

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Marie C. Abellard,
vs.
Philadelphia Gas Works
Initial hearing

Docket No.: C-20077821

Pages: 1 - 9

State Office Building
1400 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

August 29, 2007
Commencing at 10:05 a.m.

BEFORE:

ANGELA T. JONES, Administrative Law Judge

APPEARANCES:

MARIE C. ABELLARD
Pro Se

LAURETO A. FARINAS, ESQUIRE
800 West Montgomery Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122
For the Respondent

REPORTER: DANIEL URIE

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WITNESS

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NONE PRESENT

P R O C E E D I N G S

JUDGE ANGELA T. JONES:

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4 We are on the record. This is the time
5 and place for the matter of Marie C. Abellard versus
6 Philadelphia Gas Works, at Docket Number C-20077821.
7 I am Administrative Law Judge Angela T. Jones,
8 appointed by the Commission to preside over this
9 matter. I note for the record that the parties have
10 been in settlement negotiations and informed that
11 those settlement negotiations were successful. Mr.
12 Farinas, I will allow you this time to be the
13 spokesperson for the negotiations.

ATTORNEY FARINAS:

14
15 Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. Ms. Marie
16 C. Abellard has, in fact, graciously agreed to settle
17 this matter with PGW. This matter concerned the final
18 bill for her account for gas usage. What was in
19 controversy was the true identity of the --- PGW had
20 the identities of all of the people confused.

21 The property is owned by Ms. Abellard's
22 aunt, Marie A. Abellard. When it was time to issue
23 her a final bill, PGW became confused because of
24 seeing that the owner was not paying the final bill,
25 as it was Marie Abellard. Having reviewed all of the

1 additional identification information that Ms. Marie
2 C. Abellard has provided for us, we have now sorted
3 out all of the players.

4 First, and these are the terms of the
5 settlement, first, the amount of the final bill of Ms.
6 Abellard's account, the Complainant, is \$1,745.58.
7 PGW will waive late payment charges in the amount of
8 \$523, I'm sorry, \$532.52, leaving a remaining final
9 balance of \$1,213.06.

10 The household in which Ms. Abellard lives
11 does have gas service. It is the household which is
12 the service address which is in dispute and, that is,
13 4731 Rosehill Street, First Floor. The gas service is
14 now on in another member of the household's name.
15 That whole household is enrolled in the Customer
16 Responsibility Program.

17 As PGW agreed to do this originally
18 before the discovery of the multiple names, PGW will
19 fulfill our previous promise to Ms. Abellard to
20 transfer the final billing amount of \$1,213.06 into
21 the frozen arrears that's currently enrolled in the
22 Customer Responsibility Program. And those arrears
23 will be disposed of in due course as that household
24 continues the program.

25 JUDGE JONES:

1 Very well. I neglected to note for the
2 record the appearance of Mr. Laureto Farinas as lawyer
3 representing PGW, as well as Ms. Marie C. Abellard,
4 representing herself. That was Mr. Farinas that spoke
5 in reference to the settlement terms. Ms. Abellard,
6 you have heard Mr. Farinas' rendition of what he has
7 presented as settlement of this matter. Are they true
8 and correct to the best of your ability?

9 MS. ABELLARD:

10 Yes.

11 JUDGE JONES:

12 And you do agree to those terms?

13 MS. ABELLARD:

14 Yes.

15 JUDGE JONES:

16 And I will note for the record that you
17 are Marie C. as opposed to Marie A. Abellard, and the
18 residence in question is 4731 Rosehill Street in
19 Philadelphia. Very well. I am unsure if Mr. Farinas
20 has explained to you, Ms. Abellard, you have settled
21 this case orally, however, the company will send to
22 you in the mail, in writing, the settlement that you
23 have agreed to today.

24 There will also be some paperwork to say
25 that you need to contact the Commission within ten

1 days if, after reviewing the settlement in writing,
2 you do not agree to it.

3 MS. ABELLARD:

4 Okay.

5 JUDGE JONES:

6 If you do agree to it, you do not have to
7 do anything. If the Commission does not hear from you
8 within ten days ---. It would have to hear from you,
9 as well as, you would have to inform the company that
10 you're not agreeing to the settlement. If we do not
11 hear from you, this matter will be closed, no longer
12 to open again.

13 If we do hear from you, the matter will
14 be reopened, and we will have a hearing in due course.
15 Do you understand that, Ms. Abellard?

16 MS. ABELLARD:

17 Yes.

18 JUDGE JONES:

19 Is there anything further that the
20 parties wish to bring before me today?

21 ATTORNEY FARINAS:

22 I have nothing further, Your Honor.

23 MS. ABELLARD:

24 No, Your Honor.

25 JUDGE JONES:

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Very well. We are adjourned. Thank you.

ATTORNEY FARINAS:

Thank you, Your Honor.

MS. ABELLARD:

Thank you.

* * * * *

HEARING CONCLUDED AT 10:11 A.M.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.

Daniel B. Vail
Court Reporter

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