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BEFORE THE

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission)

v.)

) Docket No. R-00061931

Philadelphia Gas Works)

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

RICHARD A. GALLIGAN

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

ON BEHALF OF
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

MAY 4, 2007

RECEIVED

EXETER

JUN 22 2007

ASSOCIATES, INC.
5565 Sterrett Place
Suite 310
Columbia, Maryland 21044

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A. I am Richard A. Galligan. My business address is 5565 Sterrett Place, Suite 310,
3 Columbia, Maryland, 21044. I previously submitted direct testimony in this proceeding
4 on April 6, 2007, on behalf of the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"), OCA
5 Statement No. 3.

6 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

7 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to respond to the direct testimony of Robert D.
8 Knecht on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA") as that testimony
9 relates to Philadelphia Gas Works' ("PGW" or the "Company") class cost of service
10 study and the proposed spread of any rate increase among the customer classes. I also
11 respond to Office of Trial Staff ("OTS") witness Joseph Kubas' testimony regarding his
12 use of an Average and Peak class cost of service study, and his class revenue
13 recommendations.

14 Q. DOES MR. KNECHT ACCEPT PGW'S ALLOCATED COST OF SERVICE
15 STUDY FOR USE IN THIS RATE PROCEEDING?

16 A. Yes. Mr. Knecht discusses allocation differences he has with several types of costs that
17 are allocated in PGW's cost study, but concludes, "Thus, there is no dire need to correct
18 PGW's cost allocation study at this stage." (Knecht, Direct Testimony, p. 15) In this
19 case, Mr. Knecht accepts the allocation methodologies contained in the PGW cost
20 studies, and he accepts the results of the PGW allocated cost of service studies. While
21 accepting PGW's cost allocations, Mr. Knecht prefers to utilize a particular variant of
22 PGW's cost study that omits gas cost rate ("GCR") costs and revenues. Mr. Knecht ties
23 his class revenue recommendations directly to the elimination of a portion of the
24 indicated class "cross-subsidies" based on PGW's proposed allocated costs of service.

1 Q. WHY DO YOU PLACE MR. KNECHT'S USE OF THE TERM "CROSS-
2 SUBSIDY" WITHIN QUOTATION MARKS?

3 A. The term "cross-subsidy" is not uniquely defined. Mr. Knecht uses the term to refer to
4 various comparisons of class revenues and fully distributed class allocated costs of
5 service. At times, Mr. Knecht places the term within quotes, as, for example, at page 17,
6 *line 13 of his direct testimony. In discussing the limitations of fully distributed cost*
7 *studies to identify subsidies, Professor Bonbright puts it this way:*

8
9 "Quite simply, the basic defect of fully distributed costs as a basis for
10 ratemaking is that they do not necessarily measure marginal cost
11 responsibility in a causal sense" (Kahn, 1970, p. 151). To make sure
12 that no subsidies are involved, one must look to stand-alone or
13 incremental costs under break-even conditions and not fully distributed
14 costs. (Bonbright, James, C., Principles of Public Utility Rates, Public
15 Utilities Reports, Inc., Arlington , VA, p. 513)
16

17 It is exactly those fully distributed, allocated costs of service that Mr. Knecht utilizes to
18 measure his concept and defined use of the term "cross-subsidy."

19 Q. IS IT APPROPRIATE TO ACCEPT AND UTILIZE PGW'S PROPOSED COST OF
20 SERVICE STUDY RESULTS AS A MEASURE OF THE ADEQUACY OF CLASS
21 REVENUES?

22 A. No. In my direct testimony, I explained why no part of a gas distribution company's
23 distribution mains should be classified and allocated on a customer-count basis, and why
24 those mains should be classified and allocated partially on average demands and partially
25 on peak demands. OTS witness Kubas agrees that no part of distribution mains
26 investment should be classified or allocated on a customer basis and that distribution
27 mains should be allocated partially on average demands and partially on a basis that

1 considers class peak demands.¹ To the extent that PGW's cost study allocates 25 percent
 2 of distribution mains investment and related costs on a customer basis, and allocates the
 3 remaining 75 percent of these costs only on what customers may demand under extreme
 4 peak conditions that have an expected periodicity of once in 10- to 20-years misallocates
 5 costs, the resulting class costs of service will not be properly stated. When costs are
 6 misallocated the adequacy of class revenues to properly allocated costs cannot be
 7 determined.

8 Q. WHAT CLASS REVENUES IS MR. KNECHT PROPOSING?

9 A. Mr. Knecht is proposing the rate increases shown in Table 1-R. For comparison, I also
 10 include PGW's recommendations, which I am endorsing.

| Full Increase Request | <u>Residential</u> | <u>Commercial</u> | <u>Industrial</u> | <u>Municipal</u> | <u>Housing Authority</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| PGW Proposed | 69,397 | 24,743 | 1,845 | 2,197 | 1,758 | 99,940 |
| OSBA Proposed | 95,641 | 3,682 | 217 | 267 | 134 | 99,940 |
| <u>Scaleback</u> | | | | | | |
| PGW Proposed | 41,622 | 14,840 | 1,107 | 1,318 | 1,054 | 59,940 |
| OSBA Proposed ¹ | 57,361 | 2,208 | 130 | 160 | 80 | 59,940 |
| OSBA Proposed ² | 57,028 | 2,359 | 176 | 209 | 168 | 59,940 |

¹ Full Revenue Requirement Method
² "First Dollar" Scaleback Method
 Data Source: Exhibit IIE-4, Tables 4-A, 4-B, and 4-C

11 The first two lines in Table 1-R compare proposed rate increases at PGW's requested
 12 \$100 million rate increase. The last three lines compare proposed rate increases if PGW
 13 were to authorize increased revenues of about \$60 million. Based on the purported costs
 14 contained in PGW's allocated cost of service studies, Mr. Knecht proposes a substantially

¹ I will address differences within this overall similar approach proposed by Mr. Kubas and myself later in my rebuttal testimony.

1 greater residential rate increase in combination with substantially smaller rate increases
 2 for the other indicated classes. Not included in OSBA's reported Table 1-R residential
 3 rate increases is another \$34 million of Universal Service and Energy Conservation
 4 ("USEC") revenues that Mr. Knecht recommends be shifted from non-residential
 5 customers to residential customers.

6 Table 2-R below shows the resulting class rates of return and index rates of return
 7 at both PGW and OSBA proposed class rate increases, based on PGW's allocated cost
 8 results.

| Table 2-R | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Class Rates of Return under | | | | | | |
| PGW and OSBA Proposed Class Rate Increases | | | | | | |
| Totaling to \$100 Million | | | | | | |
| | <u>Residential</u> | <u>Commercial</u> | <u>Industrial</u> | <u>Municipal</u> | <u>Housing Authority</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| Current Rate of Return | 4.4% | 13.5% | 16.0% | 13.0% | 15.9% | 6.0% |
| Index Rate of Return | 73.0 | 225.0 | 267.0 | 217.0 | 265.0 | 100.0% |
| PGW Proposed Rate of Return | 11.2 | 28.1 | 28.9 | 26.4 | 28.9 | 14.1% |
| Index Rate of Return | 79.0 | 199.0 | 205.0 | 187.0 | 205.0 | 100.0% |
| OSBA Proposed Rate of Return | 13.7 | 15.7 | 17.5 | 14.6 | 16.9 | 14.1% |
| Index Rate of Return | 97.2 | 111.3 | 124.1 | 103.5 | 119.9 | 100.0% |

Data Source: Exhibit 1 Ec-4, Table 4-B

9 OSBA's proposed class rate increases are intended to make more progress toward
 10 "cost based" rates. Of course, to the extent that costs are misallocated, any progress
 11 toward basis in costs is misstated. Under OSBA's proposed base rate revenue spread, all
 12 classes would be awarded smaller rate increases than those proposed by PGW except

1 residential customers. Residential customers would receive \$95.6 million of the
2 proposed \$100 million base rate increase, or a 41.3 percent increase, under OSBA
3 proposals. This compare to a \$69.4 million increase, or 30.0 percent, for the residential
4 class requested by PGW. Also, under OSBA's proposed rates and its acceptance of
5 PGW's allocated costs, residential customers would yield a 13.7 percent rate of return, as
6 shown on Table 2-R, which would close in one rate case, not 20 percent of the difference
7 between the residential class' indexed rate of return and unity, but would close 90 percent
8 of that current difference. All of the rates of return shown in Table 2-R are based on the
9 results of PGW's customer/demand cost of service study.

10 Q. WHEN COSTS ARE ALLOCATED ON THE BASIS OF YOUR PEAK AND
11 AVERAGE COST OF SERVICE STUDY, HOW DO RESIDENTIAL AND
12 COMMERCIAL RATES COMPARE TO COSTS?

13 A. Based on PGW's cost study, the Company testifies that residential heating and
14 non-heating customers would progress from index rates of return of 79 percent and (42)
15 percent at present rates to index rates of return of 86 percent and 7 percent, respectively,
16 at PGW's proposed increase in rates.² Based on my Peak and Average cost study, the
17 residential heating and non-heating index rates of return are 94 percent and 12 percent,
18 respectively.³ Thus, when the customer cost notion is properly limited to meters, house
19 regulators, service lines and related expenses, and when distribution mains are properly
20 allocated substantially on energy usage as well as peak demands, residential rates are
21 seen to be far more consistent with allocated costs than under the progress toward unity
22 that PGW proposes. While I discuss the OTS cost of service study later in my rebuttal

² PGW proposes to eliminate 20 percent of the difference between the residential heating index return and 100 percent. In fact, when PGW determined its common residential heating and non-heating rate, proposed heating revenues closed one-third of the indicated gap.

³ Residential heating and non-heating customers provide an 11.4 percent rate of return on a combined basis.

1 testimony, I note here that the OTS agrees that the customer cost notion should not
2 extend to the allocation of distribution mains, and that distribution mains should be
3 allocated substantially (i.e., a recommended 50 percent in the OTS study) on energy, as
4 well as usage at times of peak demand.

5 Q. IS IT APPROPRIATE TO REQUIRE THAT CLASS REVENUE
6 RESPONSIBILITIES MUST BE SET EXACTLY EQUAL TO THE
7 ALLOCATED, EMBEDDED, HISTORIC, ACCOUNTING COSTS OF
8 SERVICE?

9 A. No. While such a prescription would lead to index rates of return equal to 100 percent,
10 revenue-to-allocated cost ratios of 1.0, and revenue minus allocated cost differences of
11 zero, in my opinion, this prescription is neither necessary nor desirable. First, this
12 revenue allocation prescription would produce a slavish, mechanistic basis for the setting
13 of rates to the exclusion of all other cost and non-cost considerations. This conflicts with
14 the long-standing Commission policy of using allocated cost study results as a guide to
15 the setting of rates. Second, this prescription implies a precision and a lack of allocated
16 cost controversy that simply does not exist.

17 In my direct testimony at page 26-28, I discuss the existence of many different
18 allocated cost studies and the controversies that attend such studies.⁴ The very existence
19 of numerous cost study variants and the controversial nature of various cost allocations
20 reinforces the use of cost studies as guides to the setting of rates. Third, the wide range
21 of allocated cost study results supports a skepticism regarding precise study results.
22 Variations in results imply that as class revenues approach variously stated allocated
23 costs, further precision in class revenue prescriptions may not be warranted. For

⁴ Indeed, there are three cost studies in this proceeding (PGW's, OCA's, and OTS', plus a variant that OSBA discusses but did not pursue). Thus, there is little support for a finding that class revenues should be set at exactly the level of allocated costs, when the allocated costs themselves are numerous and not free from controversy.

1 example, it would not be unreasonable to find that very little confidence attends the
2 exercise of fine-tuning class revenue adjustments when cost study results suggest that
3 class revenues are in substantial agreement with costs. Residential heating customers
4 would pay a rate of return of 94.3 percent of the PGW system average rate of return at
5 proposed rates, when costs are allocated in accord with the peak and average
6 methodology.

7 Finally, when addressing capacity related embedded cost allocations, Professor
8 Bonbright states, "Should the capacity costs be assigned to the different ratepayers on the
9 basis of system peak responsibility, of coincident class demand, or any one of the other
10 thirty-odd proposed bases of assignment to be found in the literature of rate theory?
11 Here, notions of fair apportionment are almost sure to conflict with economists'
12 convictions as to the relevant cost allocations. But these notions are themselves neither
13 stable nor uniform, although they reveal a general tendency in favor of a fairly wide
14 spreading out of the costs, as butter would be spread over bread in a gourmet's
15 sandwich." (Bonbright, James C., Principles of Public Utility Rates, Public Utilities
16 Reports, Inc., Arlington, VA, second edition, 1988, p. 184) A standard that is best
17 described as the wide spreading of costs as butter would be spread over bread in a
18 gourmet's sandwich hardly supports a finding that class revenue responsibilities should
19 be set entirely on the basis of and consistent with costs allocated in accord with the
20 standard. Unfortunately, such is the nature of allocated, fully distributed cost of service
21 findings.

22 Q. DOES YOUR FINDING THAT A PRESCRIPTION TO SET CLASS
23 REVENUES AT RESULTING ALLOCATED COSTS IS NOT WARRANTED

1 MEAN THAT CLASS COST RESULTS MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IN
2 THE RATE SETTING PROCESS?

3 A. No. In this present case, for example, even though the OTS and I believe that PGW's
4 cost of service study over-allocates costs to residential customers, PGW's study shows
5 that its proposed rates are consistent with substantial movement toward rates based on
6 allocated costs. These cost studies show that class revenues are sufficient to cover all
7 allocated expenses and provide a contribution to income available for interest and
8 surplus. At PGW's proposed rates for residential heating customers, for example, when
9 class income available for interest and surplus is related to the investment which gives
10 rise to the income and surplus cost (i.e., the traditional measure of the adequacy of rates),
11 the residential rates provide an 11.02 percent rate of return (PGW Study). This
12 represents substantial movement toward rates based on allocated costs. A greater
13 movement toward costs is indicated under the OCA study, since PGW's proposed rates
14 provide a 12.15 percent rate of return for residential heating customers. Both of these
15 rates of return compare to a requested 12.89 percent system rate of return.

16 Q. MR. KNECHT PREFERS TO INTRODUCE AND UTILIZE THE RATIO OF
17 CLASS REVENUES TO CLASS ALLOCATED COSTS, AND THE
18 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CLASS REVENUES AND ALLOCATED CLASS
19 COSTS AS MEASURES OF REVENUE ADEQUACY. PLEASE COMMENT.

20 A. The traditional index rate of return method of determining the adequacy of class revenue
21 compares the income remaining after deducting all allocated expenses from class
22 revenues to the allocated investment necessary to the provision of service. Mr. Knecht's
23 ratio and difference method nowhere relates class return to the allocated investment that
24 is deemed necessary to provide service to each class. A measure of the adequacy of

1 PGW's total revenues is whether total income available for interest and surplus related to
2 the investment which gives rise to this needed income is sufficient. Similarly, the
3 adequacy of each class' revenues is determined by the ratio of resulting income available
4 for interest and surplus related to the allocated investment required to provide service.

5 Class revenues minus class allocated expenses determine the residual return,
6 which is available for interest and other capital costs related to the provision of service.
7 That is, Total Revenue minus Expenses equals Total Return. No one is recommending
8 that class revenues should be set at an amount that is less than allocated expenses. The
9 adequacy of class returns is measured as the ratio of class return to class allocated rate
10 base. If the sum of the individual class returns becomes inadequate between rate cases,
11 the Commission may authorize a rate increase to re-establish the adequacy of returns at
12 proposed rates. PGW's class returns will increase on a dollar-for-dollar basis for each
13 dollar of rate increase assigned to a class. PGW is seeking a \$100 million rate increase so
14 as to increase its return available for interest and surplus by \$100 million. The adequacy
15 of class revenues is directly related to the adequacy of class returns (revenues minus
16 allocated expenses), and the adequacy of class returns is determined by the ratio of class
17 rates of return to class allocated rate base, and a comparison of the resulting ratios to the
18 overall system average return-to-rate base ratio.

19 Mr. Knecht's revenue-to-allocated cost ratio and his revenue minus allocated
20 costs difference analyses lead him to believe that PGW's proposed residential rates make
21 no progress toward basis in cost. Not revealed by Mr. Knecht's proposed revenue-to-cost
22 ratios and his proposed revenue minus cost measures of revenue adequacy is the
23 disproportionate and relatively higher income requirement proposed for residential
24 customers. PGW witness Gorman's Exhibit HSG-7C, revised March 30, shows a current

1 total residential income available for interest and surplus of \$45.310 million. This would
2 increase to \$114.707 million at proposed rates, a \$69.397 million, or a 1.53 times
3 increase. The total proposed commercial income available for interest and surplus at ,
4 current rates of \$24.808 million would increase to \$49.561 million. This is a proposed
5 commercial income increase of \$24.753 million, or a 1.00 times increase. The revenue-
6 to-cost ratio and revenue minus cost difference methods do not reveal this substantial
7 residential increased return responsibility compared to the increased return responsibility
8 proposed for the commercial class. Mr. Knecht utilizes a cost study procedure that
9 explicitly allocates net income available for interest and surplus to each class in order to
10 define his two preferred revenue-to-cost and revenue minus cost adequacy measures, but
11 then Mr. Knecht advises against any further consideration of net income, with its own
12 measure of adequacy (indexed rate of return), as a tool to assist the Commission in
13 determining the reasonableness of class revenue responsibilities. It is inconsistent to
14 consider return costs in the determination of one's revenue adequacy measures, as Mr.
15 Knecht does, but then to advise the Commission to omit from consideration the adequacy
16 of class returns from a determination of how to spread any Commission-authorized
17 increase.

18 Q. YOU MENTIONED EARLIER THAT THE OTS AGREES THAT THE
19 CUSTOMER COST NOTION SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE
20 AN ALLOCATION OF DISTRIBUTION MAINS ON A CUSTOMER BASIS,
21 AND THAT DISTRIBUTION MAINS SHOULD BE ALLOCATED IN LARGE
22 PART ON COMMODITY, OR AVERAGE DEMANDS. PLEASE DESCRIBE
23 OTS' COST OF SERVICE STUDY.

1 A. Mr. Joseph Kubas performed a class cost of service study on behalf of the OTS. The
2 study Mr. Kubas performed is an "Average and Excess" study. Mr. Kubas allocated
3 distribution mains and related expense 50 percent on the basis of commodity, or average
4 demands, and 50 percent on the basis of the excess of peak demands over average
5 demands. In contrast, I allocated 80 percent of distribution mains and related costs on
6 average demands for the reasons stated in my direct testimony. While the exact weights
7 afforded to average demands differ in Mr. Kubas' and my own cost studies, both studies
8 recognize the importance of allocating a substantial portion of mains on the basis of
9 average demands.

10 Q. HAVE YOU CAUSED TO BE PREPARED A PEAK AND AVERAGE COST
11 STUDY BASED ON A 50 PERCENT WEIGHTING OF AVERAGE
12 DEMANDS?

13 A. Yes. While I continue to believe an 80 percent weighting of average demands is proper
14 and support an 80 percent weighting of average demands, I recognize that OTS has
15 utilized a 50 percent weighting of average demands, and that there is precedent in
16 Pennsylvania for weighting average demands 50 percent. Therefore, I asked PGW to re-
17 run my 20/80 P&A study at a 50/50 weighting of peak and average demands. The results
18 of the 50/50 Peak and Average study are included in Exhibit__ (RAG-1R). Line 18, page
19 5 of Exhibit ___ (RAG-1R) shows class rates of return at proposed rates. Under the
20 50/50 Peak and Average study, at PGW proposed rates, the rates of return show that
21 residential customers continue to produce higher rates of return and higher index rates of
22 return than proposed by PGW.

23 Q. IN THE OTS COST STUDY, THE 50 PERCENT PORTION OF COSTS THAT
24 IS ALLOCATED ON THE PEAK DEMAND VECTOR IS ALLOCATED ON

1 EACH CLASS' EXCESS OF PEAK DEMAND OVER AVERAGE DEMAND,
2 WHEREAS IN THE PEAK AND AVERAGE STUDY THE PEAK DEMAND
3 VECTOR IS BASED ON CLASS PEAK DEMANDS. PLEASE COMMENT.

4 A. I have utilized peak demands because all customers requiring service at the time of peak
5 are responsible for peak-related costs. In discussing peak demand related costs, Professor
6 Bonbright agrees that all customers demanding service at time of peak are responsible for
7 peak demand related costs. Discussing this concept in terms of the electric utility
8 industry, Professor Bonbright puts it this way:

9
10 *Because an electric company must size its system to meet the*
11 *peaks, any peak period user is contributing to the peak,*
12 *regardless of its off peak usage. Thus, all peak users*
13 *contribute to the peak and all non-peak usage is irrelevant.*
14 *(Ibid., p. 475, emphasis added)*

15 Under the Average and Excess method, when peak demands are calculated as the excess
16 of peak demands over average demands, a 100 percent load factor customer, who is
17 guaranteed to be demanding service whenever the peak occurs, would bear no
18 responsibility for the costs of meeting the peak (because such a customer would have no
19 excess of peak demand over average demand), thus violating the principle of cost
20 causality. However, even though the OTS' cost study allocates peak demand classified
21 costs not on peak usage but on excess of peak usage over average usage, both the OTS'
22 cost study using excess demands and my own cost study using peak demands
23 demonstrate higher rates of return and higher index returns for residential customers
24 compared to PGW's customer/peak demand study results. In my opinion, the OTS' A&E
25 study, my own P&A study, and a 50/50 P&A study support a finding that PGW's
26 proposed rate spread is consistent with the reasonable movement of residential rates
27 toward basis in cost.

1 Q. MR. KNECHT CONSIDERS ONLY NON-GAS COSTS AND REVENUES IN
2 HIS REVENUE-TO-ALLOCATED COST RATIOS AND HIS REVENUE
3 MINUS ALLOCATED COST MEASURES OF CLASS REVENUE
4 ADEQUACY. PLEASE COMMENT.

5 A. This Commission is responsible for determining just and reasonable retail delivery and
6 retail sales service rates. Largely for convenience, flexibility and timeliness, a separate
7 regulatory procedure is utilized to make adjustments to the GCR, a portion of
8 Commission-determined retail sales rates. However, PGW's gas cost rates are an
9 important part of PGW's total regulated cost of service and PGW's customers' regulated
10 rates. Exhibit HSG-6S shows GCR revenues of \$568,861,000 out of total proposed firm
11 revenues of \$1,095,624,000, or 52 percent. On a per unit basis, gas cost rates are \$10.97
12 per Decatherm compared to delivery charges for residential and commercial customers
13 that are proposed in the \$6.08 - \$6.80 range.

14 Omitting regulated GCR revenues and costs from consideration provides
15 incomplete measures of revenues and costs necessary to Mr. Knecht's reported revenue-
16 to-allocated cost ratios. I believe that revenue-to-cost ratios that exclude essential,
17 Commission-determined revenues and costs are not useful indicators of the impact of
18 utility rates paid by the customer and necessary to the provision of PGW with an
19 opportunity to recover its costs. The very measures that Mr. Knecht relies on for his
20 increased revenue spread recommendations are influenced by the inclusion or exclusion
21 of regulated utility costs and revenues. Additionally, Mr. Knecht's reported class
22 revenue-to-cost ratios also omit the consideration of \$131.636 million of USEC revenues
23 and costs. GCR and USEC rates are charges that cannot be avoided under PGW's
24 Commission-approved tariffs. Including the gas costs and USEC costs and revenues

1 excluded by Mr. Knecht would change his reported residential and commercial revenue-
2 to-cost ratios at proposed rates from 91.8 percent and 144.5 percent respectively, to 96.6
3 percent and 112.4 percent, respectively. The difference between a revenue-to-cost ratio
4 of 91.8 and the more accurate ratio of 96.6 eliminates 59 percent of the gap between the
5 reported ratio (91.8) and a ratio of 100 percent.

6 Q. MR. KNECHT PREFERS TO UTILIZE FOR HIS CLASS REVENUE
7 RECOMMENDATIONS A CLASS COST OF SERVICE STUDY THAT
8 EXCLUDES GAS COSTS AND REVENUES. WOULD CLASS COST OF
9 SERVICE STUDY RESULTS FROM A STUDY EXCLUDING GAS COSTS
10 AND REVENUES CHANGE YOUR CONCLUSION REGARDING THE
11 ADEQUACY OF PGW'S PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL RATES?

12 A. No. The combined residential customers' return goes up slightly (from \$45.3 million to
13 \$45.7 million) under the cost study which includes no GCR costs, while the residential
14 rate base goes down slightly (from) \$1.109 billion to \$1.031 billion). The combined
15 residential heating and non-heating index rate of return is virtually unchanged.
16 Utilization of the no-GCR study would not change my endorsement of PGW's proposed
17 residential customer rate increase

18 Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

19 A. Yes.

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**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission)
)
 v.) **Docket No. R-00061931**
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Philadelphia Gas Works)

**EXHIBITS ACCOMPANYING THE
REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
RICHARD A. GALLIGAN**

**ON BEHALF OF
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

MAY 4, 2007

EXETER

ASSOCIATES, INC.
5565 Sterrett Place
Suite 310
Columbia, Maryland 21044

Philadelphia Gas Works
Class COS Study - 2006- OCA-IX Mains 50-50
Future Test Year Ended August 31, 2007 (\$000s)
Class COS Study - 2006- OCA-IX Mains 50-50

| | Total | NGV Direct RC-10 | BPS Small RC-11 | BPS Large RC-12 | BPS A/C RC-13 | LBS Small RC-14 | LBS Large-Indirect RC-15 | LBS Large-Direct RC-16 | LBS Large-Direct RC-17 | LBS XL-Indirect RC-18 | Co-Gen Indirect RC-19 | GTS / IT Trans only RC-20 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3 SUPPLY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 Demand Costs | 7,858 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36 |
| 10 Commodity Costs | <u>543,683</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1,944</u> | <u>23,030</u> | <u>1,301</u> | <u>6,302</u> | <u>4,473</u> | <u>245</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>646</u> | <u>189</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 11 | <u>551,540</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1,946</u> | <u>23,046</u> | <u>1,302</u> | <u>6,306</u> | <u>4,476</u> | <u>245</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>646</u> | <u>189</u> | <u>36</u> |
| 12 STORAGE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 Demand Costs | <u>41,853</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>285</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>75</u> | <u>53</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1,612</u> |
| 14 | <u>41,853</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>285</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>75</u> | <u>53</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1,612</u> |
| 15 TRANSMISSION | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 Demand Costs | <u>45,990</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 17 | <u>45,990</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 18 DISTRIBUTION | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 Demand Costs | 29,901 | 0 | 65 | 743 | 27 | 149 | 101 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 3 | 2,056 |
| 20 Commodity Costs | 29,238 | 0 | 62 | 758 | 39 | 194 | 137 | 6 | 1 | 20 | 6 | 3,599 |
| 21 Customer Costs | <u>189,602</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>214</u> | <u>2,282</u> | <u>104</u> | <u>524</u> | <u>359</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>61</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>4,924</u> |
| 22 | <u>248,741</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>341</u> | <u>3,785</u> | <u>171</u> | <u>867</u> | <u>597</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>10</u> | <u>98</u> | <u>29</u> | <u>10,559</u> |
| 23 ONSITE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 Customer Costs | <u>124,393</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>122</u> | <u>390</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>78</u> | <u>50</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>925</u> |
| 25 | <u>124,393</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>122</u> | <u>390</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>78</u> | <u>50</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>925</u> |
| 26 USEC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 Customer Costs | <u>131,610</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 28 | <u>131,610</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| 29 TARIFF REVENUE REQUIREMENT | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 Demand Costs | 125,602 | 0 | 92 | 1,045 | 43 | 228 | 157 | 5 | 1 | 25 | 5 | 3,684 |
| 31 Energy Costs | 572,920 | 4 | 2,006 | 23,787 | 1,340 | 6,496 | 4,610 | 251 | 28 | 666 | 195 | 3,599 |
| 32 Customer Costs | <u>445,605</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>336</u> | <u>2,672</u> | <u>122</u> | <u>602</u> | <u>409</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>73</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>5,849</u> |
| 33 | <u>1,144,127</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>2,474</u> | <u>27,504</u> | <u>1,506</u> | <u>7,327</u> | <u>5,177</u> | <u>278</u> | <u>46</u> | <u>764</u> | <u>226</u> | <u>13,132</u> |
| 34 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 Average Customers | 496 | 1 | 113 | 162 | 8 | 18 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 162 |
| 36 Customer Costs per Month | \$74,81 | \$209.84 | \$248.15 | \$1,374.39 | \$1,275.73 | \$2,737.98 | \$5,386.15 | \$1,767.05 | \$687.61 | \$1,525.09 | \$657.75 | \$3,008.66 |

Philadelphia Gas Works
Class COS Study - 2006- OCA-IX Mains 50-50
Future Test Year Ended August 31, 2007 (\$000s)
Results of Company's Proposed Rates

OCA-IX Mains 50-50
Exhibit HSG-7C
Page 1 of 3

| | Total | <u>Residential</u> <u>Non-Heat</u> RC-1 | <u>Residential</u> <u>Heat</u> RC-2 | <u>Commercial</u> <u>Non-Heat</u> RC-3 | <u>Commercial</u> <u>Heat</u> RC-4 | <u>Industrial</u> <u>Non-Heat</u> RC-5 | <u>Industrial</u> <u>Heat</u> RC-6 |
|---|------------------|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| <u>Income (before Interest and Surplus)- Company's Proposed Rates</u> | | | | | | | |
| 9 Full Tariff Revenues at Proposed Rates | 1,144,125 | 35,997 | 784,030 | 35,913 | 177,161 | 6,960 | 14,854 |
| 10 Full Tariff Revenues at Present Rates | <u>1,044,127</u> | <u>33,399</u> | <u>717,887</u> | <u>31,692</u> | <u>156,118</u> | <u>6,323</u> | <u>13,499</u> |
| 11 Increase in Full Tariff Revenue | 99,998 | 2,599 | 66,143 | 4,221 | 21,043 | 637 | 1,355 |
| 12 Income before Interest and Surplus- Present Rates | 81,646 | (1,395) | 50,829 | 4,575 | 19,596 | 976 | 1,446 |
| 13 Income before Interest and Surplus- Proposed Rates | 181,645 | 1,204 | 116,972 | 8,796 | 40,639 | 1,612 | 2,800 |
| 14 Rate Base | 1,409,193 | 72,435 | 985,983 | 34,617 | 170,439 | 5,486 | 13,118 |
| <u>Return on Rate Base at Company's Proposed Rates (Before Interest and Surplus)</u> | | | | | | | |
| 18 Return on Rate Base- Proposed Rates | 12.89% | 1.66% | 11.86% | 25.41% | 23.84% | 29.39% | 21.35% |
| 19 Return on Rate Base- Present Rates | 5.79% | (1.93%) | 5.16% | 13.22% | 11.50% | 17.79% | 11.02% |
| 20 | | | | | | | |
| 21 Relative Rate of Return- Proposed Rates | 100% | 13% | 92% | 197% | 185% | 228% | 166% |
| 22 Relative Rate of Return- Present Rates | 100% | (33%) | 89% | 228% | 198% | 307% | 190% |
| 23 Progress Toward Unity | | 35% | 28% | 24% | 14% | 38% | 27% |
| 24 | | | | | | | |
| 25 Subsidy- Proposed Rates | (2) | (\$,133) | (10,122) | 4,334 | 18,670 | 905 | 1,109 |
| 26 Subsidy- Present Rates | (0) | (5,591) | (6,297) | 2,570 | 9,721 | 658 | 686 |
| 27 | | | | | | | |
| 28 % Increase in Full Tariff Revenue at Proposed Rates | 9.6% | 7.8% | 9.2% | 13.3% | 13.5% | 10.1% | 10.0% |
| 29 % Increase in Non-Gas Tariff Revenue at Proposed Rates | 23.0% | 15.0% | 21.2% | 32.5% | 33.5% | 25.1% | 24.9% |
| 30 % Increase in Distribution Revenue at Proposed Rates | 33.8% | 19.0% | 30.3% | 48.8% | 50.9% | 38.4% | 37.9% |
| 31 | | | | | | | |

5/21/07
Phila, PA
MS

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission)
)
 v.)
)
 Philadelphia Gas Works)

Docket No. R-00061931

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

/ RICHARD A. GALLIGAN

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

ON BEHALF OF
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

MAY 15, 2007

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2007

EXETER

ASSOCIATES, INC.
5565 Sterrett Place
Suite 310
Columbia, Maryland 21044

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

1 **Response to Mr. Howard S. Gorman**

2 Q. AT THE TOP OF PAGE 9 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. GORMAN
3 ASSERTS THAT THE COST OF A DISTRIBUTION MAIN IS A FUNCTION
4 OF BOTH LENGTH AND DIAMETER AND THEREFORE, "...THE MORE
5 CUSTOMERS THERE ARE ON THE SYSTEM, THE MORE LENGTH OF
6 DISTRIBUTION MAINS ARE [SIC] REQUIRED, AND THE HIGHER THE
7 COST." DOES THIS STATEMENT DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE IS A
8 CUSTOMER COST OF DISTRIBUTION MAINS?

9 A. No. First it is not quite accurate to assert unconditionally that the more customers there
10 are on the system, the greater the length of mains. As I said in my direct testimony, PGW
11 will, at times, incur no incremental distribution mains investment to provide service to a
12 new customer. (Direct Testimony, page 11, lines 4-7) Moreover, for PGW in particular,
13 a mature gas distribution company, the vast majority of its budgeted distribution mains
14 investment now relates to replacement and relocation costs, not to the extension of its
15 system into new service areas in order to extend delivery service to new customers.
16 (Direct Testimony, page 25, lines 20--page 21, line 3) Finally, when the extension of gas
17 delivery service does require distribution mains costs to be incurred, those costs relate
18 directly to both the sufficiency of annual gas volumes, which are required to warrant the
19 extension in the first place, and to the peak gas flow requirements. Mr. Gorman's
20 observation that distribution mains can be described as having both length and diameter
21 does not support his proposal that the existence of PGW's customers, rather than their
22 service requirements, causes PGW to incur gas delivery costs.

23 Q. AT PAGE 9, LINES 13-22, MR. GORMAN ASSERTS THAT YOUR
24 EXAMPLE OF A BLOCK THAT HAS 10 RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS
25 EACH WITH A PEAK DEMAND OF ONE MCF, OR A BLOCK THAT HAS

1 ONLY A SMALL PLASTICS FACTORY WITH A PEAK DEMAND OF 10
2 MCF, IS AN APPARENT PARADOX LOAD ONLY BECAUSE OF THE
3 ASSUMPTION THAT ALL 10 CUSTOMERS ARE LOCATED ON THE
4 SAME BLOCK. MR. GORMAN ASSERTS THAT THE APPARENT
5 PARADOX DISAPPEARS IF THE 10 CUSTOMERS WERE LOCATED ON 10
6 DIFFERENT BLOCKS. PLEASE RESPOND.

7 A My example is a hypothetical, designed to illustrate an obvious point, that distribution
8 mains investment is driven by load requirements, not by potential customers who would
9 use no gas. My example comports with reality -- a number of residential customers on
10 the same block. Mr. Gorman's one-residential-customer-to-a-Philadelphia-city-block
11 example is not realistic. PGW's average footage of distribution mains per customer is 32
12 feet. Mr. Gorman's example of one residential customer per city block would result in
13 one customer about every 500 feet (at a city block of about 1/10th of a mile). I do not
14 believe Mr. Gorman's example of one residential customer per city block comports with
15 either reality, or with PGW's customer extension rules. Mr. Gorman's example does not
16 describe PGW's system, is based on unrealistic assumptions and does not invalidate the
17 point in the example I presented.

18 What my realistic example showed was that a city block with 10 residential
19 houses on it, each with a peak demand of 1 Mcf, would have to have a main sized to
20 deliver that 10 Mcf of peak demand. A city block with a small plastics factory with a
21 demand of 10 Mcf, too, would have to have a main sized to deliver 10 Mcf. Finally, if
22 the plastics factory were torn down and replaced with five large residences, each with a
23 peak demand of 2 Mcf, the distribution main would, again, have to be sized to meet the
24 10 Mcf of peak demand. This conclusion, that distribution mains are sized to meet load
25 requirements, not the number of customers, is not invalidated by Mr. Gorman's

1 unrealistic example. Of course, the very existence of the natural gas distribution service
2 to provide for the distribution of natural gas to meet the load requirements of the
3 customers in this example presumes that the gas loads of the customer(s) is sufficient to
4 warrant the extension of service under PGW's Extension rules in the first place.

5 Q. AT PAGE 11, LINES 9-16, MR. GORMAN CITES PROFESSOR
6 BONBRIGHT'S TEXT, WHICH EXPLAINS THAT THE HYPOTHETICAL
7 MINIMUM-SIZED DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IS STRICTLY
8 UNALLOCABLE, AND MR. GORMAN CONCLUDES THAT PROFESSOR
9 BONBRIGHT DOES NOT SUPPORT ANY ALLOCATION METHOD FOR
10 THE ZERO-INTERCEPT COMPONENT. PLEASE COMMENT.

11 A. Professor Bonbright continues on from the material quoted by Mr. Gorman and says,

12
13 But fully distributed cost analysts dare not avail themselves of this
14 solution (that the hypothetical cost of a minimum-sized distribution
15 system is strictly unallocable), since they are the prisoners of their
16 own assumption that 'the sum of the parts equals the whole.' They
17 are therefore under impelling pressure to fudge their cost
18 apportionments by using the category of customer costs as a
19 dumping ground for costs they cannot plausibly impute to any of
20 their other cost categories. (Bonbright, James C., *et al.*, Principles
21 of Public Utility Rates, Public Utilities Reports, Arlington,
22 Virginia, 1988, *emphasis added*)

23 Mr. Gorman's citation of Professor Bonbright's conclusion as to the strict
24 unallocable nature of the hypothetical costs of the minimum-sized distribution system
25 also supports a finding of limits to which fully distributed cost study results can be
26 reasonably relied upon to determine class cost responsibilities, especially when the cost
27 studies contain a cost category, customer costs, which is a "dumping ground" for the
28 significant hypothetical costs of a minimum-sized distribution system. If the portion of
29 distribution mains costs that is not peak-related is to be allocated, or associated with a
30 service which caused it, then which allocation makes the most sense -- an allocation on

1 the basis of merely connecting customers who demand delivery service only because of
2 the natural gas deliveries they require, or an allocation which recognizes the very service
3 demands which cause the costs to be incurred? I believe the cost-causality principle
4 dictates the better allocation is on the basis of the service requirements which cause the
5 costs to be incurred by PGW (*i.e.*, deliveries required throughout the year and at time of
6 peak), not the fictitious “connection service”, for which there is no demand, is a service
7 PGW does not offer, is not tariffed, has no price, does not comport with PGW’s service
8 extension rules, is neither economically viable nor even capable of being unbundled.

9 Q. IF COST ALLOCATIONS CANNOT BE PRECISELY DETERMINED, AND
10 SOME COSTS MAY BE STRICTLY UNALLOCABLE, IS THE
11 COMMISSION LEFT WITH NO STANDARDS FOR THE WEIGHING OF
12 DISPUTED AND CONTROVERSIAL COST ALLOCATIONS THAT ARE
13 PUT AT ISSUE IN A RATEMAKING PROCEEDING?

14 A. No. In addressing cost allocation issues in a recent PJM transmission rate design case,
15 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) put it this way:

16
17 As the Supreme Court has found, “allocation of costs is not a
18 matter for the slide-rule. It involves judgment on a myriad of facts.
19 It has no claim to an exact science.” The Commission recently
20 articulated the same principles in Order No. 890:

21 Our decisions regarding transmission cost allocation reflect the
22 premise that allocation of costs is not a matter for the slide-rule. It
23 involves judgment on a myriad of facts. It has no claim to an exact
24 science. We therefore allow regional flexibility in cost allocation
25 and, when considering a dispute over cost allocation, exercise our
26 judgment by weighing several factors. First, we consider whether
27 a cost allocation proposal fairly assigns costs among participants,
28 including those who cause them to be incurred and those who
29 otherwise benefit from them. Second, we consider whether a cost
30 allocation proposal provides adequate incentives to construct new
31 transmission. Third, we consider whether the proposal is generally
32 supported by state authorities and participants across the regions.
33 [Opinion No. 494, Opinion and Order on Initial Decision, Docket

1 Nos. EL05-121-000 and EL05-121-002, April 19, 2007, footnotes
2 omitted]

3 While these cost allocation standards are included in a transmission rate proceeding,
4 these standards are not unique nor limited to transmission costs of service.

5 The first standard, whether a cost allocation proposal fairly assigns costs among
6 participants, including those who cause them to be incurred and those who otherwise
7 benefit from them, favors allocating a portion of distribution mains on the basis of annual
8 delivery service requirements rather than on the basis of customer "connection" service.
9 Customers who call upon PGW to deliver energy to their premises in the form of natural
10 gas requirements cause PGW to incur a significant share of PGW's delivery service costs,
11 whereas non-existent customer "connection" service, absent sustained gas demands,
12 would not and does not cause PGW to extend delivery service and incur related costs.
13 Moreover, customers benefit from PGW's distribution mains in proportion to their annual
14 energy requirements delivered over that system. A volumetric allocation is directly
15 responsive to this cost allocation standard most recently articulated by the FERC in its
16 Opinion No. 494.

17 The second standard is whether a cost allocation proposal provides adequate
18 incentives to construct new facilities. Again this standard suggests that an allocation of
19 mains partially on volumes is appropriate, in contrast to an allocation that pretends costs
20 are incurred to provide hookup, or connection service, through a zero-intercept minimum
21 system that could deliver no or nominal amounts of gas. Customers need not incur the
22 hypothetical costs of a phantom, minimum sized system that cannot deliver gas. After
23 all, customers could receive no gas through a totally nonexistent system and incur no
24 cost. No deliveries, no practical way to make the incurrence of costs by the customer
25 economically viable, and no way for the utility to recover its costs. With deliveries, the
26 incurrence of costs can be made economically viable and PGW can be afforded an

1 opportunity to recover its attendant costs. An opportunity to recover costs is essential to
2 providing an incentive to construct new facilities. Indeed, PGW's Extension and Rights-
3 of-Way service rules incorporate this principle and prohibit PGW from incurring costs to
4 connect customers who would use little or no gas.

5 The third standard is whether the allocated cost proposal is generally supported by
6 state authorities and participants across the region. Again, applying this standard
7 supports an allocation of distribution mains costs on volumes. The Pennsylvania
8 Commission has a long-standing use of Peak and Average cost studies with respect to
9 natural gas distribution companies, and rejected use of a so-called distribution mains
10 customer cost component. Finally, while I have not made a study of cost allocation
11 disputes and their resolution among the states, I did participate in the most recent Citizens
12 Gas & Coke Utility petition for authority to increase its rates and charges for gas utility
13 service before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("IURC"). In its Order in that
14 proceeding, the IURC said:

15
16 Based upon the record evidence, this Commission concludes that
17 the OUCC's cost-of-service study is most reflective of cost
18 causation and possesses a high degree of objectivity upon which
19 the Commission may place reliance in establishing the rates and
20 charges in this proceeding ...

21
22 The OUCC presented a cost-of-service study taking a middle-of-
23 the-road approach by allocating some distribution main costs on a
24 peak day basis (20%) and allocating the remaining distribution
25 main costs on a volumetric basis (80%) ...

26
27 For the reasons set forth above, we find 'the OUCC's cost of
28 service study most accurately reflects the manner in which
29 distribution main costs are actually incurred *See, In Re Citizens*
30 *Gas & Coke Utility*, IURC Cause No. 39066 at 31 (Nov. 1, 1999).
31 We therefore adopt the OUCC's cost of service study to implement
32 the rates increase approved in this Cause. [IURC Order, Cause No.
33 42767, pp. 74-75]

1 The OUCC cost of service study adopted by the IURC in the Cause No. 42767
2 proceeding incorporated a 20 percent peak demand/80 percent commodity allocation of
3 distribution mains and related costs. Citizens Gas & Coke Utility classified and allocated
4 no distribution mains costs on a customer cost basis.

5 Q. AT PAGE 11, LINE 19 THROUGH PAGE 12, LINE 6 OF HIS REBUTTAL
6 TESTIMONY, MR. GORMAN ARGUES THAT PROFESSOR BONBRIGHT
7 WOULD BELIEVE THAT CLASSIFYING THE ZERO-INTERCEPT
8 COMPONENT OF DISTRIBUTION MAINS CAN, UNDER CERTAIN
9 CIRCUMSTANCES, BE THEORETICALLY JUSTIFIED. PLEASE
10 RESPOND.

11 A. Mr. Gorman cites Professor Bonbright's criticisms of the zero-intercept method because
12 that method overlooks "... the very weak correlation between the area (or the mileage) of
13 a distribution system and the number of customers served by the system.... Allocation, in
14 whole or in part, would at least be theoretically possible if consideration of a customer-
15 density parameter were added to the three traditional cost components." (Rebuttal
16 Testimony, page 11, lines 26-28 and 31-33). This discussion is inapplicable with regard
17 to Mr. Gorman's defense of the *ex post* zero-intercept analysis he prepared in this case
18 because Mr. Gorman failed to include or consider a customer-density parameter in his
19 zero-intercept calculations.

20 Q. AT PAGE 12, LINES 10-11 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR.
21 GORMAN ASSERTS THAT, "THE AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATES ("AGA")
22 GAS RIGHT FUNDAMENTALS SUPPORTS THE INCLUSION OF THE
23 ZERO-INTERCEPT COMPONENT OF DISTRIBUTION MAINS IN
24 CUSTOMER COSTS." IS HE RIGHT?

1 A. Here on page 12 of his rebuttal testimony, and again on page 14 when he addresses my
2 testimony, Mr. Gorman refers to AGA's "Gas Right Fundamentals." Mr. Gorman
3 probably meant to refer to AGA's Gas Rate Fundamentals. Mr. Gorman testifies:

4
5 "The customer component of distribution costs reflects the
6 theoretical distribution system that would be needed to serve
7 customers at nominal or minimum load conditions." (Gas Right
8 Fundamentals (sic), 1987 Edition, p. 136)
9

10 This discussion occurs in the Embedded Cost of Service Studies section of the Cost
11 Allocation Studies chapter in the AGA text. The quoted material is a declarative
12 statement introducing the concept of customer costs. Nowhere does the referenced AGA
13 text define, nor could I locate in the text even a mention of the zero-intercept method of
14 *estimating so-called customer costs or the alternative minimum system method.* The
15 AGA's Gas Rate Fundamentals index does not include a zero-intercept entry. I could
16 find no discussion, no mention, and no endorsement of the zero-intercept calculation
17 procedures or methodology in the AGA's Gas Rate Fundamentals text.

18 Q. AT PAGE 12, LINE 19 THROUGH PAGE 13, LINE 11 OF HIS REBUTTAL
19 TESTIMONY, MR. GORMAN ADDRESSES THE CONCLUSION IN YOUR
20 DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT SUFFICIENT VOLUMES MUST BE
21 REQUIRED IN ORDER FOR PGW TO INCUR THE COSTS ASSOCIATED
22 WITH THOSE DELIVERIES. PLEASE EXPLAIN MR. GORMAN'S
23 REBUTTAL POSITION AND YOUR RESPONSE.

24 A. In my direct testimony at page 11, I explained that PGW's tariff Section 10, Extensions
25 and Rights-of-Way explicitly limits the costs that PGW will incur to extend service, and
26 that those limits relate directly to annual deliveries. The import of this portion of my
27 direct testimony is that even if there were a demand for mere "connection service." (there
28 isn't) that sufficient deliveries must be present before PGW will be required to incur the

1 costs of providing natural gas delivery service. Absent the sufficiency of delivery
2 requirements, it would be economically irrational to extend natural gas delivery service to
3 connect customers who would use no gas.

4 Mr. Gorman argues that it is really PGW's current rate design that leads to any
5 revenue insufficiency. Mr. Gorman reasons, if a demand for "connection service"
6 existed, and "...if the utility's rates included a customer charge to reflect the customer
7 cost component, and a demand charge to reflect the peak demand, the utility's revenue
8 and economic viability would not be dependent on throughput.

9 Mr. Gorman is wrong. His argument is like the old saw: If I had some ham, I
10 could have some ham and eggs, if I had some eggs. Not only is there no revealed
11 demand for incurring cost to connect to PGW's minimum sized gas delivery system that
12 could, in fact, deliver no gas, but PGW does not have a customer charge anything like
13 PGW's proposed \$68.50 monthly residential heating customer cost [Exhibit HSG-1A,
14 page 1, line 3], and it doesn't have a residential demand charge at all (let alone a demand
15 charge assessed on a customer's 10-15- year estimated design day peak demand).
16 Moreover, even if PGW's rates were based on Mr. Gorman's description, sufficient
17 annual volumes over which the customer could amortize the costs would still be essential
18 to result in an average delivered gas cost per unit of consumption that would make
19 reliance on natural gas service economically viable to the customer. It is the sufficiency
20 of deliveries that is necessary to the economic viability of gas delivery service, not a
21 particular rate design.

22 Q. AT PAGES 16 AND 17 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. GORMAN
23 ARGUES THAT THE COSTS OF MAINS IS CAUSALLY RELATED ONLY
24 TO PEAK DEMANDS BECAUSE THE DELIVERY SYSTEM MUST BE
25 SIZED TO MEET PEAK DEMANDS. MR. KNECHT RAISES A SIMILAR

1 ARGUMENT, THAT THE COST OF A DISTRIBUTION MAIN DEPENDS
2 ONLY ON PEAK DEMANDS, AT PAGE 22, LINES 8-15 OF HIS REBUTTAL
3 TESTIMONY. PLEASE RESPOND.

4 A. PGW allocates its demand related distribution mains costs on the theory that it would not
5 have incurred any of those costs except for the fact that its customers insist on receiving
6 gas deliveries on the coldest day in a 10- to 15-year period. If PGW faced a demand for
7 delivered gas only once every 10- to 15- years, it would incur no costs, as its extensive,
8 highly capital intensive, fixed cost delivery system would not exist. One can only believe
9 that all of PGW's demand related distribution mains costs are caused by peak demands
10 only, if one were to find, contrary to reality, that the PGW system would exist (and costs
11 would be incurred) if there were no demand for gas deliveries but once every 10- to 15-
12 years. Rather than repeat my testimony on this matter, I refer to my direct testimony at
13 pages 12-14 related to distribution mains cost-causality, and to pages 14-18 for a
14 determination of the portion of distribution mains costs that is related to annual
15 commodity (average demands) and the portion that is properly related to peak demands.

16 Q. AT PAGE 17, LINES 7-8, MR. GORMAN ASSERTS THAT YOU "...
17 BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE UTILITIES DESIGN RATES ARE [SIC] BASED
18 ON VOLUMES OF GAS DELIVERED, THE COSTS INCURRED ARE
19 RELATED TO VOLUMES OF GAS DELIVERED AS WELL." DO YOU
20 BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE A GAS UTILITY TARIFF MAY INCLUDE A
21 VOLUMETRIC RATE, THE COSTS INCURRED ARE RELATED TO
22 VOLUMES OF GAS DELIVERED AS WELL?

23 A. No. At page 15, line 22, through page 16, line 4 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Gorman
24 cites my testimony as follows as the basis of his assertion:
25

1 "Rational investment decision analysis requires consideration of
2 annual volumes delivered across a natural gas distribution
3 company's system. A gas distribution system would not exist if all
4 demand related costs were the responsibility of peak demands. A
5 viable gas market is dependent upon the ability to amortize
6 delivery costs over a sufficient volume of service so as to result in
7 a unit cost that can be recovered from the price at which gas can be
8 sold and still compete with other energy sources." (OCA St. 3, p.
9 15, line 6)
10

11 Mr. Gorman misunderstands this testimony if he thinks that relating the delivery costs to
12 volumes of service only holds if the delivery costs are incurred on a volumetric basis. I
13 have earlier testified at page 10 in this surrebuttal testimony that, even if Mr. Gorman's
14 hypothetical rate, consisting of all cost recovery through a customer charge and a peak
15 demand charge existed, sufficient delivery volumes over which incurred cost could be
16 amortized are necessary for economic viability. In other words, a customer could take its
17 total gas bill, including customer charges, gas charges, delivery charges, and surcharges,
18 and divide the total cost by volumes delivered in order to determine the average cost of
19 delivered gas requirements. A determination of unit costs has nothing to do with cost
20 allocation. Nowhere in my testimony do I contend that if rates are based on volumes,
21 then costs are related to, and presumably allocated on, volumes.
22

23 **Response to Mr. Robert D. Knecht**

24 Q. AT PAGE 6 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT MENTIONS
25 YOUR COST OF SERVICE STUDY RESULT SHOWING A RESIDENTIAL
26 CLASS AVERAGE RATE OF RETURN OF 4.9 PERCENT AT PRESENT
27 RATES COMPARED TO A SYSTEM AVERAGE RATE OF RETURN OF 5.8
28 PERCENT. MR. KNECHT ASSERTS THAT THIS OBSERVATION, IN
29 CONCERT WITH YOUR ENDORSEMENT OF A 30.0 PERCENT

1 RESIDENTIAL RATE INCREASE COMPARED TO PGW'S OVERALL 33.9
2 PERCENT INCREASE IS NOT REASONABLE. PLEASE RESPOND.

3 A. Under the Peak and Average cost study at present rates, residential heating customers pay
4 rates which provide a 5.38 percent rate of return compared to a system average rate of
5 return of 5.79 percent, or an index rate of return of 92.9 percent. At proposed rates
6 residential customers provide a rate of return of 12.15 percent compared to a system
7 average of 12.89, or an index rate of return of 94.3 percent. This represents a closure of
8 21 percent of the gap between the index rate of return at present rates and the system
9 average index rate of return of 100 percent. Residential non-heating customers would
10 pay increased rates that close 34 percent of the gap between their index rate of return at
11 present rates and the 100 percent system index rate of return. Using PGW's cost study, in
12 combination with its proposed residential rate increase, shows 32 percent progress to
13 cost-based rates for heating customers and 34 percent progress for non-heating customers. The
14 residential heating customer index, at 94.3 percent under the Peak and Average study,
15 shows these customers are essentially at cost of service at PGW proposed rates. I believe
16 these results are reasonable.

17 Q. YOU MENTIONED IN YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY AT PAGE 2 THAT
18 MR. KNECHT USES THE TERM CROSS-SUBSIDY AS THE DIFFERENCE
19 BETWEEN CLASS REVENUES AND ALLOCATED, FULLY DISTRIBUTED
20 COSTS OF SERVICE. AT PAGES 7-8 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY,
21 MR. KNECHT, USING THAT DEFINITION AND YOUR ENDORSEMENT
22 OF PGW'S RESIDENTIAL RATE INCREASE, CONCLUDES THERE IS AN
23 "INSIDIOUS" PROBLEM WITH YOUR APPROACH. PLEASE RESPOND.

24 A. Mr. Knecht explains that the Peak and Average study allocates more cost to the GTS/IT
25 customers, increasing the difference between their revenues and allocated cost, or

1 subsidy, as that term is used by Mr. Knecht. I do not believe it is insidious that the Peak
2 and Average cost of service study reveals the GTS/IT class is paying rates that are below
3 their fully allocated costs. It is standard gas utility ratemaking practice to charge
4 discounted rates to interruptible customers and customers with competitive options, if
5 those discounted rates are the maximum rates that can apply and they are above marginal
6 costs. In these circumstances, the discounted rate customers' contribution toward fixed
7 costs, albeit smaller than at non-discounted rates, benefits other customers compared to
8 losing all contribution from the competitive-option customers if non-discounted rates
9 could not be applied. Under these circumstances, I, like PGW and OTS and Mr. Knecht,
10 propose no increase for the GTS/IT customers. The dollar amount of increase that is
11 determined in this case, the disputes over the spread of that resulting increase, and the
12 disputes over how costs are most reasonably allocated are not affected by all parties'
13 agreement in this proceeding regarding GTS/IT rates.

14 Q. AT PAGE 2, LINES 7-8 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT
15 CONCLUDES THAT YOU DO NOT OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE REVENUE
16 ALLOCATION PROPOSAL FOR ALL RATE CLASSES. AT PAGE 7, LINES
17 15-18, AFTER ACKNOWLEDGING THAT "...PGW HAS NO REASONABLE
18 WAY TO RAISE RATES FOR THESE [GTS/IT] CLASSES," MR. KNECHT
19 LAMENTS THAT YOU "...DO(ES) NOT MAKE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSAL
20 IN THAT RESPECT, NOR (DO)ES HE (YOU) OFFER ANY EVIDENCE
21 THAT PGW WOULD BE ABLE TO IMPOSE SUCH AN INCREASE." WHY
22 DO YOU NOT PROPOSE TO SHIFT REVENUE RESPONSIBILITY TO
23 OTHER CLASSES?

24 A. Based on the progress toward basis in cost indicated in PGW's and my own class cost of
25 service studies, at page 28 of my direct testimony I stated, "I conclude that no more than

1 PGW's proposed residential rate increase should be approved by the Commission, if
2 PGW is authorized its full, \$100 million requested rate increase. At lines 20-21 on page
3 28, addressing all of PGW's class revenue increase proposals, I stated, "If a cost study is
4 not required in the compliance phase, each class responsibility for the additional revenues
5 should be scaled back in proportion to PGW's original proposal." I found PGW's
6 revenue allocation to be reasonable and accepted PGW's analysis that it cannot further
7 increase the rates of the competitively situated customers without losing the contribution
8 to margin that these customers provide.

9 Q. AT PAGE 9, LINES 1-2 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT
10 CONCLUDES THAT YOUR ENDORSEMENT OF PGW'S RATES MUST
11 MEAN THAT YOU DO NOT AGREE THAT COST OF SERVICE IS THE
12 POLESTAR CRITERION FOR REVENUE ALLOCATION. PLEASE
13 RESPOND.

14 A. Mr. Knecht's conclusion is not correct. Whether PGW's proposed cost study is utilized
15 or whether the Peak and Average cost study is utilized, substantial progress toward cost
16 based rates results at PGW's proposed rates. This is shown on Exhibit HSG-7C, page 1,
17 line 23, of PGW's exhibits, and Exhibit RAG-1, page 5, line 23. The Peak and Average
18 study results show residential heating customers paying proposed rates that recover all of
19 their allocated operating costs, depreciation and taxes, and providing a rate of return that
20 is 94.3 percent of the system average rate of return. Given the fact that fully distributed
21 cost allocation studies are not an exact science, free from controversy, the proposed
22 residential rates are, in my opinion, essentially cost based. Whereas Mr. Knecht believes
23 that PGW's proposed rates are not consistent with costs of service being a polestar
24 criterion, I believe the record evidence supports the exact opposite conclusion.

1 Q. AT PAGE 9, LINES 13-15, MR. KNECHT STATES THAT BECAUSE THE
2 COST STUDIES THAT YOU AND MR. KUBAS RELY UPON CONTAIN
3 ALLOCATED GCR-RELATED COSTS AND REVENUES, "... THE CCOSs
4 RELIED UPON BY MESSRS. KUBAS AND GALLIGAN ARE NOT
5 APPROPRIATE FOR REVENUE ALLOCATION IN THIS PROCEEDING."
6 PLEASE COMMENT.

7 A. I address the use of cost studies available in this record, both with and without GCR costs
8 and revenues, at pages 13-15 of my rebuttal testimony. Here I would simply add Mr.
9 Knecht's conclusion stated at page 3 of his rebuttal testimony, "...there is remarkably
10 little difference in allocated costs for the major firm sales customers classes among the
11 various cost allocation methodologies submitted in this proceeding."

12 Q. AT PAGE 10, LINES 21 THROUGH PAGE 11, LINE 2 OF HIS REBUTTAL
13 TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT COMMENTS THAT BECAUSE
14 DISTRIBUTION MAINS HAVE LENGTH AS WELL AS SIZE THIS
15 SUPPORTS CLASSIFYING AND ALLOCATING A SIGNIFICANT PORTION
16 OF DISTRIBUTION MAINS ON A CUSTOMER BASIS. PLEASE RESPOND.

17 A. Mentioning the word length, and italicizing it as Mr. Knecht does here, does not support a
18 conclusion that a significant portion of distribution mains costs is caused by the
19 imaginary customer-connection service, rather than costs being caused by extending the
20 distribution system in order to provide delivery service to meet the demand requirements
21 of new customers. Without the new customer volumes, there would be no demand for
22 connection service. Similarly, without new customer volumes, PGW is precluded under
23 its tariff from incurring costs to connect customers who would use no gas. Customer
24 volumes are absolutely essential to PGW's being required to incur costs to extend its
25 system and provide delivery service to new customers.

1 Q. AT PAGES 11-12 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT CLAIMS
2 THAT PGW'S ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY RECOGNIZES
3 ECONOMIES OF SCALE. IS THIS RECOGNITION OF ECONOMIES OF
4 SCALE UNIQUE TO PGW'S COST ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY?

5 A. No. Economies of scale in a gas distribution system are a function of system demands,
6 not individual customer demands. Gas distribution systems built on the basis of least-
7 cost principles take advantage of all available system economies. The benefits of these
8 economies are reflected in lower total costs of service. All fully distributed cost studies
9 recognize existing, system-wide economies of scale.

10 Q. AT PAGE 17 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT MENTIONS
11 THAT MOST UTILITIES UTILIZE SOME FORM OF MINIMUM SYSTEM
12 TO CLASSIFY COSTS. DOES THIS OBSERVATION ESTABLISH A
13 CAUSAL LINK BETWEEN DISTRIBUTION COSTS AND THE NUMBER OF
14 CUSTOMERS?

15 A. No. At page 17 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Knecht states:

16
17 Finally, I note that Mr. Galligan excluded one observation from
18 that section of the Bonbright text, in which the authors admit:

19
20 In actual practice, the vast majority of utilities utilize some form of
21 minimum system to classify costs, which is in line with the FERC
22 accounts.¹¹

23
24 Thus, it can be inferred that most utilities believe that distribution
25 costs are, in fact, causally related to both peak demands and
26 numbers of customers on their system.”

27
28 In the very next sentence following the material Mr. Knecht cites, Professor Bonbright
29 reminds the reader of the controversial nature regarding this practice of using some form
30 of a minimum system to classify distribution system costs as customer related:
31

1 Sterzinger (1981) is critical of this practice and recommends that to
2 avoid the overcollection of charges from low-use residential
3 customers, regulators should classify distribution costs, as demand
4 costs.
5

6 What Mr. Knecht's cited material shows is that Professor Bonbright was fully aware that
7 the majority of utilities may use some form of minimum system to classify costs when he
8 described the controversial nature of the practice and the impelling pressure that the cost
9 practitioner is under to use the customer cost category as a "dumping ground" for costs
10 they cannot impute to any of their other cost categories.

11 Q. AT PAGE 18, LINES 1-3 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT
12 STATES THAT PGW WOULD NOT INSTALL EITHER A SERVICE LINE
13 OR METER TO A CUSTOMER WHO USED NO GAS, YET YOU
14 RECOGNIZE METERS AND SERVICES AS RELATED TO THE NUMBER
15 OF CUSTOMERS. PLEASE RESPOND.

16 A. There is no diversity in the use of individual services and meters -- one service and one
17 meter per customer. Each customer uses its own meter and service line; no customer uses
18 any other customer's meter or service line. The association of meter and service line
19 costs with customers is very much like a direct assignment. Distribution mains, however,
20 are jointly used throughout the year and at times of peak demand. These costs must be
21 allocated among users. *An allocation in proportion to the annual and peak service*
22 *requirements is an allocation on the basis of the service parameters that caused PGW to*
23 *incur the costs in the first place.*

24 Q. AT PAGE 18, LINES 4-8 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. KNECHT
25 PROVIDES AN AUTOMOBILE PURCHASE EXAMPLE AND CONCLUDES
26 THAT YOUR LOGIC SUGGESTS THAT CAR PRICES SHOULD BE BASED

1 ON THE NUMBER OF MILES THAT THE CAR WILL BE DRIVEN,
2 RATHER THAN ON THE COST OF THE CAR. PLEASE RESPOND.

3 A. Mr. Knecht's example is inapt. The purchase of a car is a purchase of a facility. PGW
4 sells service, not facilities. Cars are in a product category that economists refer to as
5 *differentiated products*, most unlike a utility's delivery service. Cars are designed to
6 meet many basic and nuanced demands through myriad individualization techniques.
7 Cars are not priced on a cost basis that in any meaningful way resembles utility pricing.
8 People can buy "more" or "less" car, and people will demand new car replacements at
9 different intervals for a litany of reasons. Mr. Knecht's car pricing example does not
10 apply to the determination of PGW's *delivery service prices*.

11 Q. STICKING WITH CAR EXAMPLES, MR. KNECHT PRESENTS AT PAGE
12 22, LINE 17 THROUGH PAGE 23, LINE 2 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY,
13 A SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE ("SUV") EXAMPLE. MR. KNECHT
14 CONCLUDES FROM HIS EXAMPLE THAT YOUR LOGIC SHOULD LEAD
15 TO A HIGHER PRICE FOR A CUSTOMER WHO WOULD USE THE
16 CAPACITY OF PRESUMABLY A GIVEN SUV MORE THAN THE PRICE
17 CHARGED TO A CUSTOMER WHO WOULD USE THE CAPACITY FOR
18 ONLY RELATIVELY SHORT PERIODS OF TIME. PLEASE RESPOND.

19 A. Mr. Knecht presents an example of Customer A, who wants a six-passenger SUV to drive
20 the passengers to work every day, or some 230 days per year. Customer B wants a six-
21 passenger SUV to take his 6-person family on a two-week vacation. The rest of the year,
22 B commutes to work by himself. Again Mr. Knecht's example is inapt regarding any
23 implication between the sale of a facility, the SUV, and the sale of the service, delivery
24 service, that PGW provides.

1 A more apt example would be an SUV leasing example, since the leasing
2 arrangement provides the services of an SUV, similar to PGW is providing the delivery
3 services that distribution mains make possible. Unequivocally, if Customer A presented
4 him (or her)self at a car leasing office with a demand for the use of a 6-passenger SUV
5 throughout an entire year, that customer would be charged more than Customer B, who
6 wants a 6-passenger SUV for two weeks. A consumer being provided with transportation
7 service of an SUV for a year will pay more for that service, i.e., be allocated more cost,
8 than a customer provided with transportation service of an SUV for a short period of
9 time.

10 Q. AT PAGE 18, LINES 14 TO 17 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR.
11 KNECHT ASKS THE QUESTION:

12
13 "... WILL INCREASES IN THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS WITH NO
14 INCREASE IN OVERALL DEMAND CAUSE THE NGDC TO INCUR
15 HIGHER COSTS?" MR. KNECHT ANSWERS THE QUESTION: "... YES,
16 SINCE THE NGDC WOULD NEED TO EXTEND THE DISTRIBUTION
17 SYSTEM TO SERVE THE NEW CUSTOMERS."

18
19 PLEASE COMMENT.

20 A. There are two reasons which could explain the simultaneous existence of new customers
21 and no increase in overall demand. One, the new customers have sufficient gas demands
22 to warrant extension of service under PGW's tariff Section 10, Extensions and Rights-of-
23 Way rules and regulations, and these demands exactly offset other declining demands. In
24 this case the new demands cause PGW to incur the cost of extending its system. Two,
25 the new customers have no demands for gas, all other things equal.¹ In this case, Mr.
26 Knecht is wrong -- PGW would not "need to extend the distribution system to serve the
27 new customers." In fact, if overall demand stays the same because the new customers

¹ There are intermediate cases where new customers bring various demands with them which just match decreasing other demands, but these cases reveal no different conclusions.

1 have no, or inadequate, demands for gas, PGW and its existing customer base is protected
2 by its current tariff from having to incur costs in order to extend its system to such
3 customers. In either case, it is clear from Mr. Knecht's example that costs are related to
4 demands – if the new customers have sufficient demands, PGW will incur costs to extend
5 its system; if new customer demands are insufficient, PGW will not incur costs of
6 extending its system. Clearly, it is the existence of delivery service requirements which
7 is responsible for PGW's incurrence of delivery service costs, not the possibility, or even
8 the eventual addition, of new customers.

9
10 Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR TESTIMONY?

11
12 A. Yes.
13
14
15
16
17

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19 94003.doc

Hess St. No. 1

R-00061931
5/21/07

Phila. PA
MS

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

RANDY MAGNANI

ON BEHALF OF

HESS CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. R-00061931

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

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JUN 29 2007

**PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU**

1 **I. Background**

2

3 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

4 A. I am Randy Magnani. My business address is One Hess Plaza, Woodbridge, NJ
5 07095.

6

7 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

8 A. I am the Director of Natural Gas Operations for the Energy Marketing
9 Division of Hess Corporation.

10

11 **Q. How long have you been employed in your current position?**

12 A. I have been employed in my current position since 2001.

13

14 **Q. Please explain the job responsibilities and duties in your current position.**

15 A. I am responsible for the nomination and scheduling of natural gas on interstate
16 pipelines and on the systems of Local Distribution Companies ("LDC") in
17 seventeen states, including the operations units which handle deliveries to and
18 operations on the PGW system. I am also responsible for the calculation of cost
19 components associated with providing gas to retail customers.

20

21 **Q. Please provide your educational background and relevant work experience
22 prior to joining Hess.**

23 A. I graduated from Manhattan College with a Bachelors Degree in Chemical
24 Engineering in 1970 and worked for the Public Service Commission of the State
25 of New York as a Junior Engineer. From 1971 to 1998, I worked for Brooklyn
26 Union Gas Company or its affiliates. I held various positions including Manager
27 of Rates and Gas Supply, Manager of Gas Operations and President and Chief
28 Operating Officer of KeySpan Energy Services, Brooklyn Union's marketing
29 affiliate. I then joined Navigant Consulting Group as a principal and consulted on
30 several issues primarily related to natural gas. I joined Hess Corporation in 2001.

1 I have testified before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and before the
2 Utility Commissions in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

3 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

4 A. I will address the state of gas competition in the retail market on the PGW system.
5 I also will be making recommendations regarding the initial minimum systems
6 and tariff changes that are needed to begin addressing the lack of competition in
7 the PGW service territory.

8

9 **II. State of the Competitive Gas Market on the PGW System**

10

11 **Q. Briefly explain the types of services that Hess provides in Pennsylvania.**

12 A. Hess is a licensed natural gas supplier in Pennsylvania at Docket No. A-125098.
13 Hess is licensed as an aggregator, broker/marketer and supplier of natural gas
14 services to commercial, industrial and governmental customers in Pennsylvania,
15 including in the PGW service territory.

16

17 **Q. Is Hess currently providing service to retail customers in the PGW service
18 territory?**

19 A. Yes. Hess actively markets to and serves commercial and industrial
20 customers and has been operating on the PGW system since 2004.

21

22 **Q. Briefly describe the state of the competitive retail gas market in the PGW
23 service territory.**

24 A. Retail gas competition in the PGW service territory is scarce. The lack of robust
25 retail competition in the PGW service territory is due primarily to: (1) operational
26 rules that Hess and other Natural Gas Suppliers ("NGSs") must follow in PGW's
27 service territory that serve as barriers to competitive entry and growth in the retail
28 supply market and (2) inadequacies and inefficiencies with the current means by
29 which NGSs communicate with PGW and with the method and format by which
30 the NGSs and PGW exchange customer and NGS-specific information, both of

1 which involve manual processes that serve as barriers to competitive entry and
2 growth.

3
4 **A. Operational Rules**

5
6 **Q. Please identify the anti-competitive operational rules that you previously**
7 **referenced.**

8 A. The operational rules I reference include, but are not limited to: (1) nominations
9 of natural gas supply deliveries to the PGW system by NGSs for delivery to and
10 consumption by their customers; (2) balancing and reconciliation of NGS
11 deliveries as compared to the volumes consumed by their customers; (3) the cash
12 outs and penalties associated with that process and (4) the mitigation tools
13 available to NGSs to minimize impact of the cash out process on customer rates.

14
15 **Q. Please explain, generally, how the operational rules should be modified**
16 **to remove competitive barriers to entry and to improve the state of retail gas**
17 **competition in the PGW service territory.**

18 A. These rules must be more reasonable in order to create a level playing field in
19 which NGSs can meaningfully compete for retail natural gas customers.
20 Currently, NGSs are prohibited from passing on to their customers the full benefit
21 yielded by their position in the market place serving customers across multiple
22 service territories in multiple jurisdictions. At the same time, these rules impose
23 a higher standard of performance on the NGSs than the LDC, itself, could expect
24 to meet. NGSs must have access to and operate under the same delivery
25 performance standards under which the LDC performs.

26
27 **Q. Please define the term "nomination" and explain how the nomination**
28 **process should be modified to help increase retail gas competition in the**
29 **PGW service territory.**

30 A. A "nomination" is the means by which NGSs notify PGW of the physical quantity
31 of gas for delivery to PGW's city gate as scheduled on the interstate pipelines

1 under specific purchase, sales and transportation agreements. PGW's current
2 deadline for day-ahead nominations should be extended. The current deadline as
3 per PGW's tariff is 12:00 p.m. This deadline puts NGSs at a disadvantage
4 because it requires them to submit nominations of their deliveries 30 minutes in
5 advance of pipeline deadlines where upstream contracts may still be provided to
6 suppliers for nomination. The nomination deadline should be extended to at least
7 2:00 p.m. This will benefit NGSs, PGW and consumers because it will reduce the
8 potential for errors and the need for nomination adjustments. Reducing errors
9 will have a favorable impact on price. Errors, especially those that are not
10 permitted to be corrected, result in penalties to NGSs, which can be reflected in
11 higher customer prices. Reducing errors will also reduce PGW's risks associated
12 with having to cover short supply imbalances on its system.

13
14 Furthermore, PGW currently does not permit NGSs to send retroactive
15 nominations, even if a pipeline will issue one. PGW should accept retroactive
16 nominations when a pipeline will confirm that it has issued one, particularly when
17 the need for the retroactive nomination is the result of a simple or unintentional
18 error or a disruption in supply that is beyond the control of the NGS. Particularly
19 in the latter instances, permitting retroactive nominations will bolster reliability as
20 PGW will be ensured of the delivery of gas rather than bearing the risk and
21 financial burden associated with having to cover supply shortfalls which could
22 have been prevented.

23
24 **Q. Please explain the process associated with the balancing and reconciliation of**
25 **NGS deliveries on an LDC's system.**

26 **A.** Balancing addresses the reconciliation of NGS deliveries to PGW's system to the
27 actual consumption of their customers. An imbalance occurs when an NGS
28 delivered more than their customers actually consumed, or if the customers
29 consumed more than their NGS actually delivered for them. When an imbalance
30 occurs, it must be cashed out at a rate specified by the LDC, often with associated
31 penalties imposed on the NGS. The reconciliation of these imbalances can be

1 done on a daily or monthly basis. Daily balancing refers to the practice of
2 requiring NGSs to maintain the difference between the quantity of gas that their
3 customers use and that they deliver to the LDC to within a tolerance level every
4 day. In contrast, monthly balancing allows the NGS to be out of balance on any
5 given day but requires them to be in tolerance for the month as a whole. Daily
6 cash out penalties are penalties that are assessed based on the quantity by which
7 the NGS is out of balance each and every day. Monthly cash out penalties are
8 assessed based on the monthly imbalance quantity only.

9
10 **Q. Please explain the balancing process on the PGW system and how it should**
11 **be modified to help increase retail gas competition in the PGW service**
12 **territory.**

13 **A.** Currently, for interruptible customers, PGW performs the balancing and cash out
14 of NGS deliveries to its system on a daily basis, structured around unreasonable
15 tolerance levels and penalties, and then imposes a further month-end
16 reconciliation with additional cash-outs and penalties. PGW allows a daily
17 tolerance of 5%. Therefore, if an NGS' customers use more than 105% of the
18 quantity delivered by the NGS, then the NGS is out of balance and must pay a
19 penalty of \$.50 per Dth outside the 5% range. At month's end, NGSs may carry
20 over within 2.5% of their deliveries for the month, but beyond that tolerance, are
21 cashed out at unreasonably low or high percentages of the market value of the
22 gas, dependent on whether it was an over or under delivery, respectively.

23
24 PGW's supplier tariff should be amended such that the current practice of daily
25 balancing is replaced with a purely monthly balanced program. In other words,
26 instead of cashing NGSs out on a daily basis, and then again at month-end, there
27 should be a reconciliation between delivered and consumed volumes only at the
28 end of the month. Additionally, the rates at which the over or under delivered
29 volumes are cashed out, or charged, should be market based with reasonable
30 levels of penalties established on a tiered basis tied to levels of performance
31 tolerances. The tolerances currently in place impose higher levels of performance

1 expectations on the NGSs than the LDC itself could expect to adhere to. If
2 elimination of daily balancing is demonstrated to not be feasible, than the daily
3 tolerance levels, cash-out rates and penalties, as well as the month-end cash-out
4 rates, should be amended to more reasonable, market based levels.

5
6 Additionally, the firm transportation customer cash out rate, applied to imbalances
7 annually, lacks transparency because it is not clearly set forth in PGW's retail or
8 supplier tariff and is therefore unreasonable. The rate for firm transportation cash
9 outs is supposed to be based on PGW's Weighted Average Cost of Gas
10 ("WACOG"), but is not clearly set forth in PGW's tariffs. Therefore, the firm
11 transportation cash out rate should be set at a reasonable, market-based rate, and
12 for transparency purposes, the supplier tariff should be modified to specifically
13 identify what that firm transportation cash out rate is.

14
15 **Q. Please explain the mitigation tools that NGSs can use to minimize the**
16 **financial impact caused by imbalances, and specify if those tools are available**
17 **on the PGW system. If they are not available, please explain how the PGW**
18 **program should be modified.**

19 **A.** One tool that NGSs often have available to them on many LDC systems is the
20 ability to imbalance trade with one another. Trading imbalances means that if
21 there is one NGS who has under-delivered and another NGS on the system has
22 over-delivered, both of whom have penalty exposure, the two NGSs would trade
23 gas among themselves to bring their pools into balance. If one NGS is long 10 %
24 and the other is short 10%, the PGW system is in perfect balance but both NGSs
25 would be paying penalties on 5% of their daily delivery. Trading the imbalance
26 would allow both NGSs to avoid penalties, which is appropriate since PGW did
27 not incur any penalty, and can reduce costs that must be passed on to customers.
28 The net result of imbalance trading is that there is less double charging of
29 penalties and if executed perfectly, only NGSs that were out of balance on the
30 same side as the overall system imbalance would pay a penalty.

31

1 Currently, PGW does not permit imbalance trading. However, permitting
2 imbalance trading will have no net impact on PGW's systems and will help
3 dramatically reduce costs to NGSs and customers by allowing NGSs to trade their
4 imbalance quantities with other NGSs that have an imbalance in the other
5 direction. This allows both NGSs to reduce the quantity by which they are out of
6 tolerance and thus, reduces their penalty and cash out exposure. Moreover this
7 trading, or re-allocation, which is permitted on many other LDC systems, occurs
8 after physical deliveries to the LDC have occurred. This doesn't impact PGW
9 because there is no physical transfer occurring – the gas has already been
10 delivered and consumed, and PGW is not involved in the transaction other than to
11 adjust volumes in their records. Therefore, PGW's supplier tariff should be
12 amended to allow NGSs to imbalance trade with one another or between their
13 own pools, if applicable.
14

15 **B. Communication and Information Exchange**

16
17 **Q. Please identify the inadequacies and inefficiencies that exist with the**
18 **communication and exchange of information between NGSs and PGW that**
19 **you previously referenced.**

20 **A.** The inadequacies and inefficiencies exist primarily with, but are not limited to,
21 the means by which NGSs obtain customer information and usage data as well as
22 the process of customer enrollment.
23

24 **Q. Please explain, generally, what changes should be made to the PGW**
25 **information exchange process to remove competitive barriers to entry and to**
26 **improve the state of retail gas supply competition in the PGW service**
27 **territory.**

28 **A.** PGW does not have an automated Electronic Data Interchange (“EDI”) system in
29 place to handle the exchange of customer-related information. Therefore, the
30 primary means by which the NGSs and PGW exchange customer and NGS data is
31 through a manual process, which involves emailing to PGW forms and

1 spreadsheets that are filed out manually. In the absence of implementation of an
2 EDI system on the PGW system, the process and means by which data is
3 exchanged needs to be improved and stream-lined to maximize efficiencies, to
4 facilitate customer enrollment customers, and minimize opportunities for errors.

5 **Q. Please explain the specific changes that should be made to PGW's**
6 **information exchange process to increase retail gas competition in the PGW**
7 **service territory.**

8 A. Unlike most other LDCs who have standard processes for obtaining usage,
9 account numbers and meter information, PGW does not have EDI or any other
10 automated systems where NGSs can obtain such information. Rather, NGSs must
11 obtain this information directly from customers, which is unduly administratively
12 burdensome and often yields inaccurate information. To remedy this competitive
13 barrier to entry, PGW should provide a consistent, transparent and straightforward
14 process by which NGSs can obtain customer information, preferably in an
15 automated format.

16
17 **Q. Please explain the specific changes that should be made to the customer**
18 **enrollment process in order to increase retail gas competition in the PGW**
19 **service territory.**

20 A. Currently, customer enrollment is done via manual data entry by the 15th of the
21 month, and there is no flexibility beyond that date to correct even minor errors,
22 which are the normal and natural consequence of a manual process, to
23 enrollments submitted by the established deadline. Consideration and flexibility
24 must be given as part of any enrollment process, given the lack of an automated
25 EDI process which would otherwise help to increase efficiencies and minimize
26 errors.

27
28 To remedy this competitive barrier to entry, when obtaining usage information
29 and enrolling a customer, NGSs should be required to provide only one point of
30 information per customer (i.e. whichever identification number is unique to a
31 customer, be it service point ID or account number). Moreover, PGW should

1 allow NGSs who have initially met the enrollment deadline to correct at least
2 minor errors so that customers are not put in the detrimental position of having to
3 take tariff gas during the first month of the term of the contract with their NGS.
4 This causes a financial burden to both customers and marketers and can be
5 avoided by simply providing flexibility in the enrollment process.
6

7 **C. Policy Justifications**
8

9 **Q. From a policy perspective, please explain the importance of increased retail
10 gas supply competition in the PGW service territory.**

11 A. It is important for competition to grow in the PGW service territory for several
12 reasons. First, it is my understanding that the Pennsylvania Public Utility
13 Commission ("Commission") has made it a policy objective to improve gas
14 competition statewide in Docket No. I-00040103. Therefore, increased
15 competition in the PGW service territory would be consistent with the
16 Commission's own objectives.
17

18 Second, the growth of competition will provide more options to customers both in
19 terms of the number of NGS options to choose from as well as the number, types
20 and prices of products and services that are available. Customers will have
21 greater access to more efficient services and products more specifically tailored to
22 meet their needs. Moreover, with increased competition, customers will have
23 greater opportunities to pursue savings in their gas supply needs.
24

25 Third, with specific regards to the PGW system, the more competitive options
26 that are available to PGW customers, the more PGW's obligations with regards to
27 commodity procurement and supply are relieved, enabling it to focus more
28 heavily on the provision of distribution services to its customers. Additionally,
29 the less PGW faces the risks associated with supply procurement and sales, the
30 more it can focus other financial issues that it faces on its system, including those
31 identified in this proceeding.

1 **Q. Finally why is it appropriate to address these competitive issues in this case?**

2 A. First, as I mentioned, the Commission has set a policy of improving competition
3 across the state, and many of the issues I address in my testimony can be
4 addressed through tariff changes. It is entirely logical and appropriate to address
5 such tariff changes as part of this proceeding, especially in light of the fact that all
6 PGW tariffs are under review as part of this case. Second, also as I mentioned,
7 the more competition grows on PGW, the more PGW will be freed up to address
8 any other issues it faces relating to distribution service and finances. Third, the
9 greater opportunities customers will have to minimize gas costs with NGSs, the
10 more they can attempt to offset any distribution rate increases they may face from
11 this case. Therefore, taking steps to ensure increased gas competition in the PGW
12 service territory is directly related to this case.

13

14 **III. Conclusion**

15

16 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

17 A. Yes.

Hess St. No. SR-1

R-00061931

5/21/07

Phila, PA

MJ

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

RANDY MAGNANI

**ON BEHALF OF
HESS CORPORATION
DOCKET NO. R-00061931**

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

MAY 15, 2007

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2007

**PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU**

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS FOR THE
2 RECORD.

3 A. My name is Randy Magnani and my business address is One Hess Plaza,
4 Woodbridge, New Jersey.

5
6 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TESTIMONY IN THIS MATTER?

7 A. Yes. I filed direct testimony which has been designated Hess Statement No. 1.
8

9 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

10 A. The purpose of my surrebuttal testimony is to respond to comments made in the
11 rebuttal testimony of PGW witnesses William C. Muntzer and Craig White, and
12 The Office of Consumer Advocate witness Richard W. Lelash.

13
14 Q. PLEASE BEGIN BY DISCUSSING MR. MUNTZER'S REBUTTAL
15 TESTIMONY PERTAINING TO DAILY NOMINATIONS DEADLINES.

16 A. Mr. Muntzer begins by responding to my direct testimony on the issue of the gas
17 nominations deadline which PGW currently has in place at 12:00 p.m. for day
18 ahead nominations. Mr. Muntzer suggests that Hess requires an additional half
19 hour to "get their calculations in order," in which case, PGW would consider
20 extending the deadline to 12:30 p.m. Mr. Muntzer misunderstands Hess' reason
21 for requesting the change and therefore does not offer an adequate extension of
22 the deadline. Hess does not request additional time to complete calculations, but
23 rather to allow for the finalization of gas contracts on the upstream pipelines at
24 12:30 p.m., that then must be communicated between Hess and its trading
25 partners, and finally transmitted to PGW via the electronic bulletin board
26 ("EBB"). Even with an extension to 12:30 p.m., the natural gas suppliers
27 ("NGSS" or "suppliers") would still be at a disadvantage because we may not be
28 able to fully utilize the breadth of available gas contracts being traded on the
29 pipelines, many of which are not finalized until 12:30 p.m., and still have time to
30 provide timely nominations of those contracts to PGW. Allowing later deadlines
31 benefits all parties involved including PGW, PGW's sales customers,

1 transportation customers and the NGSs. With a later deadline, fewer errors, or
2 even the need for after-the-fact alterations of contracts, will occur. The end result
3 is reduced penalties on NGSs, that are a component of customer pricing, as well
4 as reduced need for PGW to balance its system when imbalances are caused by
5 nomination errors. Moreover, PGW's rejection of retroactive nominations on its
6 system, where an interstate pipeline serving the PGW system has permitted the
7 supplier a retroactive nomination, completely frustrates the benefit accruing to
8 NGSs by pipelines' willingness to allow retroactive nominations. Where an NGS
9 can document that a pipeline has authorized a retroactive nomination, PGW
10 should be required to permit a retroactive nomination for symmetry and to give
11 practical effect to the pipelines' change in nomination level.

12
13 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS MR. MUNTZER'S TESTIMONY REGARDING ERROR
14 CORRECTION.

15 A. Mr. Muntzer contends that allowing nomination error correction places PGW in
16 the position of potentially showing favoritism for one NGS over another. This is
17 not accurate. Most local distribution companies ("LDCs") provide some measure
18 of latitude when working with NGSs to allow for the correction of errors that are
19 clearly innocent mistakes and not meant to create some artificial advantage for the
20 NGS. This common sense business practice is implemented even handedly
21 among marketers, and exists with the explicit understanding that the LDC is free
22 to deny any request for changes when the LDC suspects abuse of this flexibility.
23 When a situation arises that clearly involves a clerical error, such as with the
24 transposition of two numbers in a lengthy contract number, and these numbers
25 must be manually entered each day, most LDCs will allow for correction of the
26 contract number, particularly when the gas was in fact delivered to the gate under
27 the correct contract number. In cases such as these, the NGS clearly made a
28 clerical error, and no harm was imposed on the LDC since the gas was in fact
29 delivered and was available to be consumed. Hess agrees that PGW's allowance
30 of intraday nominations does mitigate some of the need for corrections, and that

1 flexibility has not been abused. Nevertheless, there are sometimes corrections
2 that cannot be accommodated intraday, and similarly would not be abused.

3

4 Q. HOW DOES PGW RESPOND TO YOUR PROPOSAL TO INCREASE DAILY
5 TOLERANCE BANDS, REDUCE DAILY PENALTIES, AND SET MONTHLY
6 CASHOUTS AT MARKET BASED RATES?

7 A. PGW does not believe that these changes are necessary or appropriate. Mr.
8 Muntzer argues that the tolerance bands and penalties are designed to be a
9 disincentive to NGSs to over or under deliver in order to take advantage of
10 economic opportunities offered in other markets. Mr. Muntzer further contends
11 that the changes Hess proposed would reduce PGW's "control and the reliability
12 of the system, and impose unnecessary costs on firm customers." Mr. Muntzer
13 also states that the current penalty levels should be maintained because they were
14 approved by the PUC as a part of a settlement. In addition, PGW suggests that
15 NGSs could improve performance by assuming greater responsibility for its
16 customers' actions and by forecasting more accurately.

17

18 Q. HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND TO MR. MUNTZER'S ARGUMENT THAT
19 TOLERANCE BANDS AND PENALTIES ARE A DISINCENTIVE TO NGS
20 MISBEHAVIOR?

21 A. First, Hess strongly disagrees that the tolerance band and penalties act as a
22 disincentive to NGS misbehavior. While it makes sense to provide some
23 restrictions in order to control the amount of swing PGW must balance from day
24 to day, the tolerance bands and penalties currently in place are so restrictive that
25 they go beyond deterrent and become punishment for punishment's sake. PGW
26 appears to believe that NGSs could forecast more accurately than they do, and
27 therefore have the ability to avoid these penalties. This is simply untrue.
28 Customer usage can fluctuate dramatically from day to day and while NGSs have
29 models to help predict these changes, we can be no more accurate than are the
30 meteorologists and the customers themselves. When an NGS forecasts based on a
31 weather forecast, and that weather forecast is 5 degrees off from the actual

1 temperature, usage will be vastly different than predicted. Or, when weather
2 changes dramatically from morning to afternoon, usage patterns are significantly
3 affected. If professional meteorologists cannot accurately predict weather, it is
4 unrealistic to expect NGSs to do any better. In addition, Mr. Muntzer states that
5 we can better forecast through greater communication with and responsibility
6 placed on our customers. This argument assumes an extremely high level of
7 natural gas sophistication on the part of the customer that is unfounded for all but
8 the largest natural gas customers. Except in the case of these highly savvy
9 consumers, even when suppliers are in daily communication with a customer, the
10 customers are frequently unable to accurately determine how weather and process
11 changes will affect their gas consumption. Therefore, these penalties do nothing
12 but place unreasonable costs on NGSs and as a byproduct on their customers,
13 purportedly to control behavior that cannot be appreciably improved. Mr.
14 Muntzer also states that these penalties are meant to deter NGS from utilizing
15 assets in territories that are more economically advantageous than the PGW
16 territory. Once again, this assumes a level of forecasting ability that simply does
17 not exist. If NGSs were able to forecast so accurately as to be able to arbitrage
18 other opportunities that are more economically advantageous, we would also be
19 able to avoid PGW's daily penalties and month end cashouts. As we are not able
20 to avoid these penalties and cashouts, it is clear that they are no deterrent, and are
21 simply punishing behavior that cannot be improved.

22
23 Q. HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND TO MR. MUNTZER'S CONTENTION THAT
24 INCREASED TOLERANCE BANDS AND DECREASED DAILY PENALTIES
25 WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF CONTROL AND INCREASED COSTS ON
26 FIRM CUSTOMERS?

27 A. Hess sees no reason to believe that these results will occur. First, the difference in
28 dekatherms ("dths") from a tolerance band of 5% to 10% is so small that it is
29 impossible to see how it could have any real impact on PGW's swing gas buy
30 decisions or that it would impose any additional costs on anyone. For example, if
31 an NGS serves customers with an average daily load of 5,000 dths, with a 5%

1 tolerance band, the daily tolerance would be 250 dths. With a 10% tolerance, the
2 daily tolerance would be 500 dths. Hess fails to see how an increased swing
3 tolerance of 250 dths a day could have any appreciable impact on the entire PGW
4 system of hundreds of thousands of dekatherms flowing daily, whether it be on
5 reliability or costs for any customers. On the contrary, the changes Hess proposes
6 would reduce costs for NGSs which in turn would reduce costs for transportation
7 customers. Second, since neither marketers' customers nor PGW can accurately
8 forecast customers' requirements, the effect of widening the band to reasonable
9 levels will not impact the amount of gas delivered to the system or the imbalance
10 between what customers use and what is delivered. It will, however reduce the
11 penalties paid by marketers and flowed through to customers.
12

13 Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. MUNTZER THAT THE FACT THAT THESE
14 TOLERANCES AND RATES WERE PART OF A COMMISSION-APPROVED
15 SETTLEMENT MEANS THAT THEY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED
16 WITHOUT CHANGE?

17 A. No. Certainly Commission approved regulations must be adhered to and upheld
18 unless and until the Commission sees fit to make changes to them. Hess would
19 point out that much experience has been gained in serving transportation
20 customers in the years since the settlement on PGW's current tariff was approved.
21 It is the Commission's right and duty to re-evaluate its decisions in light of new
22 conditions, much as it is currently working to do in the State's Natural Gas
23 Investigation proceeding. Now that NGSs like Hess have had the opportunity to
24 work within the rules established by the parties and approved by the Commission,
25 we are able to explain what is not working well and how to improve on existing
26 requirements. The Commission's order establishing this rate investigation makes
27 it clear that PGW's current tariffs are under review, and not just the elements of
28 those tariffs that PGW has proposed to change.

1 Q. PLEASE COMMENT ON PGW'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY REGARDING
2 IMBALANCE TRADING.

3 A. Mr. Muntzer states that PGW cannot implement imbalance trading because it does
4 not have the necessary systems in place to accommodate this process. However,
5 Hess works with other LDCs that similarly do not utilize sophisticated systems to
6 manage imbalance trades and yet they are still able to provide this option to
7 NGSs. All that is necessary is that PGW allow marketers to shift volume between
8 one another. The trading activity need not, and in fact should not, be done
9 through PGW, but rather is handled between NGSs outside the PGW system.
10 Once a trade has been agreed to by two NGSs, they both independently notify
11 PGW of the volume to be traded, and PGW would simply change the imbalances
12 associated with each NGS to reflect the traded volume. A simple Excel file could
13 be used to track these imbalances, and in fact, PGW is already using Excel to send
14 imbalance reports to NGSs. Mr. Muntzer further objects to imbalance trading on
15 the premise that PGW should not be made "arbitrator for disputes between
16 suppliers."

17

18 As I have explained, all trades are conducted between NGSs without PGW
19 involvement so that any disputes would be resolved among the NGSs. But more
20 importantly, Hess has rarely experienced a dispute during an imbalance trade, nor
21 are we aware that this is a frequent occurrence for others. Trade prices are
22 negotiated up front and all trades are recorded either via instant message, on a
23 recorded phone line, or on email so that disputes, if they were to occur, could
24 easily be resolved. In any event, this would not be the responsibility of PGW, nor
25 would it interfere with any system integrity. If the NGSs do not mutually agree to
26 a trade, then PGW would take no action with imbalances.

27

28 Finally, Mr. Muntzer contends that Hess has failed to demonstrate the benefits of
29 imbalance trading for customers. As I explained in my direct testimony, (p. 6,
30 lines 26-29), imbalance trading allows NGSs that are on opposite sides of a
31 position to net out certain portions of their imbalances so that the LDC does not

1 penalize both for being out of balance when the netted amount means the system
2 was in balance overall. If the system was in balance, no harm came to the LDC's
3 customers, so that penalizing both NGSs, and indirectly penalizing transportation
4 customers, is unnecessary. Imbalance trading therefore brings no harm to LDC
5 sales customers, and reduces costs to marketers which reduces costs to
6 transportation customers.

7
8 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS MR. MUNTZER'S TESTIMONY WITH REGARD TO
9 SHARING OF CUSTOMER USAGE INFORMATION WITH NATURAL GAS
10 SUPPLIERS.

11 A. Mr. Muntzer points out that PGW does not have an EDI system, but instead has
12 implemented a hybrid system utilizing EDI standards with XML systems. He
13 further explains that 12 months of customer usage data is available on a quarterly
14 basis as long as the customer has authorized PGW to provide such data to NGSs.
15 He states that Hess' proposal to provide this data in an automated fashion cannot
16 be accommodated for privacy and technical reasons.

17
18 Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. MUNTZER THAT THE REASONS PROVIDED
19 DO IN FACT PREVENT PGW FROM PROVIDING MORE TIMELY DATA
20 IN AN AUTOMATED FASHION?

21 A. No. Hess is in no way advocating that PGW should install new systems to be able
22 to provide this data in an automated fashion. Further, Hess understands that the
23 LDC cannot release customer data without permission from the customer.
24 Instead, Hess is suggesting first, that for customers who have already provided
25 permission for their usage history to be released to NGSs, PGW can provide data
26 upon request, rather than quarterly or even monthly. When an NGS is
27 constructing a bid for a customer, it is imperative that we have the most recent
28 usage information in order to base our quote on the customer's likely future usage
29 patterns. It is unrealistic to expect the customer to wait until a new quarter for
30 that usage to be available in order to be able to switch to a new supplier. With
31 regard to the means of transmitting this data to NGSs, no elaborate system is

1 required. Instead, Hess is suggesting that a simple Excel spreadsheet be sent via
2 email or provided on the EBB with password protection to ensure privacy rights
3 are maintained. Second, in the case of customers that have not authorized PGW
4 to supply this data to NGSs, Hess would point out that some customers simply opt
5 out of such programs in order to avoid mass mailings and other direct marketing
6 campaigns. However, if a customer is working with an NGS to explore the
7 possibility of switching to NGS provided commodity service, that customer
8 should have the right and a mechanism by which to authorize PGW to provide
9 usage history to the NGS. In such cases, most LDCs utilize a simple
10 authorization form that can be faxed to the LDC, after which the LDC emails an
11 Excel file, or posts the data on the NGSs EBB. Once again, this maintains
12 privacy rights, while also providing current usage data by request of the customer.
13 *When Mr. Muntzer postulates that NGSs may be misusing the existing Marketing*
14 *File, and that this is the reason that NGSs find the file to be inadequate, he is*
15 *incorrect. The Marketing File is simply inadequate in its present form, and lacks*
16 *current data.*

17

18 Q. TURNING TO MR. LELASH'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, PLEASE
19 COMMENT ON THE NOMINATION DEADLINE.

20 A. Mr. Lelash states that it is "understandable that NGSs want as much flexibility in
21 their nomination as possible..." (see page 7) but that this is in opposition to
22 PGW's need to enforce operational requirements. Mr. Lelash misinterprets the
23 reason that Hess is requesting an extension of the nomination deadline. Hess does
24 not desire additional flexibility for flexibility's sake. Rather, as I have pointed out
25 earlier in this testimony, there are logistical reasons why a 12:00 p.m. or even a
26 12:30 p.m. deadline is unrealistic in the context of a 12:30 p.m. interstate pipeline
27 deadline. Hess is not requesting this change for flexibility, but instead for
28 feasibility.

1 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS MR. LELASH'S COMMENTS ON YOUR BALANCING
2 AND CASHOUT PROPOSALS.

3 A. Mr. Lelash expresses concern that my proposal would limit PGW's ability to
4 control its own system and would result in costs being imposed on incumbent
5 ratepayers. As I described above in response to Mr. Muntzer's rebuttal testimony
6 on tolerance bands and penalties, the changes I am proposing are not designed to
7 allow NGSs "delivery latitude" as Mr. Lelash contends, but rather are designed to
8 correct inappropriate and overly punitive rules that punish NGS for behavior they
9 are incapable of improving. This inability to improve is not the result of
10 incompetence or inexperience either, but is due to the nature of the industry.
11 LDCs themselves experience significant swing in their own customer pools.
12 After decades of experience serving natural gas to end users, if forecasting could
13 be done more accurately to avoid daily swings, the LDCs certainly would have
14 been doing it by now. Moreover, the greater tolerance band and reduced penalties
15 that Hess seeks would not impose any additional costs on LDC sales customers.
16 As I explained above in response to Mr. Muntzer's testimony, the volume of gas
17 that is being shipped by NGSs is so minute compared to that being flowed by the
18 LDC overall, that even a 5% change in tolerance band would only increase swings
19 by hundreds of dekatherms compared with hundreds of thousands on the LDC
20 system. In addition, the increase tolerance bands would not affect the quantity of
21 gas delivered to the system but simply reduce the unreasonable penalties that are
22 currently assessed. The increased tolerance band and reduction in daily penalties
23 would result in a reduced cost to transportation customers, and this plan therefore
24 should earn the support of this proposal from the OCA.

25

26 Q. ARE MR. LELASH'S CONCERNS ABOUT IMBALANCE TRADING WELL-
27 FOUNDED?

28 A. No. Mr. Lelash is concerned that various mismatches between volumes from one
29 NGS trading partner to another and NGS disputes will result in administrative
30 issues for PGW. As I have explained, PGW's role is simply to accept the changes
31 that are agreed to between two marketers and as long as both marketers give PGW

1 the same volume there can be no dispute that would involve PGW. If the
2 numbers do not agree, then PGW would not make the change.

3
4 Q. MR. LELASH APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD
5 NOT ADDRESS SUPPLIER ISSUES IN THIS PROCEEDING AND THAT
6 THE SUPPLIER PROPOSALS ARE REQUESTS FOR SUBSIDIES. DO YOU
7 AGREE WITH THAT VIEW?

8 A. No. The low level of success NGSs have in marketing on the PGW system
9 implicates a major issue in this proceeding which is the cash flow needs of PGW
10 given its responsibility to buy and resell large amounts of gas supply. To the
11 extent NGS success allows PGW to exit that role, its gas supply expenses and its
12 cash flow needs are reduced. This is a potentially enormous benefit to PGW that
13 should not be deferred. It is extremely shortsighted to ignore the relationship
14 between this Company's financial needs and its gas supply function, and
15 backburner important NGS issues on the PGW system. I also take issue with Mr.
16 LeLash's use of the term "subsidies" to describe the NGS proposals in this case.
17 Pennsylvania has decided that natural gas distribution systems are to be opened to
18 natural gas suppliers so that *all* customers have the opportunity to purchase supply
19 services from the local distribution company or a competitive supplier. Without
20 reasonable terms under which those suppliers can operate, the local distribution
21 systems are not truly open, and the regulatory scheme is not really being
22 implemented.

23
24 Q. MR. WHITE ADDRESSES PGW'S DUTIES UNDER THE GAS CHOICE ACT.
25 DO YOU HAVE ANY RESPONSIVE COMMENTS?

26 A. Yes. To the extent Mr. White's testimony is intended to support the notion that
27 PGW's work is completed with respect to making robust competition an
28 irreversible reality on its system, I disagree. Mr. White states that under the Gas
29 Choice Act, PGW "is only required to open its distribution system to those
30 suppliers, which it plainly has." Even if the system is *available* for suppliers to
31 utilize, that does not mean that operation on that system is operationally or

1 economically feasible. And even if these conditions do exist, even when
2 competitive suppliers make initial inroads in attracting customers, if the
3 competitive environment is not nurtured, markets that were once open can
4 become closed to the detriment of customers and Pennsylvania's pro-competitive
5 policies. PGW's supplier rules must continue to be adjusted and refined to ensure
6 that competition on the PGW system is maintained and enhanced.

7
8 Q. WHAT ARE MR. LELASH'S CONCERNS REGARDING COMPETITION
9 OVERALL AND HESS' EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF
10 PROMOTING COMPETITIVE MARKETS?

11 A. Mr. Lelash states that NGSs are requesting both direct and indirect subsidies to
12 support competitive markets and that it is "certain" that customers will realize
13 negative impacts from the changes we have proposed on balancing rules. Mr.
14 Lelash further argues that "... successful operation should be predicated on their
15 operating efficiency and skill and not on artificial subsidies..." (see page 10). Mr.
16 Lelash states that NGSs may be interested in serving PGW customers because the
17 PGW rates are so high, but that this is not a rationale for adding costs to PGW's
18 existing rates.

19
20 Q. PLEASE COMMENT ON MR. LELASH'S STATEMENTS ON
21 COMPETITIVE MARKETS.

22 A. I do not agree that the programs and rule changes we are requesting will result in
23 any additional costs to PGW ratepayers. On the contrary, as I have explained,
24 these proposals will result in no impact to incumbent ratepayers but will reduce
25 costs for transportation customers. I do agree with Mr. Lelash that subsidies
26 should not be the means by which NGSs win a successful enterprise, and Hess is
27 not seeking such subsidies. We are seeking greater operational efficiency which
28 cannot be achieved under the current tariff rules. These efficiencies are being
29 hampered by overly punitive rules that do not control behavior since they punish
30 behavior that cannot be improved. That NGSs are entering the PGW territory as a
31 result of PGW's high rates seems unlikely since NGSs are serving natural gas

1 customers in almost every LDC territory on the Eastern seaboard and certainly not
2 all of these have rates as high as those in PGW's service territory. Nevertheless,
3 even if that is the reason for entry, the OCA should applaud NGS interest in this
4 territory as it can only assist in bringing lower cost natural gas service to the
5 customers in PGW's footprint. Mr. LeLash's skepticism about Hess's proposals in
6 this case does not take into account the benefits that will accrue to customers from
7 lower gas costs if NGSs are encouraged to pursue sales on the PGW system due
8 to reasonable rules being in place. Mr. LeLash is properly concerned about the
9 lack of competitive supply alternatives for residential customers. However by
10 opposing Hess's proposals for improvements in PGW's supplier rules, he is
11 making progress on this issue more doubtful. I agree that additional costs should
12 not be incurred due to NGS entry, and none of the changes I have proposed would
13 add costs to ratepayers, whether incumbent or transportation.

14

15 Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

16 A. Yes, it does.

Hess Corporation Hearing Exhibit No. 1

5/21/07
Phila. PA
MS

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

**DOCUMENT
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PGW Response to Hess Set I-3
Discovery Request

DOCKETED
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JUN 22 2007

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

RESPONSE TO HESS CORPORATION DATA REQUEST
REGARDING PGW'S BASE RATE FILING
DOCKET NO. R-00061931

Question Hess-Set I-3: Please identify the number of licenses Natural Gas Suppliers actively serving customers on the PGW system, indicating which rate class (as) they are serving, for each year dating back to 2003.

Response Provided By: *Nicholas LaPergola, Director, Gas Supply & Transportation*

Response: For Firm Choice participation there were no suppliers from 2003 until 2006, as of 2006 through present, there are two licensed suppliers on the Philadelphia Gas Works system.

Hess Corporation Hearing Exhibit No. 2

5/21/07
phib, PD
MS

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

PGW Response to Hess Set 1-5
Discovery Request

DOCUMENT
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DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

RESPONSE TO HESS CORPORATION DATA REQUEST
REGARDING PGW'S BASE RATE FILING
DOCKET NO. R-00061931

Question Hess-Set I-5: Please indicate and identify any procedures or expenditures PGW plans to implement to upgrade the process or method by which PGW provides customer usage data, customer account numbers and service point IDs to Natural Gas Suppliers.

Response Provided By: William C. Muntzer

Response: PGW has no formal plans at the present to implement any process or incur additional expenditures to exceed the Commission's requirements regarding the dissemination of customer information to suppliers.

Hess Corporation Hearing Exhibit No. 3

5/21/07

P. H. H. H., PD

MS

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

PGW Response to Hess Set II-I
Discovery Request

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JUN 23 2007

**PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU**

RESPONSE TO HESS CORPORATION DATA REQUEST
REGARDING PGW'S BASE RATE FILING
DOCKET NO. R-00061931

Question Hess-Set II-1: RE: PGW's Rebuttal Testimony of William C. Muntzer, (p. 9, lines 7-17). Mr. Muntzer states that "...PGW does not impose a cash-out for annual imbalance penalties for firm transportation customers... We only require that the loaned gas be returned to PGW, plus a carrying charge."

PGW's tariff states (p.118),

[a]ll volumes delivered to the Company that remain unaccepted by the Customer, in excess of the allowable monthly underrun may be offered for sale to the Company or stored at the Customer's option. Gas may be purchased by the Company at a rate not to exceed the Company's avoided cost of Gas for the month of delivery. In the event that the Company does not elect to purchase volumes in excess of the allowable underrun, a service charge for all such volumes carried forward by the Company will be made..... The unit rate for this service charge will be the volumetrically weighted average of the 100% load factor unit cost of the Company's pipeline storage contracts as utilized in the Company's annual operating budget authorized by the Commission.

The tariff language seems to address underruns only, while Mr. Muntzer's testimony only addresses over deliveries. Moreover, in responses to Hess, Set I-12, Mr. LaPergola states that PGW's "tariff does not specify a cash out rate,," indicating that a cashout provision does exist but that the rate is simply unspecified in the tariff.

- a) Please explain how and when a Supplier is trued up. Are suppliers trued up monthly or annually?
- b) Please explain how and when a Supplier is cashed out.
- c) Please indicate the rate or index at which the Supplier is cashed out.

Response Provided By: William C. Muntzer

Response: PGW believes that that Hess may have a misunderstanding of PGW's tariff regarding this issue. Further, there appears

to be a misunderstanding of what services the Company offers coupled with a mixing of terms and concepts.

First, the Company offers *Interruptible Transportation* under its various IT rate schedules. Under the IT rates the supplier provides profiling and forecasting of customer usage and schedules nominations for that quantity of commodity. Failure to deliver the nominated quantity daily results in penalties as identified in PGW's Customer Tariff, Rate Schedule DB, Section 6(d). Treatment of gas quantities forecasted and delivered by the supplier that are over or under the amount used by the customer, and fall beyond the monthly threshold limits, are addressed in Section 6(f).

Second, the Company provides *Firm Transportation* under rates GS, MS and PHA. Under these services, the Company calculates the forecasted usage for the supplier's pool(s). The supplier is responsible for delivering the forecasted quantity. If the actual quantity used exceeds the forecasted quantity, the supplier is loaned the gas to be replenished at a future date, and must pay a carrying charge.

The third group of customers are the *Gas Transportation Service (GTS)* customers. This is a group of customers that were actively transporting gas on PGW's system prior to PGW's restructuring. This service is grandfathered for those customers who used the service on or before September 1, 2003.

The cited tariff language appears on pages 122 and 128 of the current tariff (not page 118). This language is only relevant for grandfathered customers receiving GTS Firm and GTS Interruptible services. It does *not* deal with supplier transactions as contemplated under Gas Choice. Essentially, from the Company's standpoint, under the existing GTS rates the supplier is irrelevant. While the customer may use a supplier, or act as its own supplier when procuring supply under the GTS rate schedules, all over/under deliveries are the responsibility of the customer, not the supplier. The language cited above simply identifies that the Company has the option of purchasing any excess gas from the GTS customer or storing the gas for that customer based upon existing storage contract costs.

With regard to Mr. LaPergola's interrogatory response, Hess infers that because the Company's tariff does not

specify a cash out rate, we are not calculating the cash out amount. In reality, it means that the cash out rate is not stated in the tariff because it does not apply. Gas for Firm Suppliers is loaned and replenished, not cashed out.

- a) Under rates GTS-Firm and GTS-Interruptible, suppliers communicate with their customers regarding the required delivery quantity. A supplier delivers gas on the customer's behalf. Any imbalance between usage and delivered quantity is the responsibility of the customer. Therefore, no supplier true up is necessary.
- b) Under Gas Choice for PGW's firm tariff rates (GS, MS and PHA), the Company generates customer load profiles and forecasts to provide the supplier with a monthly Daily Deliver Quantity (DDQ) for the month. The supplier is responsible for delivering the DDQ for its customers. There are three scenarios that could occur: a supplier over delivers, under delivers, or simply delivers the correct amount. In the event that the supplier over or under delivers gas quantities necessary to meet its DDQ, steps are identified in Section 9.10 of the PGW's Supplier Tariff. The Company is not obligated to accept nominations in excess of the DDQ. Penalties for over or under deliveries are set forth in Sections 9.10 and 9.11 of the Supplier Tariff.

If the supplier correctly delivers its DDQ, the next step is to determine if the supplier's customers utilized the amount forecasted by the Company. If the customers utilized more than the forecasted DDQ, the excess amount was provided to the customers from PGW's contracted pipeline storage and on site LNG. Such quantities would then be required to be replenished during the non-peak period. Such payback is calculated into the DDQ for those periods. Because the supplier is only allocated firm transportation, it is unlikely that it would ever be in a position of not owing the Company gas. Any excess delivery between the Company forecasted level and the actual usage would be used to credit the amount owed. Therefore, there is no cash out required.

- c) As indicated in the response above and my previously provided testimony, there is no cash out for firm transportation suppliers.

Hess Corporation Hearing Exhibit No. 4

5/21/07
Phils PD
MS

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

Hess PGW
~~PGW~~ Response to ~~Hess~~ Set II-4
Discovery Request

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RESPONSE OF HESS CORPORATION TO SET II, INTERROGATORIES NOS. 1 THROUGH 5 OF PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS, SUBMITTED APRIL 19, 2007 BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION.

REQUEST:

II-4: Re: Hess St. No. 1 (Magnani), p.5, lines 21-22, 28-29, p.6, lines 10-13. Please provide what Hess believes are reasonable, market-based cash out rates that should be adopted in this proceeding for:

- (a) interruptible customers; and
- (b) firm transportation customers.

ANSWERED BY: Randy Magnani
POSITION: Director, Natural Gas Operations

RESPSONE: (a) Cash out rates and multipliers should be fair in that they should not unduly penalize behavior that cannot be improved, even with the best intentions and the highest level of expertise. Currently, PGW penalizes NGSs for delivering outside a daily tolerance band of only 5%, and then cashes out all imbalances outside 2.5% at the end of the month. NGSs are often unable to avoid both the daily penalties and monthly cash outs, due to the tight tolerance bands at both levels.

The cash out rate therefore, should be set at a transparent market index such as the Gas Daily Average ("GDA") for the month for a pipeline or multiple pipelines blended based on the delivery requirements behind PGW's city gate. Currently, PGW charges NGSs the average of the highest daily prices for the month for Transco Z6 Non-NY and Tetco M3 and pays only the average of the lowest daily prices for the month for these same pipelines. There is no reason that these most extreme prices should be used for a month end cash out that is based on imbalances that occurred throughout the month. Instead, PGW should utilize a GDA for the month for these pipelines with some blend of the two.

In addition to an unfair cashout rate, there is also an unduly punitive set of multipliers factored onto the cash out rates. On over deliveries outside the 2.5% tolerance band, NGSs are only paid 75% of an already low cash out rate. On underdeliveries, NGSs must pay 150% of an already high cash out rate. Hess sees no reason that the NGSs should be penalized twice on the monthly cash outs, particularly when NGSs are already paying daily penalties.

It would be more equitable to set a wider monthly tolerance band, such as 10%, within which the GDA price would be paid without multipliers. Outside the tolerance band, more reasonable multipliers could be instituted, for example a 90% payout on GDA for long positions outside +10%, and a 110% charge on GDA for short positions outside -10%.

(b) Because PGW's tariff requires NGSs to deliver a volume each day that is dictated by PGW, it is unreasonable to cash out any imbalances that remain at the end of the month or season at any rate other than a fair market rate. The NGS is following the rules set by the LDC in delivering the LDC's forecasted volume and has no control over imbalances as a result.

Because this is Hess' first year serving firm transportation customers in the PGW territory, we have not yet experienced the true up of the imbalance between PGW's Daily Delivery Requirement (DDR), and the customers' actual burns. In addition, since the rate is also not defined in PGW's tariff, we cannot determine whether or not PGW would cash out the firm transportation imbalances at a fair market rate.

With that said, a fair market rate would be one that is based on the indexes tied to the pipelines utilized to serve the PGW territory. NGSs are required to bring gas to PGW's city gate primarily via Transco Z6 Non-NY, with some ability to serve via Tetco M3.

PHA SIMT 1
5/21/07
Phila PA
MS

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

TESTIMONY OF CARL R. GREENE

**ON BEHALF OF
THE PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

**Docket No. R-00061931
April 9, 2007**

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PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Carl R. Greene. I am Executive Director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, ("PHA"). Our business address is 12 S. 23rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

A. I was appointed Executive Director of PHA in March 1998.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND.

A. Before joining PHA, I was Executive Director of the Detroit, Michigan Housing Commission. I also served in various management positions at the Washington, DC and Atlanta, Georgia housing authorities prior to serving in Detroit.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE PHA'S CURRENT OPERATIONS.

A. PHA was established in 1937 and is the nation's fourth largest housing authority. PHA is the largest landlord in Pennsylvania. We develop, acquire, lease and operate affordable housing for City residents with limited incomes. Some 88 percent of PHA's households are below 30% of the area median income. Rent for these residents is based on less than 30 percent of their income, thus rent revenue to PHA is very limited.

We house more than 83,000 people in the City of Philadelphia. We offer a variety of residences, including conventional apartment buildings and town home communities ("Conventional Sites"), and apartments and houses located throughout the City ("Scattered Sites"). We currently

employ approximately 1,225 people to deliver services to our clients. Our annual revenues total \$313,000,000, with a public housing operating budget of approximately \$155,750,000.

Q. WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF PHA'S FUNDING?

A. We receive virtually all of our funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD").

Q. ARE PHA'S ALLOTMENTS ENOUGH TO COVER THE FULL AMOUNT OF ITS BUDGET?

A. No, they are not. HUD has cut the budgets of PHA and other cities' and counties' housing authorities by more than 20 percent in the past six years. For example, in 2006, HUD funded only 86 percent of our operating budget, which caused us to reduce costs by \$15,325,215.00. In 2007, our funding decreased even further, to 82% of budget, which necessitated an additional reduction of \$27,018,172.00 in expenditures. The Bush administration's proposed funding for 2008 is 80% of what is necessary, and would produce a shortfall of approximately \$30 million.

Q. WHAT EFFECTS, IF ANY, HAVE THE ABOVE BUDGET CONSTRAINTS HAD UPON PHA'S OPERATIONS?

The cumulative effects have been devastating. In January of this year, we were forced to lay off approximately 350 employees, about 22 percent of our workforce.

Over a period of years we had systematically reduced our workforce as we converted ourselves into a lean, efficient organization.

However, this large and unplanned reduction has placed a tremendous strain on our staff. Consider that in February 2000, PHA employed 2,508 men and women. As of April 2007 we are down to less than half of that total, with about 1225 employees. During that same period, our tenant responsibilities have increased. Our February 2000 resident population was about 50,000. Today, it is more than 83,000, an increase of more than 60 percent.

PHA's staffing reductions had a particularly significant impact on our police force and maintenance staffing, two areas with real impact on our residents' physical comfort and security.

We were forced to cut about 20 officers from PHA'S police force. This leaves us with just 52 officers. In addition, we laid off 10 lobby monitors. These security personnel reductions make it far more difficult to keep our properties and our residents safe.

The layoffs also are affecting our maintenance operations, and are forcing tenants to wait longer for routine repairs. Moreover, as tens of thousands of people remain on our waiting list for housing, we have to defer or cancel repair of vacant units instead of making them ready for occupancy. Unfortunately, these layoffs were merely a highly visible symptom of a financial crisis that impacts the quality of life for all of PHA's residents.

We are making a concerted effort to improve the energy efficiency of our properties. We are proud of the fact that we are building our new homes to meet federal ENERGY STAR standards. In fact, we were recently honored by the U.S. Department of Energy for our efforts. We have undertaken energy audits to identify new energy conservation measures and to take the greatest advantage of existing energy conservation programs. We have replaced windows, doors, gas heaters and roofing materials in a substantial number of our Scattered Site properties to make them more airtight and more energy efficient.

Despite our zealous efforts on behalf of our residents, we are reaching the limits of our demonstrated ability to do more with less. The proposed PGW rate increase adds another unwarranted burden on both PHA and its residents.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE PHA'S CURRENT USE OF NATURAL GAS IN ITS PROPERTIES.

A. PHA purchases natural gas from PGW in two rate classes at issue in this matter: a dedicated PHA rate for our Conventional Sites, and a GS residential rate ("GS-R") for our Scattered Site properties. The specific amounts and composition of these rates are discussed in detail in the testimony of our expert witness, Judith L. Mondre, President of Mondre Energy, Inc.

Our residents use natural gas for heat, hot water and cooking in both Conventional and Scattered Site properties. We have approximately

7,000 occupied Conventional Site units, as well as approximately 4,100 occupied Scattered Site properties, that use gas for at least one of the above three purposes, and most use gas for all three. In addition, we pay tenants a utility allowance in the 17,000 Housing Choice Voucher Program units that we administer as well as about 2,500 alternatively managed property units.

Q. HOW DOES PHA PAY PGW FOR ITS TENANTS' NATURAL GAS USES?

A. PHA pays PGW for its tenants' usage in several different ways. Our Conventional Site properties are master-metered, and we pay PGW directly for gas charges in those properties. For certain Scattered Site properties classified by PHA as "LS Accounts," PHA makes payment directly to PGW. PHA indirectly pays PGW for the balance of scattered site tenants by sending these households utility allowances.

Q. WHAT IS PHA'S PAYMENT HISTORY WITH PGW?

A. Even with all the previously mentioned fiscal and operational challenges in recent years and at the present, we have a reliable history of payment in full of our bills to PGW.

Q. HOW WILL THE RATE INCREASES AFFECT THE SCATTERED SITES UTILITY ALLOWANCES?

A. As Ms. Mondre discusses in her testimony, PHA determined that it has been overpaying PGW by more than \$2.8 million per year from March 2003 to the present when compared to the MS rate. PHA has paid a higher

rate than municipal offices and even rates of residences. In addition, PHA, by means of its utility allowance, has been paying PGW more than \$4 million per year in excess of what it would pay if the CAP rates were applied.

As we struggle to overcome the effects of \$64 million in reductions in funding for our vital operations, we simply cannot afford to overpay any longer.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE PHA'S RESIDENTS' FINANCIAL SITUATIONS.

A. Our residents are no less conscious than we are of the cost of necessities, and no less harmed than we are when those costs rise. PHA's residents are low-income families who meet stated financial criteria. The average annual income of PHA households is roughly \$12,000, and approximately 75% of our residents live at or below the poverty level.

PHA residents pay a portion of their monthly incomes to PHA as a form of rent. PHA pays Conventional Site residents' utility costs directly to PGW. Scattered Sites residents receive monthly utility allowances from PHA, which effectively act to fully subsidize their gas payments to PGW. As funds are cut, PHA cannot provide more funds to pay for increased energy costs at any of its properties.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROJECTED EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PGW RATE INCREASE UPON PHA RESIDENTS.

A. The typical PHA resident already faces significant challenges in making ends meet. The situation becomes worse where, as here, they are faced with increases in an important element of their household budgets that are rising faster than their incomes.

The rate increase also harms our ability to make the kinds of repairs that help our residents reduce their energy usage. For example, PHA pays for energy efficiency upgrades such as new windows and doors, replacing stoves and heating systems, and replacing roofs.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROJECTED EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PGW RATE INCREASES UPON PHA'S OPERATIONS.

A. HUD's funding reductions already threaten PHA's ability to meet current demands for its housing stock, as well as the safety of our properties and our ability to provide services to our residents. Forcing PHA to allocate further funds to increased energy costs makes the situation even more dire.

Our experts estimate that under the proposed rate increases in its current classification, PHA's natural gas costs would rise by approximately \$1.9 million in the first year after the increase is approved. That increase would equal approximately 15.14 percent of our current gas expenditures.

Neither PHA's current rate nor those in the proposed rate increases reflects the intended benefit to PHA and its residents of being able to

purchase gas at a reduced cost through a dedicated rate class. On the contrary, PHA is paying a premium for its gas, and this premium damages PHA's ability to provide essential services to the people we are committed to serve.

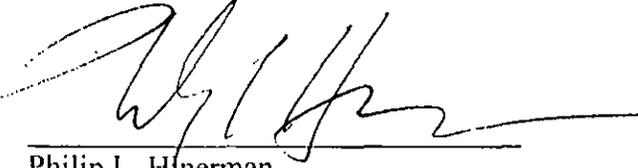
If the rate increases affecting PHA residents are granted, PGW offers PHA the unenviable and inequitable choice of having to cut costs in one area to pay for natural gas for its residents. These cuts would almost certainly have to come from equally vital programs and services such as the various educational, job training and social programs PHA offers to help its residents improve their situations, and the already depleted resources for maintenance and security, as well as the renovation of existing units to make them more energy-efficient.

DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. Yes, it does.

VERIFICATION

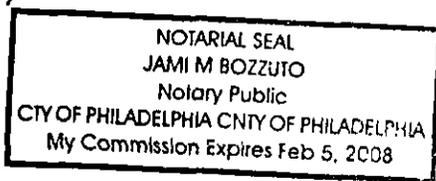
I, Philip L. Hinerman, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that I am attorney for Philadelphia Housing Authority and that Carl R. Greene is Executive Director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority; that as such he is authorized to offer this testimony on its behalf; and that the foregoing testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.


Philip L. Hinerman

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 9 day of April, 2007


Notary Public



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am serving a true and correct copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Carl R. Greene, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code §1.54 upon the following person(s) via First Class Mail, postage prepaid:

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Attorney for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia



JILL A. GULDIN

Dated: April 9, 2007

School District

STMT # 1

5/21/07

Phila PD

MS

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
JAMES LEWIS**

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

**ON BEHALF OF
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
INTERVENOR**

MAY 21, 2007

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2007

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION

v.

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS

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Docket No. R-0006193

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JAMES LEWIS ON BEHALF OF
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA, INTERVENOR**

The School District of Philadelphia, Intervenor (the "School District"), submits the following Direct Testimony of James Lewis, Director of General Services, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §5.412:

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, YOUR OCCUPATION AND YOUR BUSINESS ADDRESS.

1 A. My name is James Lewis. I am Director of General Services for the
2 School District of Philadelphia with my office at 440 North Broad Street,
3 Philadelphia.

4 **Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL**
5 **DISTRICT?**

6 A. I have worked for the School District for 28 years, all of it in maintenance
7 of facilities and operations.

8 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES.**

9 A. My current responsibilities include supervision of all maintenance and
10 operations of School District facilities, managing the School District's
11 energy consumption and costs, as well as the operation of the energy-
12 consuming systems and equipment in the School District's buildings. My
13 staff and I monitor energy usage and bills from natural gas, fuel oil and
14 electricity suppliers, arrange for payment of bills, and work with the
15 School District's financial staff and outside consultants on budgeting
16 matters involving energy costs.

17 **Q. AS DIRECTOR OF GENERAL SERVICES, ARE YOU FAMILIAR**
18 **WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S USE OF NATURAL GAS?**

19 A. Yes. My staff and I have reviewed our records and files to determine the
20 School District's consumption levels for natural gas, the effects of the
21 proposed rate increases requested by Philadelphia Gas Works ("PGW") on

1 the School District's costs and operations, and PGW's compliance with
2 the terms of the current tariff.

3 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DISTRICT'S USE OF NATURAL GAS**
4 **IN ITS FACILITIES.**

5 **A.** The School District purchases natural gas from PGW in three rate classes:
6 BPS-L, BPS-S, and MS. The amounts of gas the School District
7 purchases in each rate class are in the cost/comparison chart attached
8 hereto as Exhibit A. The School District uses natural gas purchased from
9 PGW as fuel for heat, hot water and other appliances and operations in
10 approximately 327 schools and other facilities. The School District
11 consumed a total of approximately 10,345, 835 ccf of natural gas during
12 Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006) in MS and BPS rate
13 classes at a total cost of approximately \$13,977,859. We estimate the total
14 cost of natural gas for the current Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2006 – June
15 30, 2007) will be \$15,384,236.

16 I understand that PGW is not requesting an increase in the base
17 rate for interruptible service. I am therefore discussing interruptible rate
18 service primarily as a component of the School District's overall costs.
19 The School District's expenditures for heat, light and power, including
20 natural gas constituted more than 25% of the overall budget allocations for
21 facilities and school operations for Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007.

1 **Q. WHAT WOULD BE THE ESTIMATED INCREASE IN COST TO**
2 **THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IF PGW RECEIVED**
3 **AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE THE MS SERVICE RATE?**

4 **A.** The proposed rate increase would raise the MS rate from the current level
5 paid by the School District of \$1.63263 per ccf to \$1.84584. When applied
6 to the School District's 2006 MS consumption levels, the increase would
7 generate an additional expense to the School District of approximately
8 \$1,206,127, an increase of 10.7 percent.

9 **Q. DOES YOUR DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT BUDGET CONTAIN**
10 **SUFFICIENT ALLOCATIONS TO ABSORB THE PROPOSED**
11 **RATE INCREASE?**

12 **A.** No, it does not. Because of the School District's financial difficulties and
13 the current deficit, we cannot divert funds from other operations to fund
14 the increase without causing significant damage to other equally vital
15 programs and services.

16 The Facilities and Operations Department, as part of a School
17 District-wide effort to reduce the budget deficit, laid off 24 employees as
18 part of a central office reduction in force in December 2006, deferred or
19 eliminated altogether planned maintenance and renovation programs to
20 improve the energy efficiency of our facilities, and have had to defer or
21 eliminate current maintenance programs as well.

22 Despite our current financial challenges, we are managing to meet
23 our responsibility to our students, faculty and staff, and those visiting our

1 facilities, to keep the temperature in our buildings at safe and healthy
2 levels.

3 **Q. IS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRENTLY MAKING EFFORTS**
4 **TO CONTROL ITS NATURAL GAS COSTS?**

5 **A.** Yes. The School District is working as aggressively as its financial means
6 permit to reduce both its supply-side and demand-side costs. We have
7 negotiated supply contracts with third-party gas vendors for both firm and
8 interruptible service. The projected base rate savings over the two and a
9 half year term of the firm service contract are approximately \$700,000.

10 On the demand side, we are working to increase the number of
11 boilers that can run either on gas or fuel oil, to allow us to purchase fuel at
12 the most advantageous rates possible at a given time. We are finalizing a
13 request for proposals for energy conservation measures (“ECMs”), and
14 will engage Energy Service Contractors (“ESCOs”) to perform energy
15 audits and implement selected ECMs. We emphasize the need for energy
16 conservation in our buildings through communications with students,
17 faculty and staff.

18 **Q. IN ADDITION TO COMMODITY COSTS, DOES THE SCHOOL**
19 **DISTRICT MAKE OTHER PAYMENTS TO PGW IN**
20 **CONNECTION WITH SERVICE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT**
21 **BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES?**

22 **A.** The School District pays PGW 100% of the gas main and service costs to
23 its new facilities (those requiring a new gas load). Under the current and

1 proposed tariffs, the School District is entitled to receive credit for
2 additional revenue to PGW as a result of the expansion of capacity, to be
3 returned to the School District at the end of the initial term of the PGW
4 service agreement. Our records do not indicate that we have ever received
5 any such credits. The tariff is silent as to whether PGW imposes the same
6 100% payment requirement upon expansions to properties with existing
7 PGW service, and as to whether the same costs and credits are applied to
8 private entities, but the requirements and the lack of credits affect both
9 sides of our balance sheet.

10 **Q. WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PAYMENT**
11 **REQUIREMENTS WITH PGW**

12 **A.** PGW's payment requirements also impose an unjustifiable burden
13 upon the School District. PGW requires us to pay at least a portion of our
14 gas service costs "up front" before commencing delivery to new facilities.
15 It also requires the School District to pay "up front" for meter costs. We
16 also believe we are improperly being assessed with meter charges
17 associated with single locations for our properties, even though the
18 District pays one monthly bill to PGW. The School District consistently
19 pays its PGW bills in full. We have improved our accounts payable
20 procedure to reduce the time of payment. Additionally, our existing
21 agreements with PGW provide it with ample recourse in the event of an
22 uncured delinquency. We believe this is inconsistent with PGW's

1 practices with its other customers, and causes an additional drain on our
2 current resources.

3 **Q. WOULD THE PGW RATE INCREASE, IF APPROVED IN FULL,**
4 **CAUSE ANY OTHER DAMAGES AND BURDENS TO THE**
5 **SCHOOL DISTRICT?**

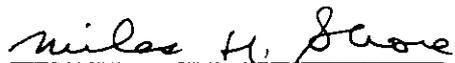
6 **A.** The School District is making zealous efforts to reduce its existing costs,
7 manage future costs and make responsible use of the public trust and
8 public funds. It is completely unfair to impose certain elements of the
9 requested cost increase upon the School District.

10 For example, the vast majority of PGW's requested deficit is
11 attributable to residential customers, which the School District most
12 certainly is not. If effect, PGW is asking the School District, as well as
13 other institutional customers, to help it pay for its residential service
14 burdens.

15 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

16 **A.** Yes, it does.

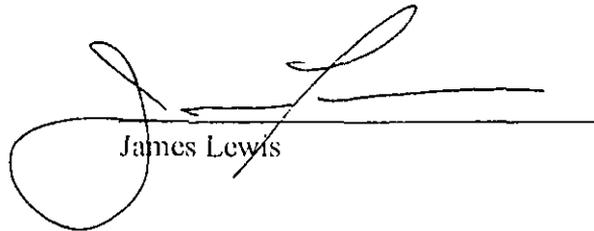
Respectfully Submitted,



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VERIFICATION

I, James Lewis, Director of General Services of The School District of Philadelphia, Intervenor, verify that the facts set forth in my Direct Testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that this verification is made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A., §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.


James Lewis

Dated: April 5 2007

School District
JMTT #2

5/21/07

Philo DA
MS

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-00061931

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2007

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
PAUL G. VALLAS**

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

**ON BEHALF OF
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
INTERVENOR**

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

MAY 21, 2007

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY :
COMMISSION :

v. :

Docket No. R-0006193

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS :

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PAUL G. VALLAS ON BEHALF OF
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA, INTERVENOR**

The School District of Philadelphia, Intervenor (“the School District”) submits the following Direct Testimony of Paul G. Vallas, Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §5.412 and the Order Regarding Motion for a Continuance by The School District of Philadelphia dated April 5, 2007:

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, YOUR OCCUPATION AND YOUR OFFICE ADDRESS.

1 **A.** My name is Paul G. Vallas. I am the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the
2 School District of Philadelphia (the "School District") with my office at 440
3 North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19130.

4 **A. HOW LONG HAVE YOU SERVED IN THAT OFFICE?**

5 I was appointed CEO of the School District by the School Reform Commission in
6 July of 2002.

7 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.**

8 **A.** I began my career as a policy advisor to the Illinois State Senate's Elementary and
9 Secondary Education and Appropriations Committees. I was Executive Director
10 of the Illinois Economic and Fiscal Commission. I was appointed revenue director
11 for the City of Chicago, Illinois, in 1990, before serving as Chicago's budget
12 director from 1993-95.

13 I served as the Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Public Schools from
14 1995-2001. During my tenure in Chicago, my staff and I restored financial
15 stability to Chicago's schools, which, like Philadelphia's before my arrival, had
16 been suffering from many years of deficits, declining educational outcomes, and
17 deteriorating facilities.

18 **Q. WHAT IS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?**

19 **A.** The School District is now governed by a 5-member School Reform Commission,

1 pursuant to the distressed first class school district legislation. Three members of
2 the Commission are appointed by the Governor and two members are appointed
3 by the Mayor.

4 **Q. HOW AND WHEN DID THE SCHOOL DISTRICT COME TO BE**
5 **GOVERNED BY THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION?**

6 **A.** In December 2001, the State Secretary of Education declared the School District
7 to be in financial and educational distress. Pursuant to state law, the School
8 Reform Commission was appointed and replaced the former Board of Education.

9 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS CHIEF**
10 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**

11 **A.** As the CEO, I oversee the management and operations of the entire School
12 District and I directly supervise the work of the Chief Academic Officer, Chief
13 Financial Officer and the Chief Operating Officer. My duties include supervising
14 the learning process and educational outcomes for the City's elementary, middle,
15 secondary and specialized schools; the safe, financially sound operation of School
16 District-operated and charter schools; and leading a work force of more than
17 24,000 teachers, administrators, support and operational staff.

18 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ACTIVITIES AND**
19 **FACILITIES.**

20 **A.** The School District is the largest school district in the Commonwealth of
21 Pennsylvania and the eighth largest in the United States. We serve the City of
22 Philadelphia, the fifth-largest city in the United States, whose population is close
23

1 to 1.5 million. We have more than 207,000 students enrolled in 281 District-
2 operated schools, as well as 55 charter schools.

3 The School District provides a comprehensive range of educational
4 services, including general, special and vocational education at the elementary
5 and secondary levels. We offer summer programs, and pre-and after-school
6 programs. In order to support these services, we have a centralized administrative
7 office, where the staff manages the School District's financial, legal and
8 operational affairs. The Facilities Department oversees the operation and
9 maintenance of more than 327 school buildings and support facilities, including,
10 by way of example, field houses, warehouses, garages, administration buildings
11 and a working farm.

12 **Q. WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THE**
13 **OPERATING BUDGET OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?**

14 **A.** The majority of the School District's \$2.04 billion operating budget funding
15 comes from allocations from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In Fiscal Year
16 2006, we received more than \$1.4 billion in state revenue in the form of basic
17 educational funding and allocations for specific services such as special
18 education, vocational education, transportation and school health services. The
19 School District receives most of its local funding from dedicated real estate taxes,
20 non-business income taxes, liquor-by-the-drink tax, business use and occupancy
21 and public utility real estate taxes from the City of more than \$702 million in FY
22 2006, along with more than \$80 million in local non-tax revenue from the City of
23 Philadelphia in the form of interest on investments, stadium agreement and other

1 grants from the City. The School District also received approximately \$188,000 in
2 federal Impacted Area Aid in FY 2006. In short, virtually all the School District's
3 operating revenues come from the public treasury or the people who live and
4 work in the City.

5 **Q. IS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL**
6 **DIFFICULTIES?**

7 **A.** Yes, it is.

8 **Q. WHAT EFFECTS, IF ANY, HAVE THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES**
9 **HAD UPON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OPERATIONS?**

10 **A.** Since last fall, we have been working to close more than \$73 million in shortfalls
11 in our current funding. As a result, we reduced the amounts of certain our existing
12 contracts and renegotiated others. We eliminated 175 positions, refinanced
13 portions of our debt, and eliminated pay raises for non-union employees. No
14 operating or administrative department has been spared. We anticipate making
15 significant additional reductions in spending for our FY 2008 budget as well. At
16 the same time, we are making every possible effort to preserve our core
17 educational programs and services to our students.

18 **Q. WHAT CHALLENGES DOES THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FACE WITH**
19 **REGARD TO ENERGY COSTS?**

20 **A.** We face particular challenges in our facilities because 47 percent of our school
21 buildings are between 41 and 80 years old, and 26 percent are between 81 and
22 120 years old. Although we are working diligently to improve the energy
23 efficiency of our existing buildings and to reduce our costs through strategic

1 procurement initiatives, and through such energy conservation measures as
2 improving lighting fixtures and converting boilers to dual fuel use, and
3 emphasizing the need for energy conservation throughout our schools, our current
4 expenditures of more than \$18 million on natural gas already extend us to the
5 limit of our financial capabilities. In Fiscal Year 2006, the School District's
6 energy costs were approximately \$274.80 per student, an increase of nearly 3%
7 from the previous year. The School District also has increased and will continue
8 to increase as it opens new schools. We have opened two new schools, including
9 the High School of the Future, in the past three years. We are well into planning
10 and design for three new high schools, two elementary schools and three primary
11 education centers in the next few years. Whether or not we ultimately elect to use
12 natural gas in the new buildings depends on whether we are able to purchase it at
13 a price that does not cause a further escalation in our cost per student.

14 **Q. WHAT DIFFICULTIES WOULD THE GAS RATE INCREASES**
15 **PRESENT TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?**

16 **A.** On a universal basis the rate increases present us with a number of issues having a
17 substantial impact on our operation of our facilities, and therefore on the quality
18 of our students' lives. The increases add significantly to the cost of a major
19 component of our operating expenses. Simply stated, the extra costs to the School
20 District generated by the proposed rate increases would provide the School
21 District with the highly undesirable choice of reducing consumption, to the
22 detriment of the health, safety and comfort of our students and staff, or diverting
23 funds from other sources. We have done all we can to decrease our current

1 energy-related program and operating costs, and the proposed rate increases
2 would force us to mortgage our future to pay for our present. One of our
3 objectives in building new schools and upgrading existing ones is to permit us to
4 control and reduce class sizes. Every dollar spent on natural gas is a dollar not
5 being spent on security for our students and faculty, or a dollar not being spent on
6 instructional costs to improve our students' test scores and opportunities, or on
7 extracurricular activities and non-academic services to our students.

8 It is also important to remember that because our funding comes from
9 public sources, we are answerable to the public for unwarranted increases in costs.
10 There are no meaningful justifications presented in the proposed tariff for making
11 the public, through the School District, pay for PGW's inefficiencies and
12 collection problems.

13 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE BUDGET PROCESS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR**
14 **2008.**

15 **A.** The School District's proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 was
16 published on the School District's website on April 5, 2007. The School Reform
17 Commission held a hearing for public input regarding the proposed budget on
18 April 11, 2007, which will resume on April 25, 2007. City Council will hold
19 hearings on the proposed budget on April 30 and May 1, 2007. The School
20 Reform Commission expects to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 on
21 May 29, 2007.

22 **Q. IS THE DRAFT BUDGET PRELIMINARY?**

23 **A.** Yes, the draft budget detail and summary posted on the webpage are preliminary

1 and subject to change. No assurance can be made regarding final budget
2 decisions by the School Reform Commission. Public hearings will take place
3 before the final adoption of the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget. The School Reform
4 Commission may modify or supplement any of the estimates and assumptions
5 included in the Draft Budget Detail posted before it adopts the final School
6 District Budget for Fiscal Year 2008.

7 **Q. HAS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETED FOR AN INCREASE IN**
8 **THE COST OF NATURAL GAS?**

9 A. No, the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 Budget for heat, power and light for all School
10 District facilities does not account for an increase in the cost of natural gas.

11 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROJECTED EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED**
12 **PGW RATE INCREASE, IF APPROVED, UPON THE SCHOOL**
13 **DISTRICT'S OPERATIONS.**

14 A. If the rate increase is approved as requested, the School District will have to cut
15 costs in other areas to pay for natural gas for its school and facilities operations.
16 These cuts would have to come from educational programs and services, which
17 we have tried to spare in making the other cuts necessary to produce a balanced
18 budget.

1 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

2 A. Yes, it does.

Respectfully Submitted,



Miles H. Shore
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(215)400-4121 fax
mhshore@phila.k12.pa.us
Attorney for Intervenor
The School District of Philadelphia

Dated: April 12, 2007

VERIFICATION

I, Paul G. Vallas, Chief Executive Officer of The School District of Philadelphia, verify that the facts and opinions set forth in the attached Direct Testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that this verification is made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A., §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Vallas", written over a horizontal line.

Paul G. Vallas

5/21/07
Phila. P.U.
MS

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC
UTILITY COMMISSION

v.

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS

:
:
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:
:

DOCKET NO. R-00061931

DIRECT TESTIMONY
AND EXHIBIT
OF
LEWIS C. COHEN

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF LEWIS C. COHEN

OF THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY/
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
ALBERT EINSTEIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK/
FRANKFORD HOSPITALS/MAGEE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
(together, JEFFERSON HEALTH SYSTEM)/
AND
PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

AS MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL GAS USERS GROUP

RECEIVED

JUN 22 2007

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

APRIL 6, 2007

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION | : | |
| | : | |
| v. | : | DOCKET NO. R-00061931 |
| | : | |
| PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS | : | |

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF LEWIS C. COHEN

**OF THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY/
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
ALBERT EINSTEIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK/
FRANKFORD HOSPITALS/MAGEE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
(together, JEFFERSON HEALTH SYSTEM)/
AND
PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE**

**AS MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL GAS USERS GROUP**

- 1 **Q.** Please state your full name and business address.
- 2 A. My name is Lewis C. Cohen. My business address is 104 Woodside Road, Unit
- 3 B104; Haverford, PA 19041.
- 4
- 5 **Q.** By whom are you employed?
- 6 A. I am an independent energy management and procurement consultant. I provide
- 7 consulting services to a broad range of municipal, institutional, and industrial clients.
- 8 In addition to Jefferson Health System ("JHS") and Philadelphia College of
- 9 Osteopathic Medicine ("PCOM"), in Pennsylvania, I have provided diversified
- 10 energy consulting and procurement services to the City of Philadelphia, Christiana

1 Care Health System, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of
2 Pennsylvania ("AICUP"), Pennsylvania Foundry Association, Pennsylvania League
3 of Cities and Municipalities, Eastern Montgomery County Solid Waste Authority,
4 Newman Paperboard Company, and the York County Solid Waste Authority.

5
6 **Q. What is your educational and employment background?**

7 A. I have a PhD from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an MS from George Washington
8 University, and a BS from the State University of New York at Albany. I have been
9 in the energy field for over 30 years in both the governmental and private sector. A
10 summary of my work experience is attached as Exhibit ___(LCC-1).

11
12 **Q. Please describe the consulting services you provide to JHS.**

13 A. For over 15 years, I have advised Thomas Jefferson University ("TJU") and then JHS
14 in all areas of energy procurement and management, including negotiations related
15 to, and the procurement of, electricity, natural gas, oil, chilled water, and steam. In
16 addition, I have advised JHS in the selection of an Energy Services Provider who
17 audited all 10 million square feet of JHS facilities and to date has implemented over
18 \$15 million of energy efficiency and conservation measures.

19 For the last 15 years, JHS has been at been at the forefront of pro-active energy
20 management and has participated in many end-user groups such as the Philadelphia
21 Industrial and Commercial Gas Users Group ("PICGUG"), the Philadelphia Area
22 Industrial Energy Users Group ("PAIEUG") and the PJM Industrial Customer
23 Coalition ("PJMICC"). This forward-looking posture has allowed JHS to play an

1 important role in energy policy issues in Pennsylvania. I am proud to have assisted
2 JHS in these regards.

3
4 **Q. Please describe the consulting services you provide to PCOM.**

5 A. I originally worked with PCOM through an electric aggregation program sponsored
6 by AICUP in the late 1990s. Since that time, I have assisted PCOM in a number of
7 areas, including permitting its distributed generation, selection of Curtailment
8 Service Providers and participation in PJM Interconnection, LLC's ("PJM") demand
9 side reduction programs, evaluation of installation of back-up propane injection
10 system, and Philadelphia Gas Works ("PGW")-related activities, including
11 negotiation of an Interruptible Transportation ("IT") agreement.

12
13 **Q. Dr. Cohen, are you familiar with the background of PGW's IT rates?**

14 A. Yes. JHS has institutions located in both the PGW and PECO Energy Company
15 ("PECO") service territories. JHS institutions in the PECO service territory mainly
16 utilize PECO for transportation service. Prior to PGW's Restructuring Proceeding in
17 2002-2003, however, PGW's transportation rates and regulations had been extremely
18 prohibitive for JHS facilities seeking to transport. At that time, JHS's interruptible
19 accounts were receiving service under PGW's Interruptible Sales rate schedules.
20 As part of PGW's Restructuring Proceeding, PICGUG advanced the position that
21 PGW should be required to implement cost-based transportation rates. I also
22 submitted customer impact testimony supporting this argument. Specifically, I noted
23 that PGW's pre-Restructuring transportation rates were extremely high, were not

1 cost-based, and were often over 350% of those paid by JHS facilities in PECO's
2 service territory.

3 Per my understanding, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PUC" or
4 "Commission"), as part of PGW's Restructuring Proceeding, did not require PGW to
5 implement cost-based transportation rates, but rather, allowed PGW to implement
6 margin-based transportation rates. The maximum prices for these transportation
7 rates are based on the average bundled interruptible service margins for the five
8 years prior to PGW's Restructuring Proceeding. I believe, however, that PGW was
9 required, as part of the Company's current base rate proceeding, to offer a Cost of
10 Service Study ("COSS") analyzing these transportation rates. See Pa. PUC v. PGW;
11 Docket No. M-00021612, Opinion and Order (Mar. 21, 2003).

12
13 **Q. Dr. Cohen, has JHS been able to transport natural gas on PGW's system after
14 the Company's Restructuring Proceeding occurred?**

15 A. Yes, JHS and PGW negotiated multi-year IT agreements for JHS's facilities, which
16 have allowed JHS to successfully implement an economic transport program. JHS is
17 in the middle of these multi-year agreements. JHS is concerned that, if the
18 Commission does not endorse a cost-based transportation rate, there will be little
19 incentive for PGW to allow JHS to continue to transport natural gas at a reasonable
20 rate.

21
22 **Q. Has PCOM been able to transport natural gas on PGW's system during this
23 time?**

1 A. PCOM utilizes natural gas for both heating and air conditioning, thereby providing
2 year-round revenues to PGW. PCOM is currently receiving firm sales service from
3 PGW. As a result, PCOM has been faced with high gas costs, volatile natural gas
4 pricing, and an inability to reasonably control its budget through the locking-in of
5 more competitive natural gas costs.

6 In order to better control its costs, PCOM has evaluated installation of various
7 alternative fuels, including propane injection. This would allow PCOM to become
8 an interruptible transportation customer, comparable with other institutions of
9 PCOM's size. Because installation of the propane injection system is expensive,
10 PCOM is desirous of obtaining a reasonable IT rate from PGW.

11 If PGW's IT rates are cost-based, PCOM believes that it will be able to obtain a
12 reasonable transportation rate; however, if the IT rate is margin-based, then PCOM
13 will most likely **not** be offered a reasonable rate that would enable it to transport
14 natural gas.

15 Ironically, PCOM is located on City Avenue with PECO natural gas service across
16 the street. PECO's IT rates are very reasonable; however, they are unavailable to
17 PCOM. PCOM believes that a strong endorsement by the Commission of cost-based
18 transportation rates for PGW would lead to a reasonable IT rate for PCOM.

19
20 **Q. Would PCOM consider being an interruptible sales customer?**

21 A. If PGW fails to offer a reasonable IT rate, and PCOM nonetheless decides to invest
22 in an alternative fuel system, PCOM would consider becoming an interruptible sales
23 customer; however, this is not a desirable outcome for PCOM nor ironically PGW.
24 PGW changes the interruptible sales rates monthly. During some periods, the rates

1 have been both reasonable and stable. During other periods, the rates have been
2 volatile and bear no relationship to current market conditions or, in my opinion, to
3 the intent of PGW's own tariff. This volatility leads to large pricing uncertainty. In
4 addition, PCOM's lack of choice with respect to obtaining natural gas service does
5 not allow PCOM to adequately mitigate against the occurrence of natural gas price
6 increases. PGW has indicated that it is currently subsidizing interruptible sales, and,
7 even if PGW's proposed rates are put in place, interruptible sales provide little
8 margin to PGW.

9
10 **Q. Does this pricing uncertainty create problems for PCOM?**

11 A. Yes. Healthcare facilities, by their nature, are conservative and do not want any
12 budgetary surprises. If PCOM were able to transport natural gas on PGW's system,
13 PCOM's primary advantage would be the ability to have a known price, meet
14 budgets, and stabilize energy costs by locking-in long term prices when market
15 conditions allow. Hospitals that I have represented have signed long-term supply
16 agreements in order to lock-in natural gas pricing when market conditions are
17 favorable.
18 Moreover, the purpose of the Natural Gas Choice and Competition Act
19 ("Competition Act") was to provide customers, especially those on PGW's system,
20 the opportunity for realistic choices with respect to natural gas service. As I
21 mentioned previously, JHS's facilities on PECO's system have been transporting for
22 a number years because PECO has a number of suppliers on its system and offers
23 cost-based transportation rates. While the number of suppliers on PGW's system has
24 slightly increased since the Company's Restructuring Proceeding in 2002-2003,

1 without competitive transportation rates, these suppliers are meaningless for many
2 customers. For some customers, such as PCOM, who is unable to obtain a cost-
3 based and competitive transportation rate, the options are limited to interruptible
4 sales service and firm sales service. I do not think this was the intent of the
5 Legislature when the Competition Act was passed.

6
7 **Q. What other alternatives do JHS or PCOM have for meeting their natural gas**
8 **requirements in PGW's service territory?**

9 A. The only practical alternative to natural gas is propane or No. 2 oil. Neither of these
10 are currently usable by PCOM absent a significant investment to upgrade its
11 facilities for dual fuels.

12
13 **Q. Does having numerous choices provide a facility with an advantage?**

14 A. Very much so. For example, and as I mentioned previously, JHS institutions outside
15 of PGW's service territory are mainly located in PECO's service territory. Because
16 PECO offers cost-based transportation rates and has a multitude of suppliers on its
17 system, these JHS facilities have had panoply of choices with respect to determining
18 which type of fuel will provide the most cost-efficient service. In many instances,
19 these JHS facilities have been able to almost exclusively burn natural gas at
20 extremely competitive rates, as they have had the choice of acquiring their own
21 supply and transporting this supply at reasonable prices. As a result, these facilities
22 are able to meet their budgetary expectations.

23

1 **Q. What is the impact on facilities that do not have such options?**

2 A. For those facilities that have not been offered a reasonable, cost-based transportation
3 rate on PGW's system, such as PCOM, these customers must continue to utilize non-
4 interruptible tariff rates, or if they do have dual fuel capability, interruptible sales
5 service, which as I mentioned previously, results in price volatility. Because of the
6 budgetary issues facing hospitals, price volatility can result in costs exceeding
7 budgets, resulting in significant problems.

8 Moreover, the level of natural gas prices can also be problematic for customers, and
9 health care facilities must have the ability to try to mitigate these pricing levels. For
10 example, for those JHS facilities that are able to transport, JHS is able to combine
11 cost-based transportation rates with competitively procured natural gas supply,
12 which offers a more competitive option. If a facility cannot mitigate these prices
13 through such choices, it will be unable to maintain costs within the necessary
14 budgetary parameters.

15

16 **Q. Dr. Cohen, are you aware that, according to PGW's COSS provided in this**
17 **proceeding, the margins for PGW's Interruptible Transportation Rates exceed**
18 **costs by over \$2 million?**

19 A. Yes. PGW has indicated in this proceeding that "most" customers are charged less
20 than maximum rates. Notwithstanding that fact, PGW's "negotiated" rates must be
21 significantly above cost.

22

23 **Q. Are you also aware that PGW's COSS indicates that the costs for PGW's**
24 **Interruptible Sales rates exceed margins by \$2.7 million?**

1 A. Yes. If this is the case, then PGW should encourage Interruptible Sales customers to
2 move to IT rates, and the most effective means to do so would be to offer a cost-
3 based IT rate. Ironically, JHS moved all of its facilities to the IT rate (and off of
4 Interruptible Sales rates) three years ago. Thus, instead of taking service at the
5 Interruptible Sales rate, at a loss to PGW, JHS is able to transport natural gas via the
6 IT rate at a gain to PGW.

7
8 **Q. Without a cost-based IT rate, is it possible that customers may select options**
9 **less desirable from PGW's perspective?**

10 A. Yes, customers may elect to utilize the Interruptible Sales alternative, which PGW
11 indicates has higher costs than revenues, or customers may choose to burn oil on a
12 full-time basis because it is the economically efficient thing to do. In turn, however,
13 this negates any possibility for PGW to earn any margin on these customers and
14 increases the likelihood that the customers will stay off of natural gas for an even
15 longer period of time. Conversely, if PGW were to focus on establishing more
16 reasonable, cost-based transportation rates, these customers may be more likely to
17 make investment decisions that would ensure the continued use of natural gas,
18 thereby ensuring continued and consistent revenues for PGW. Instead, PGW is
19 refusing to recognize this possibility by refusing to lower IT rates below the current
20 margin. This position seems to be a lose-lose option for everyone involved.

21

22 **Q. PGW suggests that if the maximum transportation rates were lowered, the**
23 **burden would fall on firm customers to replace these revenues. Do you have**
24 **any comment?**

1 A. Yes, according to PGW's COSS, the firm sales rates paid by many large commercial
2 and industrial customers are already significantly above the Company's cost to serve
3 these customers. I certainly understand that the burden of PGW's rate increase falls
4 on many shoulders, although I think that providing more cost-based transportation
5 rates would provide greater opportunities for all large commercial and industrial
6 customers on PGW's system. Regardless, I think that PGW customers have felt the
7 crush of PGW's continual rate increases for many years, and I think these less than
8 reasonable rates are further highlighted for those customers with facilities both inside
9 and outside PGW's service territory. Based upon these problems, the Commission
10 may need to examine more far reaching solutions that would ensure just and
11 reasonable rates for all customers.

12
13 **Q. Does this include your testimony?**

14 A. Yes.

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION**

v.

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS

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DOCKET NO. R-00061931

**EXHIBIT
OF
LEWIS C. COHEN**

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF LEWIS C. COHEN

**OF THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY/
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
ALBERT EINSTEIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK/
FRANKFORD HOSPITALS/MAGEE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
(together, JEFFERSON HEALTH SYSTEM)/**

AND

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

**AS MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL GAS USERS GROUP**

APRIL 6, 2007

LEWIS C. COHEN - EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 4/91 to Present | INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT – Recent focus on municipal, institutional and industrial procurement of energy commodities and implementation of conservation/efficiency opportunities – See attached discussion. |
| 3/90 to 3/91 | O'BRIEN ENERGY SYSTEMS INCORPORATED Philadelphia, PA <u>Vice President</u> |
| 5/89 to 3/90 | CATALYST THERMAL ENERGY CORPORATION New York, NY <u>Vice President</u> |
| 1/87 to 5/89 | PHILADELPHIA THERMAL ENERGY CORPORATION Philadelphia, PA <u>Vice President</u> |
| 12/85 to 12/86 | MALCOLM PIRNIE, INCORPORATED White Plains, NY <u>Project Manager</u> |
| 10/81 to 10/85 | CSI RESOURCE SYSTEMS Boston, MA <u>Senior Associate</u> |
| 9/80 to 10/81 | MITRE CORPORATION Bedford, MA <u>Energy Systems Engineer</u> |
| 9/79 to 9/80 | NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Albany, NY <u>Senior Associate</u> |
| 1/78 to 9/79 | NEW YORK STATE ENERGY OFFICE Albany, NY <u>Energy Analyst</u> |
| 12/75 to 7/77 | UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Washington, DC <u>Environmental Engineer</u> |

EDUCATION

5/79 Ph.D. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
5/76 M.S. George Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science
6/74 B. S. State University of New York at Albany

ATTACHMENT TO L. COHEN EXPERIENCE PROFILE

For the last 15 years, Dr Cohen has focused on assisting a diverse group of end-users in coping with and taking advantage of the changes resulting from the deregulation of energy. Dr Cohen has procured electricity, natural gas, oil, energy services (i.e. conservation and energy efficiency improvements) and alternative energy sources such as wind power. Dr Cohen has extensive experience in the Mid-Atlantic and northeast regions.

Dr Cohen's clients include the Jefferson Health System, the largest health care network in the Delaware Valley, the Christiana Care Healthcare System in Delaware, and Connemaugh Health System. Furthermore, Dr Cohen represents Utility Solutions, Inc ("USI"). In Pennsylvania, USI assists a number of groups in aggregating the purchasing power of their members. These groups include over 100 municipal members of the Municipal Utility Alliance (MUA) (established by the Pennsylvania League of Cities), approximately 40 industrial members of the Pennsylvania Foundrymen's Association (PFA) and fifty colleges and university members of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP).

In New York, Dr Cohen and his associates, in conjunction with Tompkins and Tioga Counties, have structured an upstate energy alliance representing over five counties as well as private entities. The New York Public Service has held out this program as among the finest in New York State. Other clients in New York include over one-dozen chambers of commerce, numerous industrial customers, and non-profit nursing and elder care institutions, representing 300 facilities in every utility territory in the state.

5/21/07
Phila PA
MS

BEFORE THE

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC
UTILITY COMMISSION

v.

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS

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DOCKET NO. R-00061931

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
OF
LEWIS C. COHEN

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF LEWIS C. COHEN

OF THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY/
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
ALBERT EINSTEIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK/
FRANKFORD HOSPITALS/MAGEE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
(together, JEFFERSON HEALTH SYSTEM)/

AND

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

AS MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL GAS USERS GROUP

DOCKETED
AUG 20 2007

MAY 15, 2007

RECEIVED

JUN 28 2007

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

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|---|---|------------------------------|
| PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION | : | |
| | : | |
| v. | : | DOCKET NO. R-00061931 |
| | : | |
| PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS | : | |

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF LEWIS C. COHEN

**OF THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY/
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
ALBERT EINSTEIN HEALTHCARE NETWORK/
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AND

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

**AS MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA INDUSTRIAL
AND COMMERCIAL GAS USERS GROUP**

1 **Q.** Please state your full name.

2 **A.** My name is Lewis C. Cohen.

3

4 **Q.** Are you the same Lewis Cohen who submitted Direct Testimony in this
5 proceeding on behalf of the Philadelphia Industrial and Commercial Gas Users
6 Group ("PICGUG")?

7 **A.** Yes, I am.

8

9 **Q.** What is the purpose of your Surrebuttal Testimony?

1 A. My Surrebuttal Testimony responds to the Rebuttal Testimony of Philadelphia Gas
2 Works' ("PGW" or "Company") witness Craig White and Office of Consumer
3 Advocate ("OCA") witness Richard LeLash regarding PGW's transportation rates.
4

5 **Q. Do you have any general comments regarding Mr. White's Rebuttal Testimony?**

6 A. Yes. Mr. White claims that, in my Direct Testimony, I have made "dire
7 prognostications," that I "inexplicably jump to unfounded conclusions," and that I
8 believe PGW's transportation program "will come to a screeching halt" unless PGW's
9 current Interruptible Transportation ("IT") rate methodology is "thrown out." Mr.
10 White's incorrect characterizations ignore the thrust of my argument, which is that
11 PGW should be required to implement cost-based transportation rates, as other
12 Natural Gas Distribution Companies ("NGDCs") in the Commonwealth did
13 approximately twenty years ago, in order to ensure that all eligible customers are
14 able to transport natural gas at just and reasonable rates.
15

16 **Q. Both Mr. Lelash and Mr. White suggest that cost-based transportation rates are**
17 **unnecessary in light of the "success" that Jefferson Health System ("JHS") has**
18 **had in transporting natural gas on PGW's system. Do you agree with this**
19 **assessment?**

20 A. No. I agree that, since PGW's Restructuring Proceeding in 2003, more customers,
21 including JHS, have been able to transport on PGW's system. Considering, however,
22 that very few customers, if any, had been transporting on PGW's system prior to
23 2003, PGW's Restructuring should have only resulted in an increase in transporting
24 customers.

1 Moreover, I think JHS's "success" must be reviewed in the appropriate context. JHS
2 is pleased to now be able to transport natural gas on PGW's system; however, other
3 JHS entities have been transporting on PECO Energy Company's ("PECO") system
4 for approximately the last twenty-years. Thus, the "success" of PGW's transportation
5 program is relative to that status of PGW's transportation program prior to its
6 Restructuring Proceeding.

7
8 In addition, JHS's potential "success" in transporting natural gas is based upon
9 PGW's willingness to negotiate a reasonable transportation rate with JHS. With
10 respect to JHS's current transportation contracts, JHS was able to negotiate rates
11 below the current maximum, margin-based rate; however, when JHS's current
12 contracts expire, JHS will be able to transport natural gas only if PGW is willing to
13 negotiate an IT rate that is based upon the cost to serve JHS, rather than PGW's
14 margin.

15
16 Thus, both the OCA and PGW claims regarding the "success" of PGW's
17 transportation rates fail to consider that the overall ability of customers to transport
18 on PGW's system is based upon the Company's willingness to negotiate rates below
19 the maximum rate. In other words, for customers in the service territories of NGDCs
20 with cost-based rates, the inability to negotiate a lower rate is not necessarily an
21 obstruction to transporting natural gas. For customers on PGW's system, however,
22 negotiating a lower IT rate may be the only way in which these customers are able to
23 transport natural gas on the Company's system.

1 Q. Mr. White claims that PGW's IT rates have not prohibited customers from
2 transporting natural gas, and he rejects your claim that Philadelphia College of
3 Osteopathic Medicine ("PCOM") could even negotiate such a rate with PGW.
4 How do you respond?

5 A. Contrary to Mr. White's claims, PGW did negotiate with PCOM regarding a
6 potential transportation rate based upon an alternative fuel, and PCOM has already
7 notified PGW of the proposed installation date of an alternative fuel system. As I
8 mentioned in my Direct Testimony, PGW provided PCOM with a proposed
9 "negotiated" rate based upon the installation of this proposed alternative fuel. PGW's
10 proposed rate was approximately 350% higher than the transportation rate PCOM
11 would receive if it were on PECO's system, which is located across the street from
12 PCOM. There is absolutely no cost-based justification for the rate offered to PCOM
13 by PGW. Rather, PGW, as the monopoly provider, offered a non-cost based rate that
14 would result in the Company receiving a greater margin.

15
16 Q. Mr. White argues that your comparison of PECO and PGW's transportation
17 rates is irrelevant. Do you agree?

18 A. No. I would first note that I am not suggesting that PGW's IT rates be replaced with
19 PECO's IT rates. Rather, I am using PECO's rates to note the challenge faced by
20 many PGW customers due to PGW's margin-based rates and the Company's
21 unwillingness, at times, to negotiate reasonable transportation rates.

22

1 Specifically, PCOM is directly across the street from PECO; however, the
2 demarcation line places PCOM in PGW's service territory. As a result, PGW has a
3 monopoly on its customers and is able to charge them the maximum, margin-based
4 transportation rate if the Company so chooses. Because PCOM is unable to
5 negotiate a lower rate with PGW, PCOM is faced with either continuing to receive
6 firm sales service or pay a transportation rate that is 350% higher than the cost-based
7 rate that PCOM would receive on PECO's system. While I agree with Mr. White
8 that PGW is not responsible for guaranteeing savings to transportation customers, I
9 do not believe that customers should pay prohibitive transportation costs simply
10 because PGW seeks to earn a higher margin.

11
12 **Q. Mr. White also argues that, if alternative fuels such as oil were a true**
13 **alternative, then customers would have already switched to this fuel rather than**
14 **negotiating transportation contracts with PGW. Is Mr. White correct?**

15 **A.** No. I would agree with Mr. White that today, and for the past few years, including
16 the time during which JHS negotiated its IT contract with PGW, oil was more
17 expensive than natural gas. There were years, however, when oil was much less
18 expensive than natural gas, and some JHS facilities burned oil exclusively. I would
19 guess that, based upon the volatility in natural gas and oil prices, the price of oil may
20 one day drop below the price of natural gas.

21
22 **Q. Mr. White also claims that JHS decided to use Trigen for steam service for the**
23 **majority of its energy needs despite the fact that JHS's annual fuel costs using**

1 **steam are more than double that of natural gas. Is Mr. White's assessment**
2 **correct?**

3 A. No. Mr. White makes general assumptions regarding JHS's use of steam that are not
4 entirely correct. Specifically, JHS uses steam at its Center City campus because the
5 all-in costs of building a plant that would utilize natural gas at this campus is
6 prohibitive. Accordingly, utilizing steam at this facility is actually less expensive on
7 an overall cost basis as compared to the costs of building a new plant and utilizing
8 natural gas. So, while I would agree with Mr. White that price is not the only factor
9 that transportation customers consider in determining a fuel source, I would not be so
10 quick to discount the significance of the overall role that price plays, as confirmed by
11 JHS's decision to utilize steam.

12
13 **Q. According to Mr. White, the Commission rejected the need for cost-based**
14 **transportation rates on PGW's system. Do you believe the Commission rejected**
15 **cost-based rates for PGW in the Company's Restructuring Proceeding?**

16 A. No, I believe Mr. White has misread the Commission's decision in PGW's
17 Restructuring Proceeding. As I understand the Commission's Order, PGW was
18 permitted to implement margin-based rates as part of its Restructuring Proceeding;
19 however, PGW was required, as part of the Company's next base rate proceeding, to
20 offer a Cost of Service Study ("COSS") analyzing cost-based transportation rates. I
21 do not believe the PUC would have requested such a study if the Commission
22 completely rejected the notion of cost-based rates for PGW.

23

1 Moreover, the PUC implemented regulations, which are still in effect today, when
2 larger customers were first permitted to transport natural gas. According to these
3 regulations:

4 A...natural gas utility shall maintain a gas transportation program
5 that adheres to the following terms and promotes the following
6 objectives when providing natural gas transportation service:
7

8 (6) Transportation service shall be provided under
9 a contract between the jurisdictional natural gas
10 utility and the customer...The rates set shall
11 recover, to the maximum extent possible, the fixed
12 costs associated with the service.
13

14 52 Pa. Code § 60.2(6). Outright rejection of cost-based rates for PGW, as claimed
15 by Mr. White, would seem to contradict the PUC's regulations.
16

17 **Q. Finally, Mr. White claims that PICGUG's arguments for cost-based**
18 **transportation rates ignore the negative impact that such a modification would**
19 **have on PGW and the Company's firm customers. Is PICGUG ignoring these**
20 **needs?**

21 **A.** No; however, Mr. White seems to feel that PGW's larger customers must continue to
22 provide a margin to the Company in order to ensure that the Company does not have
23 to further increase firm sales customers' rates. I am not recommending that PGW's
24 firm sales customers' rates be increased in this proceeding merely to fund cost-based
25 transportation rates. Rather, I am suggesting that the PUC must consider whether a
26 rate increase is truly necessary for PGW or whether other alternatives must be
27 pursued. While Mr. White claims that PGW has raised its base rates only three times
28 in the last thirteen years, I believe that there are other NGDCs in Pennsylvania that

1 have maintained the same base rates for thirteen years or more, while still offering
2 customers cost-based transportation rates. .

3

4 **Q. Does this include your testimony?**

5 **A. Yes.**