



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

June 22, 2023

E-FILED

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

**Re: Columbia Water Company Supplement No. 121 To Tariff – Water Pa. P.U.C.
No. 7 / Docket No. R-2023-3040258**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing please find the Prehearing Memorandum, 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/ Steven C. Gray

Steven C. Gray
Senior Supervising
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney I.D. No. 77538

Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record
Brian Kalcic

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Columbia Water Company 2023 General Base	:	
Rate Increase Filing - Supplement No. 121 To	:	Docket No. R-2023-3040258
Tariff – Water Pa. P.U.C. No. 7	:	
	:	
	:	
	:	

**PREHEARING MEMORANDUM
OF THE OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”) is authorized to represent the interests of small business customers 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 these proceedings. Representing the OSBA in the above-referenced matter is Assistant Small Business Advocate Steven C. Gray. Please address all correspondence in that matter as follows:

Steven C. Gray, Esq.
Senior Supervising
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Office of Small Business Advocate
Forum Place
555 Walnut Street, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 783-2525
(717) 783-2831 (fax)
sgray@pa.gov

II. FILING BACKGROUND

On April 28, 2023, Columbia Water Company (“Columbia” or the “Company”) filed Supplement No. 121 to Tariff – Water Pa. P.U.C. No. 7 (“Supplement 121”) with the Commission. Supplement No. 121, if approved by the Commission, would increase Columbia’s annual revenues by \$999,900.

The Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”) filed a Complaint on May 9, 2023.

III. IDENTIFICATION OF WITNESS AND TENTATIVE ISSUES

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

Mr. Brian Kalcic
Excel Consulting
(314) 863-3209
excel.consulting@sbcglobal.net

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

After an initial review of the materials submitted by Columbia, the OSBA has identified the following list of issues that it will evaluate in this proceeding:

1. Whether the methodology employed in Columbia’s cost-of-service study is appropriate.
2. Whether Columbia’s proposed class revenue allocation is cost based.
3. Whether the Company’s proposed rate design is cost based.
4. Whether Columbia’s proposal to consolidate the rates of the Marietta Division with the Columbia Division is reasonable.

The OSBA reserves the right to pursue additional issues that may arise throughout this proceeding.

IV. SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

In accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 1.54(b)(3)(i), the OSBA agrees to accept electronic mail delivery of documents on the due date¹ as satisfying the in-hand requirement. The OSBA requests that email delivery of documents also be provided to its witnesses identified above.

In addition to email copies of pleadings, briefs, and exceptions, the OSBA requests email copies of responses to discovery propounded by the OSBA or any other party.

V. SETTLEMENT

The OSBA notes its willingness to enter into settlement discussions at the appropriate phase of this proceeding.

VI. HEARING AND BRIEFING SCHEDULE

At the time of this writing, the OSBA is working with the parties to develop a procedural schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven C. Gray

Steven C. Gray, Esq.
Senior Supervising
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney ID # 77538

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

Dated: June 22, 2023

¹ In accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 1.56(a)(5), documents must be received by 4:30 pm.

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Columbia Water Company 2023 General Base :
Rate Increase Filing - Supplement No. 121 To : **Docket No. R-2023-3040258**
Tariff – Water Pa. P.U.C. No. 7 :
: :
: :
: :

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 Mary D. Long.
Administrative Law Judge
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
301 5th Avenue Suite 220
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
malong@pa.gov

Carrie B. Wright, Esquire
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
400 North Street
Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
carwright@pa.gov

The Honorable Charece Z. Collins
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
charcollin@pa.gov

Sandra E. Shaub
3282 Horizon Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601
sandishaub@comcast.net

Barrett C. Sheridan, Esquire
Erin L. Gannon, Esquire
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
bsheridan@paoca.org
egannon@paoca.org

Thomas J. Sniscak, Esquire
Whitney E. Snyder, Esquire
Phillip D. Demanchick, Jr., Esquire
Hawke McKeon & Sniscak LLP
100 North Tenth Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
tjsniscak@hmslegal.com
wesnyder@hmslegal.com
pddemanchick@hmslegal.com

Vincent E. Collier III
3287 Horizon Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601
vecollierIII@gmail.com

/s/ Steven C. Gray

DATE: June 22, 2023

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