

ORIGINAL

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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:
Stephen M. Brunner v. Columbia : Docket No.
Gas of PA., Inc. : C-20067107
Gouging & Meter Dispute :
:
Initial Telephonic Hearing :
----- X

Pages 1 through 8 Hearing Room No. 2
Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Friday, February 9, 2007

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:01 a.m.

BEFORE:

WAYNE L. WEISMANDEL, Administrative Law Judge

APPEARANCES:

STEPHEN M. BRUNNER
129 Saddle Club Road
Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201
(Pro Se)

LARRY R. CRAYNE, Esquire
238 Johnston Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15241
(For Columbia Gas of PA., Inc.)

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Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

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WITNESS INDEX

WITNESSES

DIRECT

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(None.)

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FORM 2

EXHIBIT INDEX

NUMBER

FOR IDENTIFICATION IN EVIDENCE

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FORM 2

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P R O C E E D I N G S

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE WAYNE L. WEISMANDEL:

1
2
3 This is the date and time set for a telephonic hearing
4 in the matter of Stephen M. Brunner versus Columbia Gas
5 of Pennsylvania, Inc., Pennsylvania Public Utility
6 Commission Docket No. C-20067107. I am Administrative
7 Law Judge Wayne L. Weisman del assigned by the Commission
8 to preside in this matter.

9 I am located in the hearing room in Harrisburg
10 along with a court reporter who will prepare a
11 transcript of this morning's proceeding. I have
12 contacted Attorney Larry R. Crayne, Esquire,
13 representing Columbia Gas at 412-831-5462. I have also
14 contacted a potential witness for Columbia Gas, Ms.
15 Leesa Swartz, at 717-849-0139. And finally, I have
16 contacted the Complainant, Mr. Stephen M. Brunner, at
17 724-622-0264.

18 Mr. Crayne, Ms. Swartz and Mr. Brunner have all
19 indicated that they are able to hear me and to hear each
20 other satisfactorily.

21 Having gotten all of that stuff out of the way,
22 Mr. Brunner, it is my custom in these matters to offer
23 the parties an opportunity to discuss the situation off
24 the record out of my hearing to see if they can come to
25 an amicable resolution without the necessity of

1 proceeding with a hearing. Are you willing to talk to
2 the Columbia Gas representatives about doing that?

3 MR. BRUNNER: Yes, I am.

4 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: Okay, Mr. Crayne, is Columbia
5 Gas willing to talk to Mr. Brunner and see if this
6 matter can be resolved?

7 MR. CRAYNE: Yes.

8 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: Okay, very good. The way
9 we'll do this then, since I initiated the call, they
10 tell me that if I hang up it will disconnect the rest of
11 you from each other. So, what I will do is literally
12 leave the hearing room that I'm in, in Harrisburg, and
13 give you an opportunity to talk and I shouldn't hear
14 anything that I shouldn't hear that's not under oath. I
15 will be rude and interrupt whoever is speaking when I
16 come back in the room, so I apologize for that in
17 advance. The court reporter will stop transcribing
18 what's being said, so there will be no record of what's
19 said while you are speaking informally among yourselves.

20 I have about three minutes after 10:00. Why
21 don't I give you until a quarter after 10:00 and I'll
22 check with you then, and we'll see where we go from
23 there. Is that satisfactory to everyone?

24 MR. CRAYNE: Very good.

25 MR. BRUNNER: Yes.

1 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: Okay. All right, we will go
2 off the record at this point.

3 (Brief recess.)

4 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: During the recess the Columbia
5 Gas representatives and Mr. Brunner had what appears to
6 have been a fruitful discussion. A large part of which
7 included a full explanation of the purchased gas costs,
8 quarterly reconciliation, and annual reconciliation, the
9 adjustments and the fact that purchased gas costs are a
10 straight pass through for Columbia Gas in that Mr.
11 Brunner understands now that Columbia Gas doesn't make
12 any money on the purchased gas cost when it goes up, nor
13 does it save any money when the purchased gas cost goes
14 down.

15 In light of all of that, Mr. Brunner has
16 indicated that he is willing to withdraw his complaint
17 on the record. Is that correct, Mr. Brunner?

18 MR. BRUNNER: Yes, Your Honor.

19 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: All right, with that what will
20 happen, Mr. Brunner, is you will get -- and it's
21 probably going to take a little while, but you will
22 eventually get a letter from the Commission's secretary
23 indicating that the case number has been closed. All
24 right?

25 MR. BRUNNER: Yes.

1 MS. SWARTZ: May I say something, please?

2 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: Yes, Ms. Swartz.

3 MS. SWARTZ: There is a \$25.00 balance. Are you
4 aware of that, Mr. Brunner?

5 MR. BRUNNER: Yes. I am aware of that. I'm
6 currently unemployed. As soon as I get an income I'm
7 going to go ahead and pay that.

8 MS. SWARTZ: All right.

9 MR. BRUNNER: I've been unemployed since December
10 31, 2006. I don't have no income coming in right now.

11 MS. SWARTZ: Mr. Crayne, do you think we should
12 just credit it off?

13 MR. CRAYNE: I have no problem with that.

14 MS. SWARTZ: All right. I will do that. I'll
15 give you a \$25.00 good will atonement. That will take
16 care of the balance.

17 MR. BRUNNER: Thank you very much.

18 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: All right, is there anything
19 else we need to do, folks?

20 MR. BRUNNER: No.

21 MR. CRAYNE: I have nothing, Your Honor.

22 JUDGE WEISMANDEL: Okay, thank you, Mr. Brunner,
23 Mr. Crayne and Ms. Swartz. That will conclude this
24 morning's proceeding.
25

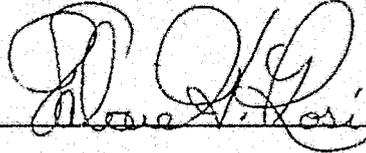
(Whereupon, at 10:21 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.)

* * *

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.

COMMONWEALTH REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

BY: 

Valorie H. Rosi

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FORM 2

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