**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

# Formal Complaint

***Filing this form begins a legal proceeding and you will be a party to the case.***

***If you do not wish to be a party to the case, consider filing an informal complaint.***

**To complete this form, please type or print legibly in ink.**

**1.** **Customer (Complainant) Information**

Provide your name, mailing address, county, telephone number(s), email address and utility account number. It is your responsibility to update the Commission with any changes to your address and to where you want documents mailed to you.

Name

Street/P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Apt #

City State Zip

County \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s) Where We Can Contact You During the Day (required):

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (home) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (mobile)

Email Address (required): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Utility Account Number (from your bill)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**If your complaint involves utility service provided to a different address or in a different name than your mailing address, please list this information below.**

Name

Street/P.O. Box

City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Methods of Communication by the Commission**

You have three options on how you would like to receive all communication from the Commission about your Complaint. By selecting one of the following three options, you are agreeing to receive all hearing notices, orders, and related documents about your Complaint in the manner selected.

**Select one of the following options for receiving all communications from the Commission:**

1. **eFiling**: You agree to open and use an eFiling account – free of charge through the Commission’s website. By selecting this method you will be eServed. (This is the best way to receive, file, and submit documents).

Initial here if you are selecting eFiling:

(And create an eFiling account at <http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx>)

1. **Email:** You agree to receive all documents by email (using the email you provided on page 1). Please note that you will only be able to receive documents from the Commission by email and will not be able to file documents by Email or Fax. To submit documents to the Commission you must create an eFiling account accessed at <http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx> or mail your submissions.

Initial here if you are selecting Email service:

1. **First Class Mail:** You agree to be served only by First Class Mail (at the address on page 1 of this form).

Initial here if you are selecting First Class Mail service:

**\*If you do not select one of the three options above, the Commission will serve all documents to you by First Class Mail at the address listed on page 1 of this form.**

**3. Name of Utility or Company (Respondent)**

Provide the full name of the utility or company about which you are complaining. The name of your utility or company is on your bill.

**4. Type of Utility Service**

**Check the box listing the type of utility service that is the subject of your complaint (check only one):**

□ Electric □ Gas □ Water □ Wastewater/Sewer □ Storm Water

□ Steam Heat □ Motor Carrier (taxi, moving co., limo)

□ Telephone/Telecommunications (local, long distance)

**5. Reason for Complaint**

**What kind of problem are you having with the utility or company?** Check all boxes below that apply and state the reason for your complaint. Explain specifically what you believe the utility or company has done wrong. Provide relevant details including dates, times and places and any other information that may be important. If the complaint is about billing, tell us the amount you believe is not correct. Use additional paper if you need more space. **Your complaint may be dismissed without a hearing if you do not provide specific information.**

□ The utility is threatening to shut off my service or has already shut off my service.

□ I would like a payment agreement.

□ Incorrect charges are on my bill. Provide dates that are important and an explanation about

any amounts or charges that you believe are not correct. Attach a copy of the bill(s) in

question if you have it/them.

□ I am having a reliability, safety or quality problem with my utility service. Explain the problem,

including dates, times or places and any other relevant details that may be important.

□ Other (explain).

**Note: If your complaint is only about removing or modifying a municipal lien filed by the City of Philadelphia, the Public Utility Commission (PUC) cannot address it. Only local courts in Philadelphia County can address this type of complaint. The PUC can address a complaint about service or incorrect billing even if that amount is subject to a lien.**

**In addition, the PUC generally does not handle complaints about cell phone or Internet service, but may be able to resolve a dispute regarding voice communications over the Internet (including the inability to make voice 911/E911 emergency calls) or concerns about high-speed access to Internet service.**

**6. Requested Relief**

**How do you want your complaint to be resolved?** Explain what you want the PUC to order the utility or company to do. Use additional paper if you need more space.

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**Note: The PUC can decide that a customer was not billed correctly and can order billing refunds. The PUC can also fine a utility or company for not following rules and can order a utility or company to correct a problem with your service. Under state law, the PUC cannot decide whether a utility or company should pay customers for loss or damages. Damage claims may be sought in an appropriate civil court.**

**7.** **Protection From Abuse (PFA)/ Domestic Violence**

**Has a court granted you a “Protection From Abuse” order or any other order which provides clear evidence of domestic violence against you that is currently in effect for your personal safety or welfare?  The PUC needs this information to properly process your complaint so that your identity is not made public.**

**Note:  You must answer this question if your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water distribution utility AND your complaint is about a problem involving billing, a request to receive service, a security deposit request, termination of service or a request for a payment agreement**.

**Has a court granted a “Protection From Abuse” order or any other order for your personal safety or welfare?**

YES □ NO □

**If your answer to the above question is “yes,” attach a copy of the current Protection From Abuse order to this Formal Complaint form.**

**8. Prior Utility Contact**

1. **Is this an appeal from a decision of the PUC’s Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS)?**

YES □ NO □

**Note: If you answered yes, move to Section 9. No further contact with the utility or company is required. If you answered no, answer the question in Section 8 b. and answer the question in Section 8 c. if relevant.**

1. **If this is not an appeal from a BCS decision, have you spoken to a utility or company representative about this complaint?**

YES □ NO □

**Note: You must contact the utility first if (1) you are a residential customer, (2) your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water utility AND (3) your complaint is about a billing problem, a service problem, a termination of service problem, or a request for a payment agreement.**

**If you tried to speak to a utility company representative about your complaint but were not able to do so, please explain why.**

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1. **If you tried to speak to a utility company representative about your complaint but were not able to do so, please explain why.**

**Note: Even if you are not required to contact the utility or company, you should always try to speak to a utility or company representative about your problem before you file a Formal Complaint with the PUC.**

**9. Legal Representation**

**If you are filing a Formal Complaint as an individual on your own behalf, you are not required to have a lawyer.** You may represent yourself at the hearing.

If you are already represented by a lawyer **in this matter**, provide your lawyer’s name, address, telephone number, and email address, (all required contact information). Please make sure your lawyer is aware of your complaint. If represented by a lawyer, both you and your lawyer must be present at your hearing.

Lawyer’s Name

Street/P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip

Area Code/Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies and political subdivisions are required to have a lawyer represent them at a hearing and to file any motions, answers, briefs or other legal pleadings.**

**10. Verification and Signature**

**You must sign your complaint**. Individuals filing a Formal Complaint **must** print or type their name on the line provided in the verification paragraph below and **must** sign and date this form in **ink.** **If you do not sign the Formal Complaint, the PUC will not accept it.**

***Verification:***

***I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(Signature of Complainant) (Date)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title of authorized employee or officer** (only applicable to corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies or political subdivisions**)**

**Note: If the Complainant is a corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company or political subdivision, the verification must be signed by an authorized officer or authorized employee. If the Formal Complaint is not signed by one of these individuals, the PUC will not accept it.**

**11 How to File Your Formal Complaint**

**Electronically.** You must create an account on the PUC’s eFiling system, which may be accessed at <http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx>.

**Mail. Mail the completed form with your original signature and any attachments, by certified mail, priority mail, or overnight delivery to this address and retain the tracking information as proof of submission:**

**Secretary**

**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission**

**400 North Street**

**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120**

**If you are appealing a BCS decision: follow the directions in the cover letter you received from the Secretary’s Bureau with the formal complaint form. ONLY Formal complaints appealing a BCS decision can be filed by fax, email or overnight delivery to meet filing deadlines. All other formal complaints MUST be efiled or mailed.**

**If you have any questions about filling out this form, please contact the Secretary’s Bureau at 717-772-7777.**

**Keep a copy of your Formal Complaint for your records. Please know that your complaint form and the utility’s answer will not be published to the PUC’s website. Once your complaint case moves to the Office of Administrative Law Judge, any filings you make should be marked confidential if you do not want them published to the website.**