



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

April 15, 2019

The Honorable Judith L. Schwank
Senate of Pennsylvania
457 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Honorable Mark Rozzi
PA House of Representatives
111 Irvis Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Senator Schwank and Representative Rozzi:

Thank you for your recent letter to Chairman Brown regarding the College of Heights Community Council and efforts of UGI to install new gas meters in the City of Reading. I am responding on behalf of the Chairman.

As you may know, there is a pending case related to the issues raised by the Council at Docket No. C-2015-2516051. This is a contested proceeding, and the commissioners and staff are prohibited from discussing the merits of a contested case. I have taken the liberty of providing your letter to the Secretary's Bureau for inclusion in the formal complaint docket.

I hope this information is helpful. Thank you for your important letter on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at 787-3256.

Sincerely,

June M. Perry, Director
Office of Legislative Affairs

cc: Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille
Secretary Chiavetta

RECEIVED
2019 APR 17 PM 2:10
PA PUC
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

TO: SEC on 4/15/2019

11TH DISTRICT
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Senate of Pennsylvania
March 13, 2019

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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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TO: OLA on 3/18/2019
CONVSA # 2019.060

RECEIVED
2019 MAR 15 AM 11:21
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Gladys Brown, Esquire, Chair
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P. O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Dear Ms. Brown:

We are writing on behalf of the members of the College Heights Community Council and the residents of the northeast section of the City of Reading, regarding the efforts of UGI and its contractors to install new gas meters outside of homes in this area of Reading.

The College Heights neighborhood and Northeast Reading represent some of the most stable neighborhoods in the City of Reading. Local residents take care of their properties and are proud of the sense of community they have fostered. Many of the homes in these neighborhoods are aesthetically pleasing and have demonstrable historic value. Area residents are concerned that the installation of meters outside of homes with little regard for property owner input or approval will detract from the neighborhood aesthetic, create safety issues, and reduce property values. Residents are particularly upset and troubled at the apparent lack of responsiveness offered by the utility to their concerns. They believe, and rightly so, that their concerns and wishes with regard to outside placement of gas meters should be considered. It is their belief that the Commission should intercede on behalf of the residents in this matter "to protect the rights of citizens in the Historic Conservation District."

For your review, we are enclosing a copy of a newspaper article from today's edition of the *Reading Eagle*, as well as a copy of a "letter to the editor" submitted by the Community Council, which more fully details their concerns.

In light of this information, we respectfully request that Commission take appropriate steps to ensure that the concerns of the citizens of Northeast Reading with regard to the placement of gas meters outside of their homes are considered by UGI and its contractors. What can be done by the Commission to mediate a resolution that meets the wishes of the residents and needs of the utility in providing safe reliable service in the area? Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Judith L. Schwank
Senator—11th District

Mark Rozzi
Representative—126th District

Enclosures
CC All Concerned Citizens
JLS/MR/TG

College Heights Community Council
Post Office Box 14621
Reading, PA 19612-4621

Linda Kelleher
President

Katie Broskey
Secretary

February 12, 2019

Editor, Reading Eagle
345 Penn Street
Reading, PA 19603

Dear Sir:

At the meeting of the College Heights Community Council last Sunday evening the group adopted the following resolution:

“That the College Heights Community Council, a neighborhood association representing the northeast section of the City of Reading, go on record expressing strong disapproval of the practices and the attitude of UGI and its contractors involved in the installation of new gas meters in our neighborhood.

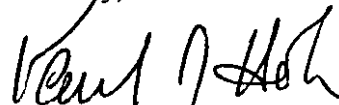
Further, that we call on the Public Utility Commission and our representatives in the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania to take all actions necessary to protect the rights of the citizens in this Historic Conservation District.”

We heard from neighbors who have been told “If you don’t like what we’re doing, sue us!” and others who had difficulty learning what adjustments could be made in their personal installations, even though PUC regulations require that customers be allowed to negotiate the exact location of the meters. People were also told that placing the new meters in front of properties was demanded by the PUC. If that is true, that policy should be challenged by our elected officials, including the governor. If it is not true, it is reprehensible that a public utility would lie to shift blame to those regulating its behavior.

The argument that these meters allow for remote readings is without merit, since the old meters inside homes were already being read remotely.

We believe that the arrogance shown by UGI should not be allowed to go unchallenged.

Sincerely,



Paul J. Hoh, Member of the Executive Committee

Cc: UGI
State Senator Judith Schwank ✓
State Representative Mark Rozzi

the weather

YESTERDAY: 46°/31°

TODAY: 53°/36°; RealFeel®: 54°/39°

Sun giving way to increasing clouds; Wind: S 3-6 mph

Records: 81°/14°

THURS
60
49
Cloud
yielding
sun

6 a.m.	9 a.m.	Noon	3 p.m.	6 p.m.	9 p.m.	Midnight
26°	30°	45°	51°	50°	45°	42°

Precipitation ■ 2018 — Normal ■ 2019

10.42" 6.64" 7.75"

Yesterday: 0.00"; This month: 1.67"

Air quality

50

Good
Moderate
Unhealthy sensitive
Unhealthy
Very unhealthy
Hazardous

Source: airnow.gov

Weather at noon

- ST
- T-
- Ra
- Fl
- Sri
- Ice

Fronts C
W
St

Today's conditions

©2019; forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather**
DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP

Allergies	Migraine	Sinus	Respiratory	Arthritis	Running	Cold & flu
NONE	BENEFICIAL	BENEFICIAL	BENEFICIAL	BENEFICIAL	VERY GOOD	BENEFICIAL

Anchorage
Boston
Buffalo
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Dallas

College Heights residents take issue with location of their gas meters

BY ANTHONY OROZCO
READING EAGLE

A second Reading historic district is taking issue with UGI and the company's contractors.

The College Heights Community Council, a neighborhood association representing the northeast section of the city, adopted a resolution early last month stating its displeasure with where gas meters are being placed.

In a letter to the *Reading Eagle* and local state legislators, the group claims crews installing the gas meters have not taken into consideration where property owners would like the meters placed.

"We heard from neighbors who have been told 'If you don't like what we're doing,

sue us!'" the letter states.

The letter also argues Public Utility Commission regulations allow customers to negotiate the exact location of the meters.

That statement differs from an initial decision from Administrative Law Judge Mary D. Long in the Centre Park Historic District gas meter case.

Long found that from 2014 to 2016, UGI did not conform to regulations in which UGI should consider property owners' wishes for where meters are placed. A definition of "consider" is not in the decision.

Long also found UGI modified its customer notification letter to detail the regulation of taking property owners' wishes into consideration.

Long did not suggest any penalties be placed on UGI.

Joseph Swope, spokesman for UGI, said the PUC has regulations to place meters outside, and UGI prefers to have the meters outside, even in historic districts.

Swope said UGI will work with homeowners to find the best unobtrusive location for the meters.

The community council also called on the PUC, state Rep. Mark Rozzi, a Muhlenberg Township Democrat, and state Sen. Judy Schwank, a Ruscombmanor Township Democrat, to protect the rights of residents in the Heights Conservation District.

The community council passed a resolution that states the council is "on the

record expressing strong disapproval of the practices of and the attitude of UGI and its contractors involved in the installation of new gas meters in our neighborhood."

Linda A. Kelleher, city clerk and president of the community council, doesn't see a need for her group to take the issue into litigation.

"Centre Park and the city picked up that torch," said Kelleher, adding the resolution rests with the PUC. "The way to remedy it would be for the PUC to reconsider the language in their regulations."

But Kelleher admitted that is likely to be an uphill battle.

"I think it is easier to get your face on a stamp," she said.

Contact Anthony Orozco: 610-371-5915 or aorozco@readingeagle.com.

Senate of Pennsylvania

11TH DISTRICT
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SENATE BOX 203011
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3011

HARRISBURG

PA 171

13 MAR '19

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03/13/2019

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Gladys Brown, Esquire, Chair
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
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Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

17105-326565

