

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265**

**Nia Peterson**  
**v.**  
**Philadelphia Gas Works**

**Public Meeting held January 27, 2012**  
**2215379-ALJ**

**Docket No. F-2010-2215379**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER WAYNE E. GARDNER**

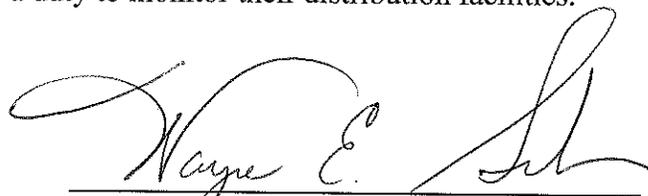
I agree with the Administrative Law Judge's disposition of the Complaint filed by Nia Peterson.

Similar to a statement I issued last Public Meeting, I wish to emphasize to PGW and all of our natural gas distribution companies, the importance of routinely monitoring all of their facilities to deter occurrences of theft of service. In this case, PGW ignored an active account which registered zero usage for fifteen months and only discovered that the AMR device attached to the customers meter was not functioning when an employee was investigating a gas leak reported by a neighbor. When PGW tested the meter, 127 counts of tampering (hitting or pushing the meter) were discovered as well as 42 magnetic counts. Both of these events can cause the AMR device to stop working.

To the extent our utilities have not already done so, I strongly recommend that they establish an internal policy to effectively monitor for unauthorized use. Theft of service not only hurts the companies and ratepayers financially, it poses a danger to the public at large due to the likelihood of gas leaks. I believe that under section 1501 of the Public Utility Code, our natural gas distribution companies have a duty to monitor their distribution facilities.

January 27, 2012

Date

  
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Wayne E. Gardner, Commissioner