

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-3265

Philadelphia Gas Works

Public Meeting held July 12, 2018  
2611805-ALJ

v.

Docket No. F-2017-2611805

William Madison


STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS M. BROWN

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) in this case determined that Mr. Madison is responsible for the total bill for unauthorized usage from July 14, 2006 to August 25, 2016, in the amount of \$5,482.33. I agree with the ALJ's disposition of this Complaint.

However, I must also express concern that Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) appears not to have adequately monitored its facilities at this property for a decade. As I have done in the past, I wish to emphasize to PGW and all of our natural gas distribution companies the importance of routinely monitoring all of their facilities to deter occurrences of theft of service.<sup>1</sup> To the extent our utilities have not already done so, I strongly recommend that they establish an internal policy to effectively monitor dormant accounts for unauthorized use. Theft of service not only hurts the companies and ratepayers financially, it poses a danger to the public at large due to the likelihood of gas leaks. I believe that under section 1501 of the Public Utility Code, our natural gas distribution companies have a duty to monitor their distribution facilities regardless of whether there is an active account attached to them.

July 12, 2018

Date



Gladys M. Brown, Chairman

<sup>1</sup> See, Statement of Chairman Gladys M. Brown in *Bretz v. PGW*, F-2016-2543880 (January 10, 2017).