

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Martin Johnson |
v. |
The Peoples Natural Gas |
d/b/a Dominion Peoples |
Initial Telephonic Hearing

Docket No.: C-20066067

Pages: 1-9

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

Pittsburgh State Office
Building
300 Liberty Avenue
11th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA

Tuesday, June 20, 2006
Commencing at 9:03 A.M.

BEFORE:

FRED R. NENE, Administrative Law Judge

APPEARANCES:

MARTIN JOHNSON
44 Julian Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15235
For the Complainant
(via telephone)

HORACE P. PAYNE, JR., Esquire
The Peoples Natural Gas Company
d/b/a Dominion Peoples
625 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
For the Respondent
(via telephone)

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JUN 29 2006

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

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REPORTER: KYLEY MCCOWIN

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<u>WITNESS</u>	<u>DIRECT</u>	<u>CROSS</u>	<u>REDIRECT</u>	<u>RECROSS</u>
NONE PRESENT				

P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 -----
3 JUDGE FRED R. NENE:

4 This is the time scheduled for a hearing
5 on the Complainant Martin Johnson against the People's
6 Natural Gas Company at Docket #C-20066067. Mr.
7 Johnson is present telephonically and People's is
8 present represented by Attorney Horace Payne.

9 This involves a billing dispute. Mr.
10 Johnson, have you had a chance to talk to Mr. Payne
11 about trying to settle this thing?

12 MR. JOHNSON:

13 No, sir. I haven't.

14 JUDGE NENE:

15 Would you like to take some time to do
16 that?

17 MR. JOHNSON:

18 If it's possible, but I don't know how
19 --- I am totally confused how this got, you know, put
20 on my bill. And I just moved into this house.

21 JUDGE NENE:

22 Well, maybe before we get into all the
23 testimony and swearing you in, then maybe you'll have
24 a chance to talk. Mr. Payne, would you be willing to
25 do that?

1 ATTORNEY PAYNE:

2 Sure, Your Honor.

3 JUDGE NENE:

4 Okay. I'm going to just go off the
5 record and let you talk for a few minutes and see if
6 there's any way to get this settled.

7 OFF RECORD DISCUSSION

8 JUDGE NENE:

9 This is Judge Nene. I've had your
10 conversation on low, but I did hear that you were able
11 to come to an agreement, and I'm glad you did because
12 what you have reached is --- it appears to me would be
13 better than what the Commission could do. It's clear
14 that you and Ms. Coles run the house, but the bills
15 come with her and come with you. And it looks like
16 with this arrangement you can have this paid off in
17 two years. And that's better than the Commission
18 could do under the circumstances. It also --- I heard
19 Mr. Payne say that you can look at your bill sometime
20 and see that it's gone up. It's possible that it
21 could go down, too. It depends on your usage. It's
22 less likely that it will go down because the rates
23 could change that. If you can budget that amount, you
24 could be out of this and reduce your bills by half
25 into the years. I'm glad you were able to work it

1 out.

2 MR. JOHNSON:

3 So am I.

4 JUDGE NENE:

5 So do you want to put the terms on the
6 record, Mr. Payne, or do you want to just send a
7 certificate of satisfaction?

8 ATTORNEY PAYNE:

9 I can do it either way, Your Honor.
10 Let's put it on the record.

11 JUDGE NENE:

12 Okay.

13 ATTORNEY PAYNE:

14 And I believe Mr. Johnson will just then
15 withdraw his complaint on the record as well.

16 JUDGE NENE:

17 Okay. So if you could state the terms
18 and then I'll ask Mr. Johnson if he agrees that that's
19 the way we're going to satisfy this.

20 ATTORNEY PAYNE:

21 Certainly, Your Honor. The terms, Your
22 Honor, are as follows; the Company is willing to
23 enter into a budget plus \$164 a month beginning with
24 July 2006 due date. And this is just simply
25 resetting, if you will, the Bureau of Consumer

1 Services Decision, which it recently entered in this
2 matter from which the customer has taken an appeal.
3 And that, Your Honor, should liquidate the account
4 balance in approximately a little over two years.

5 JUDGE NENE:

6 All right. Mr. Johnson, do you agree to
7 those terms?

8 MR. JOHNSON:

9 Yes, sir.

10 JUDGE NENE:

11 All right. Very well. I'm glad you were
12 able to work this out. It's really in the interest of
13 both parties. You're willing then to withdraw the
14 complaint?

15 MR. JOHNSON:

16 Yes.

17 JUDGE NENE:

18 Okay. Then Mr. Payne will send a
19 certificate of satisfaction to the Commission,
20 indicating that the parties are both satisfied with
21 this matter and then you'll get a letter from the
22 Commission in a while saying that the case is closed.

23 MR. JOHNSON:

24 Okay.

25 JUDGE NENE:

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Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. JOHNSON:

Thank you.

ATTORNEY PAYNE:

Thank you, Mr. Johnson. Take care and
you have a good rest of the day.

MR. JOHNSON:

You too.

ATTORNEY PAYNE:

Okay. Thanks.

A. Bye-bye.

JUDGE NENE:

Good-bye.

ATTORNEY PAYNE:

Good-bye, Your Honor.

* * * * *

HEARING CONCLUDED AT 9:21 A.M.

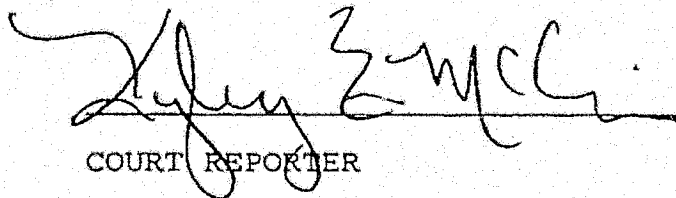
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