

## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING 400 NORTH STREET

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO OUR FILE R-2021-3024296

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120 April 29, 2022

Re: Pa. PUC v. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Docket No. R-2021-3024296

## TO ALL PARTIES:

By this Secretarial Letter, the Commission grants the letter Petition to Withdraw the Petition for Rescission or Amendment (Petition to Withdraw), filed by Richard C. Culbertson on February 18, 2022, in the above-captioned proceeding.

The instant proceeding is Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.'s (Columbia) most recent base rate proceeding, in which the Commission approved a settlement agreement allowing for an annual increase in Columbia's base rate operating revenues not to exceed \$58.5 million, consistent with the Commission's Opinion and Order entered on December 16, 2021 (*December 2021 Order*). Mr. Culbertson has been an active *pro se* Complainant in this proceeding and filed a Formal Complaint and Exceptions to the Recommended Decision.

On January 14, 2022, Mr. Culbertson filed a Petition for Rescission or Amendment (Petition for Rescission) concerning the *December 2021 Order*. On January 24, 2022, Columbia filed an Answer to the Petition for Rescission.

In his Petition to Withdraw, Mr. Culbertson states that he withdraws his Petition for Rescission. He also states that because the issues he has raised in this proceeding remain, he has decided to submit an appeal to the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.<sup>2</sup> Petition to Withdraw at 1. As of this date, no objections or responses to the Petition to Withdraw have been filed.

Mr. Culbertson refers to his filing as a Petition for Reconsideration, however, it was not filed within the fifteen-day time frame required by Section 5.572(c) of our Regulations, 52 Pa. Code § 5.572(c). Under the circumstances, we will consider Mr. Culbertson's filing a Petition for Rescission or Amendment, as such petitions may be filed at any time under Section 5.572(d) of our Regulations, 52 Pa. Code § 5.572(d).

Mr. Culbertson filed a *pro se* letter with the Commonwealth Court on January 18, 2022, and an ancillary Petition for Review on February 17, 2022.

Withdrawal of pleadings in a contested proceeding is governed by Section 5.94 of our Regulations, 52 Pa. Code § 5.94. Section 5.94(a) provides the following:

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a party desiring to withdraw a pleading in a contested proceeding may file a petition for leave to withdraw the appropriate document with the Commission and serve it upon the other parties. The petition must set forth the reasons for the withdrawal. A party may object to the petition within 10 days of service. After considering the petition, an objection thereto and the public interest, the presiding officer or the Commission will determine whether the withdrawal will be permitted.

Upon review of the Petition to Withdraw, noting that no objections have been filed, we conclude that granting the Petition to Withdraw is in the public interest. By granting the Petition to Withdraw, we are preserving the *status quo* of our *December 2021 Order*.

Should you have any questions, you may contact the Office of Special Assistants, Kathryn G. Sophy, Director at 717-787-1827.

Very truly yours,

Rosemary Chiavetta

Secretary