

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120**

**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Office of Consumer Advocate  
Office of Small Business Advocate**

**Public Meeting October 7, 2021  
3025652 - ALJ  
Docket No. R-2021-3025652**

v.

**UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division**

**JOINT STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER RALPH V. YANORA AND  
COMMISSIONER JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR.**

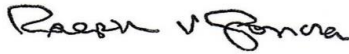
Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission for consideration and disposition is the Joint Petition for Settlement of the Rate Investigation Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1307(f) submitted by UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement.

We commend the Parties for developing a pilot program for renewable natural gas (RNG) supplies that may represent a viable economic model for the expanded use of RNG as a part of the Commonwealth’s abundant gas supply inventory.

Specifically, the pilot will explore the use of Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) to enhance the cost-effectiveness of RNG as a part of the UGI least-cost gas supply portfolio. RINs, associated with petroleum importation and refining under the federal Renewable Fuel Standards program, are roughly analogous to Renewable Energy Credits in the generation and trading of renewable electricity. The market for RINs attempts to enhance domestic renewable fuel supplies, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work to reduce reliance on imported oil.

If successful, the pilot will work to achieve multiple policy goals simultaneously. Important to today’s disposition, the pilot respects the statutory requirement that natural gas distribution companies engage in least-cost gas supply procurement pursuant to the Public Utility Code. The recent volatility in natural gas prices is evidence of the need for evaluating all possible sources of natural gas so that Pennsylvania’s ratepayers receive service at just and reasonable rates. The pilot may also establish a viable economic model to put end-cycle waste handling activities to a beneficial use as a source of natural gas. These sources may include municipal wastewater treatment facilities, public or private landfills, farming, and food processing facilities. Of course, in addition to enhanced economic benefit, the use of these resources works to produce environmental benefits as well.

We congratulate the Parties to the Settlement and wish all success in the implementation of the UGI pilot RNG program. The pilot represents an innovative economic model that balances environmental, customer, and gas supply requirements consistent with the Commonwealth's least-cost gas supply requirements. Its hopeful success would further important environmental policy goals and the public interest.



**RALPH V. YANORA**  
**COMMISSIONER**



**JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR.**  
**COMMISSIONER**

**October 7, 2021**  
DATE