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February 1, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

RE: Pa. PUC v. Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC. Docket No. R-2023-3044549; C-2024-_____

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached please find for filing with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission the prehearing Memorandum of Peoples Industrial Intervenors ("PII") in the above-referenced proceeding.

As evidenced by the attached Certificate of Service, all parties to the proceeding are being duly served with a copy of this document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Charis Mincavage'.

Charis Mincavage
MCNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC

c: Administrative Law Judge Mary D. Long

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am this day serving a true copy of the foregoing document upon the participants listed below in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code Section 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

VIA E-MAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

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Charis Mincavage

Counsel to the Peoples Industrial Intervenors

Dated this 1st day of February, 2024, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Peoples Industrial Intervenors	:	R-2023-3044549
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
Peoples Natural Gas Company, LLC	:	

**PREHEARING MEMORANDUM OF
THE PEOPLES INDUSTRIAL INTERVENORS**

Pursuant to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Mary D. Long's January 23, 2024, Prehearing Conference Order, the Peoples Industrial Intervenors ("PII") hereby submit this Prehearing Memorandum in the above-captioned proceeding.

I. HISTORY OF THE PROCEEDING

On December 29, 2023, Peoples Natural Gas Company, LLC ("Peoples" or "Company"), filed with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission" or "PUC") Original Tariff GAS – PA P.U.C. No. 48 (the "Tariff") to become effective February 27, 2024, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce an overall revenue increase of approximately \$156.0 million annually. Peoples supplemented this request with the Direct Testimony of several witnesses, responses to filing requirements, and documentation regarding the Company's proposals. Additionally, Peoples proposed to unify the distribution rates and tariffs of its two divisions (*i.e.*, Peoples Natural Gas Division ("PNGD") and Peoples Gas Division ("PGD")).

Concurrently with the filing of this Prehearing Memorandum, PII is also filing a Complaint in this proceeding. A description of PII is set forth in Paragraph 5 of PII's Complaint. A Prehearing Conference has been scheduled in this proceeding for February 2, 2024.

II. SERVICE LIST

For purposes of this proceeding, PII will be represented by the following counsel:

Charis Mincavage (Pa. I.D. No. 82039)
Adeolu A. Bakare (Pa. I.D. No. 208541)
Kenneth R. Stark (Pa. I.D. No. 312945)
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Please direct all correspondence to the attention of Charis Mincavage; however, for purposes of electronic service lists, PII requests that Ms. Mincavage, Mr. Bakare, and Mr. Stark be included on any correspondence.

III. PRIMARY SPEAKER

For purposes of the Prehearing Conference, Ms. Mincavage will be the primary speaker.

IV. ANTICIPATED ISSUES AND SUB-ISSUES

PII's preliminary review of the Company's filing indicates the need for Commission investigation into at least the following issues:

- (a) Whether the size of the requested rate increase is appropriate;
- (b) Whether Peoples' proposals are just, reasonable, and consistent with any surviving terms and conditions of the settlement approved by the PUC at Docket Nos. A-2013-2353647; A-2013-2353649; and A-2013-2353651;
- (c) Whether the merger of Peoples' PNGD and PGD divisions and allocations of the proposed increase among and within customer classes are just, reasonable, and non-discriminatory;
- (d) Whether the return on equity proposed by Peoples results in a fair rate of return; and
- (e) Whether Peoples' claimed cost of service is accurate, legitimate, and appropriately allocated.

PII reserves the right to raise and address other issues of concern during the course of this proceeding.

V. PROPOSED WITNESSES

PII is in the process of selecting a witness to sponsor testimony in this proceeding. Once PII retains its witness, it will immediately inform the parties and the ALJ of his/her name and topics of testimony. PII also intends to participate in this proceeding through the submission of discovery, cross-examination of other parties' witnesses, and the submission of briefs, exceptions, and reply exceptions, if necessary.

VI. PROPOSED LITIGATION SCHEDULE AND DISCOVERY RULES

PII will cooperate with the ALJ and the parties at the Prehearing Conference to develop an appropriate procedural schedule and discovery rules in accordance with the Commission's regulations and any ALJ directives.

VII. POSSIBILITY OF SETTLEMENT

PII is willing to participate in discussions with the other parties to amicably resolve the issues in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

McNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC

By 

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Dated: February 1, 2024

Counsel to the Peoples Industrial Intervenors