**BEFORE THE**

 **PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Joint Application of Peoples Natural **:** A-2013-2353647

Gas Company LLC, Peoples TWP LLC, and **:** A-2013-2353649

Equitable Gas Company, LLC **:** A-2013-2353651

 **PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

An initial prehearing conference in this case is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. Pittsburgh parties, please report to Hearing Room 2018, Suite 220, Piatt Place, 301 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, where the undersigned presiding officer will preside telephonically. Harrisburg parties, please report to Hearing Room 4, Plaza Level, Commonwealth-Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120. The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. Please review the regulations pertaining to prehearing conferences, 52 Pa. Code §5.221- §5.224, and in particular, §5.222(d) which provides, in part:

 (d) Parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

 (1) The preparation must include submission of a prehearing memorandum and list:

 (i) The presently identified issues.

 (ii) The names and addresses of the witnesses.

(iii) The proposed area of testimony of each witness.

 (2) The preparation may include:

 (i) Development of a proposed procedural schedule.

 (ii) Advance study of all relevant materials.

 (iii) Advance informal communication between the parties, including requests for additional data and information, to the extent it appears feasible and desirable.

 (Emphasis added.)

2. Each party must prepare and distribute a prehearing memorandum which sets forth the history of the proceeding, the issues you intend to present, and a listing of your proposed witnesses and the subject of their testimony.

3. Please review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa. Code §5.331(b), which provides, inter alia, that “a party shall initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa. Code §5.322, which encourages participants to exchange information on an informal basis. I urge all parties to cooperate in discovery. Such cooperation is preferable to numerous or protracted discovery disagreements, which require the presiding officer’s participation for resolution. Please be aware that there are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa. Code §§5.361, 5.371‑5.372.

4. Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§1.21 & 1.22, you may represent yourself, if you are an individual, or you may have an attorney represent you. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association or governmental agency or subdivision, you must have an attorney represent you in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else.

5. You must serve the undersigned Administrative Law Judge directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding. If you send me any correspondence or

document, you must send a copy to all other parties. For your convenience, a copy of the Commission’s current service list of the parties to this proceeding is enclosed with this Order.

Date: April 24, 2013 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Mark A. Hoyer Administrative Law Judge