

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105**

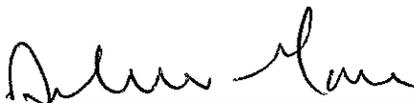
**Stephanie Maxwell vs.  
Philadelphia Gas Works**

**Public Meeting: August 23, 2018  
2607397-OSA  
Docket No. C-2017-2607397**

**STATEMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN ANDREW G. PLACE**

There have been several cases that have come before the Commission recently requesting Commission-based payment arrangements. In these cases, household income was calculated to determine the length of the payment arrangement. Though I agree with the staff recommendation in this particular case, I will note, as I did in the recent case of Ms. Cozart vs. PGW that Chapter 66 of the Public Utility Code at §1403 defines household income as, “The combined gross income of all adults in a residential household who benefit from the public utility service.”<sup>1</sup> Additionally there is recent case law<sup>2</sup>, including an earlier 2017 case<sup>3</sup> which specifically affirmed that SSI payments to minors are not to be considered part of the Complainant’s household income, and as such should not be included in income when determining payment arrangement terms. Though the outcome of this case does not result in a payment arrangement for Ms. Maxwell, it should be noted that for the purposes of calculating the terms of Commission based payment arrangements, minor income is not to be included.

**DATE: August 23, 2018**

  
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**Andrew G. Place, Vice Chairman**

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<sup>1</sup> 66 Pa.C.S. § 1403 defines “Household income” as, “The combined gross income of all adults in a residential household who benefit from the public utility service.”

<sup>2</sup> Leslie Jane Pellot v. PECO Energy Company. C-2013-2365592. Final Order entered December 9, 2013- 66 Pa.C.S. § 1403 defines “Household income” as, “The combined gross income of all adults in a residential household who benefit from the public utility service.” Because the SSI and state assistance payment are the income of the minor son of the Complainant, that income is not considered part of the Complainant’s household income.

<sup>3</sup> Shantelle Thomas v. Philadelphia Gas Works, F-2017-2612646. Final Order entered December 7, 2017. “After February 4, 2016, the Complainant’s income was just that of her 17- year-old son’s social security disability income at \$735.00 per month; so according to the definition of household income, which is just that of adults, the Complainant had no household income.” Tr. 15.