



**June 30, 2022**

To: All Parties of Record at Docket Nos.:

M-2018-3003177 – Peoples Natural Gas Company 2019-2024 USECP

M-2020-3021343 – Peoples Gas Company 2019-2024 USECP

P-2020-3017641 – Amendment to Peoples Natural Gas Company 2015-2018 USECP

M-2014-2432515 – Peoples Natural Gas Company 2015-2018 USECP

**RE: Peoples Companies Revised 2019-2024 USECP June 13, 2022 Compliance Filing**

### *Overview*

On May 12, 2022, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) entered an Order (May 12 Order) directing Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC (PNGC) and Peoples Gas Company LLC (PGC) (collectively, Peoples Companies) to, *inter alia*, submit a revised 2019-2024 Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan (2019 USECP) within 30 days reflecting changes directed in the May 12 Order. The Commission approved the 2019 USECP conditioned upon the Peoples Companies making the changes directed in the May 12 Order. On June 13, 2022, the Peoples Companies filed clean and redlined versions of their revised 2019 USECP (June 13 Compliance Filing). To date, no protests or other responsive pleadings have been filed relative to the June 13 Compliance Filing.

As directed by the May 12 Order, the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS) has reviewed the June 13 Compliance Filing. BCS has identified three areas regarding implementation schedules in which the revised 2019 USECP is inconsistent with the May 12 Order. In all other respects, BCS finds the June 13 Compliance Filing to be in compliance with the May 12 Order.

As explained in greater detail in the *Conclusion* to this Secretarial Letter, stakeholders have the right to seek reconsideration of this staff action.

### *Implementation Schedules – Non-Compliance*

In the May 12 Order, the Commission directed the Peoples Companies to implement the 2019 USECP changes directed or approved in the May 12 Order within 90 days and to file and serve a letter when implementation is completed at Docket Nos. M-2018-3003177 and M-2020-3021343. May 12 Order at 93-94, OP # 10.

In their June 13 Compliance Filing, the Peoples Companies proposed, *inter alia*, the following three implementation schedules for requisite changes in their 2019 USECP:

1. October 1, 2022: Implementation of a paper application for customer assistance program (CAP) enrollment.
2. By March 31, 2023: Implementation of changes to CAP Final Billing.
3. By March 31, 2023: Elimination of the monthly \$5 pre-program arrearage (PPA) copayment.<sup>1</sup>

June 14 Compliance Filing Cover Letter at 1.

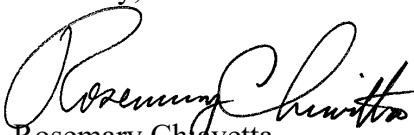
BCS has determined that these three schedules are inconsistent with the 90-day implementation interval specified in the May 12 Order. May 12 Order at 93-94, OP # 10. If the Peoples Companies require an implementation interval longer than the 90 days (*i.e.*, by August 10, 2022) for any of these three provisions, then a petition to that effect is required.

### *Conclusion*

Accordingly, the Peoples Companies are directed to implement the changes approved or directed in the May 12 Order within 90 days of the entry date of that Order. Parties have the right to seek reconsideration of this staff action. These staff determinations relative to the review of the June 14 Compliance Filing will be deemed to be the final action of the Commission unless reconsideration of the directives in this Secretarial Letter is sought from the Commission within 20 days after service of this Secretarial Letter. *See* 52 Pa. Code § 5.44 (relating to petitions for appeal from actions of the staff).

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Johnson in the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services at [jennifjohn@pa.gov](mailto:jennifjohn@pa.gov).

Sincerely,



Rosemary Chavetta  
Secretary

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Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman  
John F. Coleman, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Ralph V. Yanora, Commissioner

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<sup>1</sup> The Peoples Companies propose to eliminate the monthly \$5 PPA co-payment for new and existing CAP customers by March 31, 2023, but they are evaluating whether this change can be made for new applicants within a shorter timeframe. If so, they intend to make the change for new applicants earlier and will provide an update to the Commission. June 13 Compliance Filing Cover Letter at 1.