

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Formal Complaint

C-2019-3007616

Filing this form begins a legal proceeding and you will be a party to the case. If you do not wish to be a party to the case, consider filing an informal complaint.

To complete this form, please type or print legibly in ink.

1. Customer (Complainant) Information

Provide your name, mailing address, county, telephone number(s), e-mail address and utility account number. It is your responsibility to update the Commission with any changes to your address and to where you want documents mailed to you.

Name Traay & Russell Pasternak
Street/P.O. Box 213 Falcon Ridge Dr, Apt #
City New Kensington State PA Zip 15068
County Westmoreland

Telephone Number(s) Where We Can Contact You During the Day:

() (home) 724 980-4564 (mobile)

E-mail Address (optional): Traayr1024@gmail.com

Utility Account Number (from your bill) 100 094 639 992

If your complaint involves utility service provided to a different address or in a different name than your mailing address, please list this information below.

Name
Street/P.O. Box
City State Zip

2. Name of Utility or Company (Respondent)

Provide the full name of the utility or company about which you are complaining. The name of your utility or company is on your bill.

West Penn Power

RECEIVED
2019 FEB -7 PM 1:30
PA P.U.C.
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

3. Type of Utility Service

Check the box listing the type of utility service that is the subject of your complaint (check only one):

- ELECTRIC WASTEWATER/SEWER
 GAS TELEPHONE/TELECOMMUNICATIONS (local, long distance)
 WATER MOTOR CARRIER (e.g. taxi, moving company, limousine)
 STEAM HEAT

4. Reason for Complaint

What kind of problem are you having with the utility or company? Check all boxes below that apply and state the reason for your complaint. Explain specifically what you believe the utility or company has done wrong. Provide relevant details including dates, times and places and any other information that may be important. If the complaint is about billing, tell us the amount you believe is not correct. Use additional paper if you need more space. **Your complaint may be dismissed without a hearing if you do not provide specific information.**

- The utility is threatening to shut off my service or has already shut off my service.
Will shut off if I don't accept smart meter
- I would like a payment agreement.
- Incorrect charges are on my bill. Provide dates that are important and an explanation about any amounts or charges that you believe are not correct. Attach a copy of the bill(s) in question if you have it/them.
- I am having a reliability, safety or quality problem with my utility service. Explain the problem, including dates, times or places and any other relevant details that may be important.

Other (explain). *See attached letter.*

Dear PUC,

I am writing to you today to plead for your mercy. I got a letter from West Penn Power stating that I had to get a smart meter installed in my home.

Let me start off by saying that I have a long history with cancer it was a five-year battle it took me five years to get into remission and set me back \$75,000 in medical bills which I'm still paying on. My husband also has a heart condition Afib and PVC abnormal arrhythmia. I've read smart meters can interfere with this condition and it's hard for us to avoid the meter sleeping next to it.

During that time I have educated myself on adapting healthy life style what I put in my body and around my body. Needless to say smart meters are not good for one's health.

When I try to explain this to somebody at West Penn Power they give me Their rehearsed line the statistics comparable numbers between Wifi cell phone microwave and smart meters.

Like I said I'm very educated on the numbers and statistics. The fact of the matter is our smart meter is on the same wall as our bedroom and our bed

The only thing that separating me from the smart meter is the wall my head is but up against our smart meter it is absolutely impossible for me to switch the room around four I have windows closet's and the doorway the bed would be blocking those.

I have looked into getting a faraday cage on the smart meter however I have read that The power company will come and remove it from me.

Then I was told that I could move my meter however this would be a very large expense and I do not have the financial means for this

I feel completely helpless. It's to my understanding that Pennsylvania does not have an "opt out" for smart meters and that I have no choice but to get one.

I am looking for suggestions. As moving my meter is not affordable I'm still paying on a \$75,000 medical bill and which I have two Home equity loans to cover.

I cannot accept somebody telling me that my microwave cell phone or Wi-Fi is worse for my house I have made special accommodations in my home for those devices they are nowhere near our bedroom or where we sleep.

Please let me know if there is anyway possible I can opt out of the smart meter.

Thank you.

Tracy Pasternak.

213 Falcon Ridge Drive

New Kensington, PA 15068

724.337.4664

Tracyp213@comcast.net

**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Bureau of Consumer Services
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Note: If your complaint is only about removing or modifying a municipal lien filed by the City of Philadelphia, the Public Utility Commission (PUC) cannot address it. Only local courts in Philadelphia County can address this type of complaint. The PUC can address a complaint about service or incorrect billing even if that amount is subject to a lien.

In addition, the PUC generally does not handle complaints about cell phone or Internet service, but may be able to resolve a dispute regarding voice communications over the Internet (including the inability to make voice 911/E911 emergency calls) or concerns about high-speed access to Internet service.

5. Requested Relief

How do you want your complaint to be resolved? Explain what you want the PUC to order the utility or company to do. Use additional paper if you need more space.

Note: The PUC can decide that a customer was not billed correctly and can order billing refunds. The PUC can also fine a utility or company for not following rules and can order a utility or company to correct a problem with your service. Under state law, the PUC cannot decide whether a utility or company should pay customers for loss or damages. Damage claims may be sought in an appropriate civil court.

6. Protection From Abuse (PFA)

Has a court granted a "Protection From Abuse" order that is currently in effect for your personal safety or welfare? The PUC needs this information to properly process your complaint so that your identity is not made public.

Note: You must answer this question if your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water distribution utility AND your complaint is about a problem involving billing, a request to receive service, a security deposit request, termination of service or a request for a payment agreement.

Has a court granted a "Protection From Abuse" order for your personal safety or welfare?

YES
NO

If your answer to the above question is "yes," attach a copy of the current Protection From Abuse order to this Formal Complaint form.

7. Prior Utility Contact

a. Is this an appeal from a decision of the PUC's Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS)?

YES YES, (I contacted best power
power
NO

Note: If you answered yes, move to Section 8. No further contact with the utility or company is required. If you answered no, answer the question in Section 7 b. and answer the question in Section 7 c. if relevant.

b. If this is not an appeal from a BCS decision, have you spoken to a utility or company representative about this complaint?

YES
NO

Note: You must contact the utility first if (1) you are a residential customer, (2) your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water utility AND (3) your complaint is about a billing problem, a service problem, a termination of service problem, or a request for a payment agreement.

c. If you tried to speak to a utility company representative about your complaint but were not able to do so, please explain why.

was told NO
opt out

yes. See attached
letter,

Note: Even if you are not required to contact the utility or company, you should always try to speak to a utility or company representative about your problem before you file a Formal Complaint with the PUC.

8. Legal Representation

If you are filing a Formal Complaint as an individual on your own behalf, you are not required to have a lawyer. You may represent yourself at the hearing.

If you are already represented by a lawyer in this matter, provide your lawyer's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address, if known. Please make sure your lawyer is aware of your complaint. If represented by a lawyer, both you and your lawyer must be present at your hearing.

Lawyer's Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Area Code/Phone Number _____

E-mail Address (if known) _____


Note: Corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies and political subdivisions are required to have a lawyer represent them at a hearing and to file any motions, answers, briefs or other legal pleadings.

9. **Verification and Signature**

You must sign your complaint. Individuals filing a Formal Complaint **must** print or type their name on the line provided in the verification paragraph below and **must** sign and date this form in **ink**. If you do not sign the Formal Complaint, the PUC **will not accept it**.

Verification:

I Tracey Pasternak, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).


(Signature of Complainant)

1-28-19

(Date)

Title of authorized employee or officer (only applicable to corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies or political subdivisions)

Note: If the Complainant is a corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company or political subdivision, the verification **must** be signed by an authorized officer or authorized employee. If the Formal Complaint is **not signed** by one of these individuals, the PUC **will not accept it**.

10. **Two Ways to File Your Formal Complaint**

Electronically. You must create an account on the PUC's eFiling system, which may be accessed at <http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx>.

Note: If you are appealing your Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS) decision, you must file your formal complaint by mail.

Mail. Mail the completed form with your original signature and any attachments, by certified mail, first class mail, or overnight delivery to this address:

Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Note: Formal Complaints sent by fax or e-mail will **not** be accepted.

If you have any questions about filling out this form, please contact the Secretary's Bureau at 717-772-7777.

Keep a copy of your Formal Complaint for your records.

