

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held April 20, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman
Stephen M. DeFrank, Vice Chairman
Ralph V. Yanora
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission

v.

Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket Number:
R-2023-3037933

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On February 27, 2023, Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW), Utility Code 125042, filed proposed Supplement No. 105 to PGW Gas Supplier Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 and proposed Supplement No. 159 to PGW Gas Service Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 2 to become effective April 28, 2023. The filing contains proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$85.8 million (10.3%) in additional annual revenues, an increase in residential customer's bills using 71 Mcf/year to increase from \$125.38 to \$137.73/month (9.9%). Within the general rate increase filing, PGW filed a Petition for Waiver seeking waiver of the application of the statutory definition of the fully projected

future test year (FPFTY) so as to permit PGW to use a FPFTY beginning on September 1, 2023, in this proceeding.¹

On March 7, 2023, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a Formal Complaint. On March 9, 2023, the Office of Small Business Advocate filed a Formal Complaint. Various oppositions were also filed.

PGW stated the requested rate increases is necessary to maintain its financial status and current favorable bond ratings, to enable PGW to continue its significant efforts to improve safety, efficiency, and reliability of its system and to continue to improve customer service.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until November 28, 2023, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date.

Investigation and analysis of the proposed tariff filings and the supporting data indicate that the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations may be unlawful, unjust, unreasonable, and contrary to the public interest. It also appears that consideration should be given to the reasonableness of PGW's existing rates, rules, and regulations; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an investigation on Commission motion be, and hereby is, instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules, and regulations

¹ The Petition for Waiver is not separately docketed and shall be considered within the proceeding before the Office of Administrative Law Judge.

contained in the proposed Supplement No. 105 to PGW Gas Supplier Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 and proposed Supplement No. 159 to PGW Gas Service Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 2.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 105 to PGW Gas Supplier Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 and proposed Supplement No. 159 to PGW Gas Service Tariff Pa. P.U.C. No. 2 are suspended by operation of law until November 28, 2023, unless otherwise directed by Order of the Commission.

3. That pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §53.71 tariff supplements shall be filed with the Commission and posted at the company to announce that the aforementioned Original Tariffs are suspended until the date stated in the Commission Order. Attached is a sample copy of a suspension supplement which shall be filed in triplicate or, if applicable, e-filed with the Commission within 10 days following the Order entry date.

4. That this investigation shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of Philadelphia Gas Works' existing rates, rules, and regulations.

5. That the case be assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for the prompt scheduling of such hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a Recommended Decision.

6. That a copy of this Order shall be served upon Philadelphia Gas Works, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and any persons who have filed Formal Complaints against the proposed tariff supplements.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: April 20, 2023

ORDER ENTERED: April 20, 2023

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. _____ to

Pa. P.U.C. No. _____

(COMPANY'S NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

The application of rates proposed in Supplement No. _____ to Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective _____ (and voluntarily postponed to become effective _____, is hereby suspended until _____, at Docket No. _____). Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.

Issued:

Issued in compliance with

Title 66 PA C.S.