and 101-150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and to 4% for customers with income at or below 0-50% of the FPL. Petition at ¶ 5, 8, App. H. PGW also proposes to remove the obligation to pay \$5/month towards pre-program arrears and to modify the consumption limits. Petition at ¶ 5, 8, App. H. PGW's proposed Amended Plan indicates that the proposed plan costs will increase from \$68,620,083 in 2020 to \$97,104,143. PGW Amended USECP 2017-2022 at App. A.

The objective of the Acting Consumer Advocate in intervening in this case is to protect the interests of consumers in PGW's service territory. The OCA seeks to ensure that the universal service programs are reasonable and appropriately designed. The OCA will also seek to ensure that the costs that are sought to be recovered are consistent with the Commission regulations, statutes and applicable case law and result in rates that are just and reasonable.