

BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Nuril Kabar

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

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C-20030627

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PREHEARING ORDER

An initial hearing in this case is scheduled for March 17, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. Accordingly, the parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. You must serve me directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding at the time of filing. If you send me any correspondence or document, you must send a copy to all other parties. For your convenience, a copy of the Commission's current service list of the parties to this proceeding is enclosed with this Order. If you intend to present any documents or exhibits at the hearing, you must bring with you the required number of copies (the original and one copy for the Commission, one copy for me, and one copy for every other party in the case). Documents should be properly pre-marked for identification.

2. A request for a change of the scheduled hearing date must be submitted to me, in writing, no later than five (5) days prior to the hearing. 52 Pa. Code §1.15(b). Such changes are granted only in rare situations where good cause exists.

3. **YOU MAY LOSE THIS CASE IF YOU DO NOT TAKE PART IN THIS HEARING AND PRESENT EVIDENCE ON THE ISSUES RAISED.**

4. THIS HEARING IS A FORMAL PROCEEDING AND WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE.

5. Unless you are a corporation, it is not required that you be represented by an attorney, although you may choose to be represented by an attorney. **If you are a corporation, you must be represented by an attorney.**

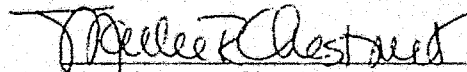
6. The complainant bears the burden of proof in this proceeding and must show by a preponderance of the evidence that the respondent has violated the Public Utility Code or a regulation or an Order of this Commission so that the complainant is entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint.

7. 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 the other parties will have the required ten (10) days' notice to answer or object, and so you will have enough time to receive the subpoena and serve it.

8. Any party may conduct discovery to learn the factual basis of another party's position in this case. However, 52 Pa. Code §5.331(b) provides, in relevant part, that "[a] participant shall endeavor to initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible." Additionally, 52 Pa. Code §5.322 provides, in relevant part, that "participants are encouraged to exchange information on an informal basis." All parties are urged to cooperate in informal information exchanges and in conducting discovery. Cooperation is preferable to disagreements, which require my participation to resolve. There are limitations on discovery (52 Pa. Code §5.361) and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process (52 Pa. Code §§ 5.371 & 5.372).

9. Commission policy is to encourage settlements. 52 Pa. Code §5.231(a). Therefore, you are urged to discuss informally between yourselves the possible settlement of this case. If you are unable to settle this case, you may still resolve as many questions or issues as possible during your informal discussion.

Date: December 15, 2003

  
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Marlane R. Chestnut  
Administrative Law Judge