

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**
Harrisburg, PA. 17105-3265

Public Meeting held July 14, 2022

Commissioners Present:

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

Petition of Philadelphia Gas Works for Emergency Order P-2022-3033477

RATIFICATION ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 1, 2022, Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille issued an Emergency Order (EO) pursuant to Commission regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 3.3. The EO was issued in response to the Petition for Emergency Order (Petition) filed by Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) on June 30, 2022. In its Petition, PGW alleged that, due to a significant decrease in the number of heating degree days, the application of its Weather Normalization Adjustment (WNA) clause in its tariff for May 2022 natural gas usage resulted in WNA charges that were not fair or reasonable and which created a financial hardship for many of its customers. PGW requested that it be permitted to file a revised Gas Service Tariff, Pa P.U.C. No. 2, Page Nos. 149-150, to go into effect immediately.¹ The revision would eliminate its previously approved WNA as applicable to natural gas usage in May 2022 and billed as a charge in/for June 2022 residential and commercial billing cycles, subject to further investigation by the Commission. PGW committed to performing an internal investigation into the matter. PGW also requested that the Commission grant such other relief as the Commission deems appropriate and in the public interest. The Petition was

¹ The new tariff would replace PGW's 4th WNA tariff.

served on the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), the Office of Small Business Advocate, and the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement.

OCA filed an Answer on July 1, 2022, "fully support[ing]" PGW's determination that the present situation requires emergency treatment. OCA submitted that PGW's WNA tariff as currently applied potentially violates Pennsylvania law and must be suspended. OCA made several recommendations including suspending rather than amending the WNA tariff to address the "emergency situation."

In response to PGW's Petition, Chairman Brown Dutrieuille issued the EO granting the Petition. The EO permits PGW to file its revised WNA Tariff, which was attached to the Petition as Appendix A, to go into effect immediately, thereby eliminating its previously approved WNA clause for May 2022 usage billed as a charge in/for June 2022 residential and commercial billing cycles, subject to further investigation by the Commission.

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 3.3, it is necessary for the full Commission to ratify an emergency order at the next scheduled Public Meeting following issuance of the emergency order. After due consideration, we hereby adopt and ratify Chairman Brown Dutrieuille's July 1, 2022 EO. Consistent with the EO and with PGW's commitments in its Petition to investigate the WNA formula, the inputs, and current information about weather trends affecting May, we will also require PGW to file a report with the Commission detailing the results of its investigation. PGW is required to serve a copy of the report on the parties of record to the settlement that approved the WNA tariff that PGW is amending, for comment.

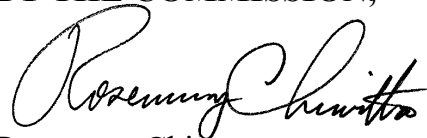
We find that the relief provided herein is responsive to the concerns of PGW and its customers; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Emergency Order issued on July 1, 2022, is hereby ratified.
2. That this Ratification Order be served on the parties of record at *Pa. Public Utility Commission v. Philadelphia Gas Works*, Docket No. R-2017-2586783.
3. That Philadelphia Gas Works shall file with the Commission the report of its internal investigation on or before 30 days of the date of entry of this Ratification Order. Philadelphia Gas Works shall serve the report on the parties of record at *Pa. Public Utility Commission v. Philadelphia Gas Works*, Docket No. R-2017-2586783.
4. That comments relative to Philadelphia Gas Works' internal investigation report shall be filed within 20 days after the filing date of the internal investigation.

5. That Philadelphia Gas Works shall submit its report and interested persons may submit comments to the Commission's Secretary by using an e filing account through the Commission's website e filing system. If the report or the comments contain confidential or proprietary material, you must provide a public version and confidential version. Efile the PUBLIC version and hand deliver a separate CONFIDENTIAL version to the Secretary's office at 400 North Street, Second Floor, Keystone Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

BY THE COMMISSION,



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: July 14, 2022

ORDER ENTERED: July 14, 2022