Box 42329 Pittsburgh, PA 15203-0329

www.dollarenergyfund.org



August 18, 2010

Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta Secretary Secretary's Bureau Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Law Bureau Prosecutory Staff v. UGI Utilities, Inc. (M-2010-2138591)

Dear Ms. Chiavetta:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed settlement agreement with UGI Utilities, Inc. that includes a \$17,500 civil penalty. Please accept the following as Dollar Energy Fund's formal comments regarding this proposed settlement agreement.

Dollar Energy Fund believes the \$17,500 civil penalty assessed in this case should be redirected to provide additional assistance to low-income customers. We fully agree with Vice Chairman Christy's statement on this case and hope the civil penalty will be redirected to a hardship fund.

Many families throughout the Commonwealth are struggling to make ends meet. Choices between providing a nutritious meal, taking necessary prescription medication or heating their home are becoming all too common. Hardship funds are essential to assisting utility consumers through crisis situations.

Dollar Energy Fund does not administer UGI's Operation Share hardship fund, however we are aware of the need for utility assistance within their service area. It is well known that those without utility service will do what they must to keep their families warm, often turning to unsafe methods of heating. Many tragedies can occur from unsafe heating methods, including, but not limited to carbon monoxide poisoning and fire. Redirecting the civil penalty of \$17,500 to a hardship fund will help many low-income customers maintain or restore safe utility service.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this settlement agreement. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I can be reached directly at 412-390-3863 or cdatig@dollarenergy.org.

Sincerely,

Cindy Datig Chief Executive Officer

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