

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Mary Kingcade vs. Philadelphia
Gas Works**

Public Meeting - November 8, 2012
2134662 - OSA
Docket No. C-2009-2134662

JOINT STATEMENT OF
VICE CHAIRMAN JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR. AND
COMMISSIONER PAMELA A. WITMER

Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) today are the exceptions to the Initial Decision in the case of Mary Kingcade (Complainant) vs. Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW). In her complaint, the Complainant alleged, among other things, that PGW failed to contact the Pennsylvania One Call Service (PA One Call) before replacing the gas service line on her property. PGW admitted that it had not contacted PA One Call prior to commencing work.

While the Commission is not charged with administering and enforcing the Underground Utility Line Protection Act (i.e., One Call), we feel it appropriate and necessary to reemphasize with all of our utilities, their contractors, pipeline operators and anyone engaged in excavation work of any kind the importance of using PA One Call. Households rely upon underground facilities for water, telecommunications, sewage and natural gas every day. For businesses, these facilities represent the lifeblood that keeps them in operation and contributing to the Commonwealth's economy. Those who dig before calling 811 may interrupt any number of utility services to households and businesses, and, in the case of natural gas lines, may endanger life and property with potentially catastrophic consequences.

It is estimated that more than 8,000 line hits occur each year across all Commission regulated facilities. Properly notifying PA One Call is the first step in reducing this vital safety and reliability issue.


JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR.
VICE CHAIRMAN


PAMELA A. WITMER
COMMISSIONER

DATE: November 8, 2012