

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Application of Sugarcreek : Docket No. A-00118316
Township Ambulance Service :
: :
: :
: :

INTERIM ORDER
SETTING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

On or about September 6, 2001, Sugarcreek Township Ambulance Service ("Applicant") filed an application at the above-captioned Docket Number. Protests were filed on behalf of three (3) Protestants.

Based upon a review of the pleadings, the parties are hereby directed to attempt to settle this matter. Protestants shall jointly contact Applicant, on or before December 20, 2001, concerning a time, date and place for Protestants and Applicant to hold a conference. The conference shall take place on or before January 3, 2001, unless this is not possible.

Within ten (10) days following the conference, Protestants shall file a short report with Bruce Bigelow, Mediator ("Mediator"), setting forth:

(a) The time, date and place of the settlement conference;

(b) Who participated for each party;

(c) A statement whether a full settlement (restrictive amendment), including withdrawal of protests, was achieved, and, if not, whether the parties consent to have this case set for mediation by the mediation staff of the Commission; and

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(d) A statement of any issues which have been resolved, if a full settlement was not achieved.

If an agreement has not been reached, and the parties do not consent to mediate, the parties are entitled to have a hearing. A hearing is a formal procedure in which an administrative law judge will make a decision to resolve the case. Mediation is an informal procedure in which the parties themselves attempt to resolve the case through a voluntary agreement. The mediator is a neutral person who helps the parties in their efforts to come to an agreement. The Commission encourages mediation.

If it is not possible to have the conference by the date set for that purpose, Protestants shall file a report with the Mediator, on or before ten (10) days following the conference due date, giving the reason(s) why the due date could not be met.

In either situation, a report must be filed with the Mediator by the applicable due date set forth above.

If you have any questions, you should contact the Mediator. His address and phone number are:

Mediator Bruce Bigelow
P. O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
(717) 783-5413
Email: bigelow@puc.state.pa.us

Robert A. Christianson

ROBERT A. CHRISTIANSON
Chief Administrative Law Judge

Date: 12/6/01