

BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Joyce Washington

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

**DOCKETED**  
JUL 14 2006

C-20066250

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SECRETARY  
PA. PUBLIC UTILITY BUREAU

PREHEARING ORDER

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An Initial Hearing in this case is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in Hearing Room 1 on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor of the Philadelphia State Office Building. This case is one of several cases that have been scheduled at this time in Hearing Room 1. **You must be available in the hearing room when your case is called by the presiding Administrative Law Judge.** You should arrive at the Hearing Room no later than 9:15 a.m. and wait in the Hearing Room until the Administrative Law Judge calls your case. Your case might not be the first one to be called and you should be prepared to stay in the hearing room all morning, if necessary. **If the customer is not present when it is called, your case will be dismissed by the Administrative Law Judge.**

The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. A request for a continuance of the scheduled hearing date must state the agreement or opposition of other parties, and must be submitted in writing no later than five (5) business days prior to the hearing. 52 Pa.Code §1.15(b). Requests for a change of hearing date must be sent to me and all parties of record. The correct address is:

1302 Philadelphia State Office Building  
1400 West Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
Telephone: (215) 560-2105  
Fax: (215) 560-3133

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Changes are granted only in rare situations where good cause exists.

2. **Commission policy promotes settlements. 52 Pa.Code §5.231(a).** The utility will contact the Complainant at least one week before the scheduled hearing to discuss a possible settlement of this case. Even if you are unable to settle this case, you may still resolve many questions or issues during your talks. If an agreement is reached, a formal hearing will not be necessary and the scheduled hearing will be cancelled.

3. If you intend to present any documents for my consideration, you must bring four (4) copies to the hearing.

4. This hearing is a formal proceeding and will be conducted in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

5. Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§1.21 & 1.22, you may represent yourself, if you are an individual, or you may have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, you must have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall insure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code §1.24(b).


6. If you intend to subpoena witnesses for the hearing, you should review the procedures established in 52 Pa.Code §5.421. You must submit your written application to me sufficiently in advance of the hearing date so that the other parties will have the required ten (10) days' notice to answer or object, and so that you will have enough time to receive the subpoena and serve it.

7. The Complainant is responsible for payment of current undisputed bills for service pending the resolution of this Complaint. 52 Pa. Code §56.181. Failure to make payments may result in the termination of utility service.

**8. THE COMPLAINT WILL BE DISMISSED IF THE CUSTOMER FAILS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING AND PRESENT EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPLAINT.**

9. The Complainant bears the burden of proof and must demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that he/she is entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint.

Date: May 30, 2006

  
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Herbert Smolen  
Administrative Law Judge