



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

May 19, 2023

**E-FILED**

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

**Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Pittsburgh Water and Sewer  
Authority--Stormwater / Docket No. R-2023-3039919**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Complaint, Public Statement, and Verification, on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”), in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies will be 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,

*/s/ Sharon E. Webb*

Sharon E. Webb  
Assistant Small Business Advocate  
Attorney ID No. 73995

*Enclosures*

cc: Brian Kalcic  
Kevin Higgins  
Parties of Record

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

<b>Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission</b>	:	
	:	
v.	:	<b>Docket No. R-2023-3039919</b>
	:	
<b>Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority-- Stormwater</b>	:	
	:	

**COMPLAINT OF THE  
SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE**

1. The Complainant is:

NazAarah Sabree  
Small Business Advocate  
555 Walnut Street  
Forum Place, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(717) 783-2525

2. The name and address of the attorney for the Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”) is:

Sharon E. Webb  
Assistant Small Business Advocate  
Office of Small Business Advocate  
Forum Place  
555 Walnut Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(717) 783-2525

3. The respondent utility is:

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

4. The Complainant is authorized and directed by the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 - 399.50, to represent the interests of small business consumers of utility services in matters before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”).

5. This Complaint is filed against the rates, terms, and other provisions of the Initial Tariff Filings and Rate Requests which were filed with the Commission on May 11, 2023, by the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (“PWSA” or the “Authority”). The rates set forth in the filings, if approved by the Commission, would impose a multi-year increase of PWSA’s annual water, wastewater, and stormwater revenues in the amount of \$146.1 million.

6. After preliminary review of the materials filed by the Authority in support of the proposed Tariffs, Complainant believes, and therefore avers, that those materials may be insufficient to justify the rate increase requested and that the Authority’s present and proposed rates, rules, and conditions of service may be unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory, and otherwise contrary to law, particularly as they pertain to small business customers.

7. Complainant believes, and therefore avers, that PWSA’s proposed tariff changes and proposed rates, rate design, and revenue allocation are or may be unjust, unreasonable, and unlawfully discriminatory in violation of, *inter alia*, Sections 1301 and 1304 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. §§1301 and 1304, and contrary to appropriate public policy and sound ratemaking considerations, and may not be supported by the materials filed by PWSA.

8. In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:

- A. Suspend and investigate the operation of Initial Tariff Filings and Rate Requests;

- B. At the conclusion of such investigation, reject the proposed new rates and other tariff changes in Initial Tariff Filings and Rate Requests to the extent required to make certain that PWSA's rates are lawful, just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory to small business customers; and
- C. Grant such other relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Sharon E. Webb*

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Sharon E. Webb  
Assistant Small Business Advocate  
Attorney ID No. 73995

Office of Small Business Advocate  
Forum Place  
555 Walnut Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(717) 783-2525  
(717) 783-2831 (fax)

Dated: May 19, 2023



In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate will participate in proceedings before the Public Utility Commission to investigate the reasonableness of the proposed base rate tariff filings. The Small Business Advocate will ask the Commission to deny any proposed new rates and other tariff changes that apply to small business customers that are not proven by PWSA's to be lawful, just, reasonable, and not discriminatory to the Authority's small business customers.

Dated: May 19, 2023

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission** :  
 :  
 v. : **Docket Nos. R-2023-3039919**  
 :  
 **Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority--** :  
 **Stormwater** :

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been served via email (*unless other noted below*) upon the following persons, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

The Honorable Charles E. Rainey Jr.  
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Harrisburg, PA 17120  
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[pulp@pautilitylawproject.org](mailto:pulp@pautilitylawproject.org)

DATE: May 19, 2023

*/s/ Sharon E. Webb*

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Sharon E. Webb  
Assistant Small Business Advocate  
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