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September 23, 2015

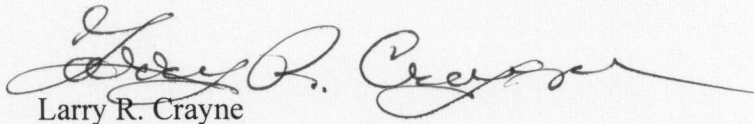
Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Thomas Kielbasinski v. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.
Complaint Docket No. C-2015-2485659

Dear Ms. Chiavetta:

Enclosed is Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.'s electronically filed Reply to Complainant's Exceptions to Initial Decision in the above-referenced Formal Complaint. A copy of the document has been served on the Complainants.

Sincerely,


Larry R. Crayne

cc: Thomas Kielbasinski
402 West Main Street
Somerset, PA 15501

ra-OSA@pa.gov

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

In the Matter of:

Thomas Kielbasinski,
Complainant,

Complaint Docket
No. C-2014-2485659

VS.

Columbia Gas of Pa., Inc.
Respondent.

Reply to Exceptions to Initial Decision

AND NOW comes Respondent, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., (Columbia Gas), and replies to Exceptions filed by Complainant in the above proceeding. Complainant has filed a brief one paragraph exception to the Initial Decision by Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale dated August 14, 2015. The Exceptions by Complainant are unnumbered, do not identify the findings of fact or conclusions of law to which the exceptions are taken and fail to cite relevant pages of the decision. Therefore, Columbia Gas cannot reply *seriatim* to the Exceptions, but instead will reply generally to the Exceptions.

Complainant's exceptions simply state that his "...income has varied over the past year" and he "...had a family emergency out of state." Complainant also states that he "...was able to pay \$51.00 a month ago on this bill." The filing of these Exceptions to an Initial Decision, without prejudice, is yet another example of the dilatory conduct that constitutes Complainant's history of abuse of the regulatory process to avoid termination of service and payment of his bills. Through such conduct, Complainant has been able to accrue a large arrearage on his bill for service, currently \$4983.17, and increasing each month. The single \$51.33 payment he referenced was made to forestall termination of service for failure to pay current bills and was the only payment on his account in nineteen months. By his clever use of the Commission's regulatory process of filing disputes, informal complaints and formal complaints, Complainant has avoided paying for service for almost two years.

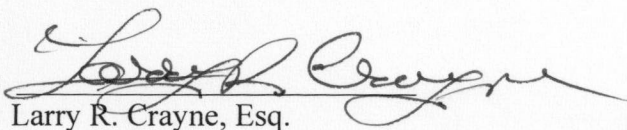
Complainant's statement that he paid \$51.00 on his bill is pathetic. While we do not have a record in this proceeding because of Complainant's last minute request for a postponement of the August 13, 2015 hearing before Judge Dunderdale, further aggravated by his refusal to call in and explain why he could not attend the scheduled hearing, Columbia Gas nevertheless will show at any subsequent hearing that Complainant has made only one \$51.33 payment on his account in the last nineteen months. The Commission should not countenance such conduct.

Complainant's reference to a Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec) payment agreement is neither relevant nor material to this Complaint against Columbia Gas. The Commission records will show that Complainant has filed five informal complaints and two Formal Complaints with

the Commission, in addition to numerous disputes and broken company payment agreements, all designed to prevent termination of service and payment of the arrearages on his account. Consequently, there has been no good faith effort on the part of Complainant to pay his monthly bills for service and there is no reason for Columbia Gas to offer yet another payment agreement and prolong collection of the arrearage on Complainant's account. Such conduct by Complainant is clearly an abuse of the Commission's regulatory process that ultimately may inure to the detriment of those customers who pay their bills for service.

Wherefore, Columbia Gas requests Complainants' Exceptions be denied and the Commission promptly affirm the Initial Decision of Administrative Law Judge Dunderdale denying the complaint.

Respectfully submitted,
Columbia Gas of Pa., Inc.

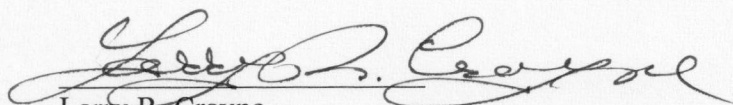
By: 
Larry R. Crayne, Esq.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document upon the participant, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of Sec. 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

Thomas Kielbasinski
402 West Main Street
Somerset, PA 15501

Dated this 23rd day of sep, 2015



Larry R. Crayne
238 Johnston Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Counsel for
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.