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October 26, 2023

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING ONLY**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor North  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**RE: Application for Approval of Abandonment of Natural Gas Service by Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. to Two (2) Inactive Residential Premises and Two (2) Inactive Commercial Premises in Fayette County, Pennsylvania  
Docket No. A-2023-**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing please find an Application for Approval of Abandonment of Natural Gas Service by Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. to Two (2) Inactive Residential Premises and Two (2) Inactive Commercial Premises in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

The appropriate filing fee in the amount of \$350.00 has been paid via electronic payment through the PUC electronic filing system.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (223) 488-0794.

Very truly yours,

Candis A. Tunilo

/kak

Enclosure

cc Certificate of Service

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application for Approval of :  
Abandonment of Natural Gas Service :  
by Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. : Docket No. A-2023-\_\_\_\_\_  
to Two (2) Inactive Residential :  
Premises and Two (2) Inactive :  
Commercial Premises in Fayette :  
County, Pennsylvania :

**APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.**

TO THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (“Columbia” or “the Company”), pursuant to the provisions of Section 1102(a)(2) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa. C.S. § 1102(a)(2), hereby requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) approve the abandonment or discontinuance of natural gas service to two (2) inactive residential premises and two (2) inactive commercial premises on Columbia’s system in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. In support of the request, Columbia states as follows:

1. The name and address of the Applicant are:

Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.  
121 Champion Way, Suite 100  
Canonsburg, PA 15317

2. The names and addresses of Columbia’s attorneys are:

Candis A. Tunilo, Esquire (ID #89891)  
800 N Third Street, Suite 204  
Harrisburg, PA 17102  
ctunilo@nisource.com

Theodore J. Gallagher, Esquire (ID # 90842)  
121 Champion Way, Suite 100  
Canonsburg, PA 15317  
tjgallagher@nisource.com

3. Columbia is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with a principal place of business at 121 Champion Way, Suite 100, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Columbia is engaged in the business of selling and distributing natural gas to retail customers within the Commonwealth, and therefore, is a “public utility” within the meaning of Section 102 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa. C.S. § 102, subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission. Columbia provides natural gas service to approximately 442,000 customers in 26 counties of Pennsylvania, pursuant to certificates of public convenience granted by the Commission.

4. Columbia seeks the Commission’s authorization to abandon service to two (2) inactive residential premises and two (2) inactive commercial premises in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The names of the property owners and addresses of the affected premises (collectively referred to as the “Premises”) are:

Name	Service Address (Inactive)
<b><u>Residential Premises</u></b>	
Charles T. Stefanick	17 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431
Andrew L. Lowry	35 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431
<b><u>Commercial Premises</u></b>	
Cano and Judith Ruben	27 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431
Andrew L. Lowry	31 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431

5. The Premises previously received natural gas service from an approximate 250-foot section of distribution line that Columbia owns and operates, which Columbia refers to as the Dunbar LP System, a low-pressure distribution system. All the Premises have been inactive for at least five (5) years.

6. A map of the area depicting the distribution line and the Premises that Columbia proposes to abandon is included as Attachment “A” to this Application. The distribution line is identified on Attachment “A” within a red rectangle. The Premises are identified on Attachment “A” by blue rectangles. As depicted in Attachment “A”, the 250-foot section of distribution line runs along Woodvale Street in Dunbar, Pennsylvania.

7. The Company seeks to abandon approximately 250 feet of this section of the Dunbar LP distribution line, which previously served the Premises. Columbia’s records indicate this section of distribution line is comprised of steel and plastic, which is approximately 59 and 39 years old, respectively. These facilities are at the end of their useful lives and need to be replaced. Only the referenced inactive Premises will be affected by the abandonment. Further, there is no potential for new customer growth along the portion of main that Columbia proposes to abandon, and the Premises’ owners have not requested service, as each premises has been inactive for more than five (5) years.

8. Replacing these facilities is estimated to result in a net increase to Columbia’s capital investment of at least \$115,000. Based on the nonexistent usage, and the fact that there has hasn’t been a request for service for any of the Premises since the disconnect dates more than five (5) years ago, there is no expected revenue from the installation of facilities to serve the two (2) inactive residential premises and two (2) inactive commercial premises; therefore, the cost of installing such facilities is not justified. Further, replacement of this section of distribution main is not otherwise operationally needed for Columbia to transport or deliver gas to other locations in its service territory. Consequently, Columbia submits that it is neither in the public interest, nor in the interest of Columbia’s other customers, to replace the facilities that formerly served the Premises.

9. On October 4, 2023, prior to filing this Application, Columbia sent certified letters to the current property owners. In that letter, Columbia explained that the facilities which previously served the Premises are no longer needed for the operation of Columbia's distribution system, and therefore, Columbia is planning to take the facilities out of service. The letter also advised that Columbia intended to file an abandonment application with this Commission, and that gas distribution service from Columbia would no longer be available to the Premises if the Commission were to grant the application. The letter advised the property owners to contact Columbia if they had any questions or concerns.

10. The owner of the premises located at 31 Woodvale Street and 35 Woodvale Street contacted Columbia regarding the abandonment and conveyed his disappointment with Columbia's proposed abandonment. Service was disconnected to 31 Woodvale Street in 2006 and disconnected to 35 Woodvale Street in 2004. The premises owner did not provide information regarding any expected reconnection of his premises.

11. The owner of the premises located at 27 Woodvale Street contacted Columbia regarding the abandonment letter. The customer stated that they have been renovating the premises and plan to convert to electric.

12. As of the date of the filed application, the owner of the premises located at 17 Woodvale Street has not contacted Columbia regarding the abandonment of natural gas service.


13. Approval of Columbia's Application is necessary and proper for the following reasons:

- a. The two (2) inactive residential premises and two (2) inactive commercial premises have not received natural gas service for many years;

- b. There has not been a request for reconnection of service for any of the Premises since their disconnection dates; and
- c. The significant cost to replace the facilities that formerly served the affected Premises cannot be justified and are not otherwise operationally needed.

WHEREFORE, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission issue a Certificate of Public Convenience, pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 1102(a)(2), authorizing Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. to abandon natural gas distribution service to the two (2) inactive residential premises and two (2) inactive commercial premises located at 17 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431, 27 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431, 31 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431, and 35 Woodvale Street, Dunbar, PA 15431

Respectfully submitted,

  
Candis A. Tunilo (ID #89891)  
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Canonsburg, PA 15317  
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Date: October 26, 2023

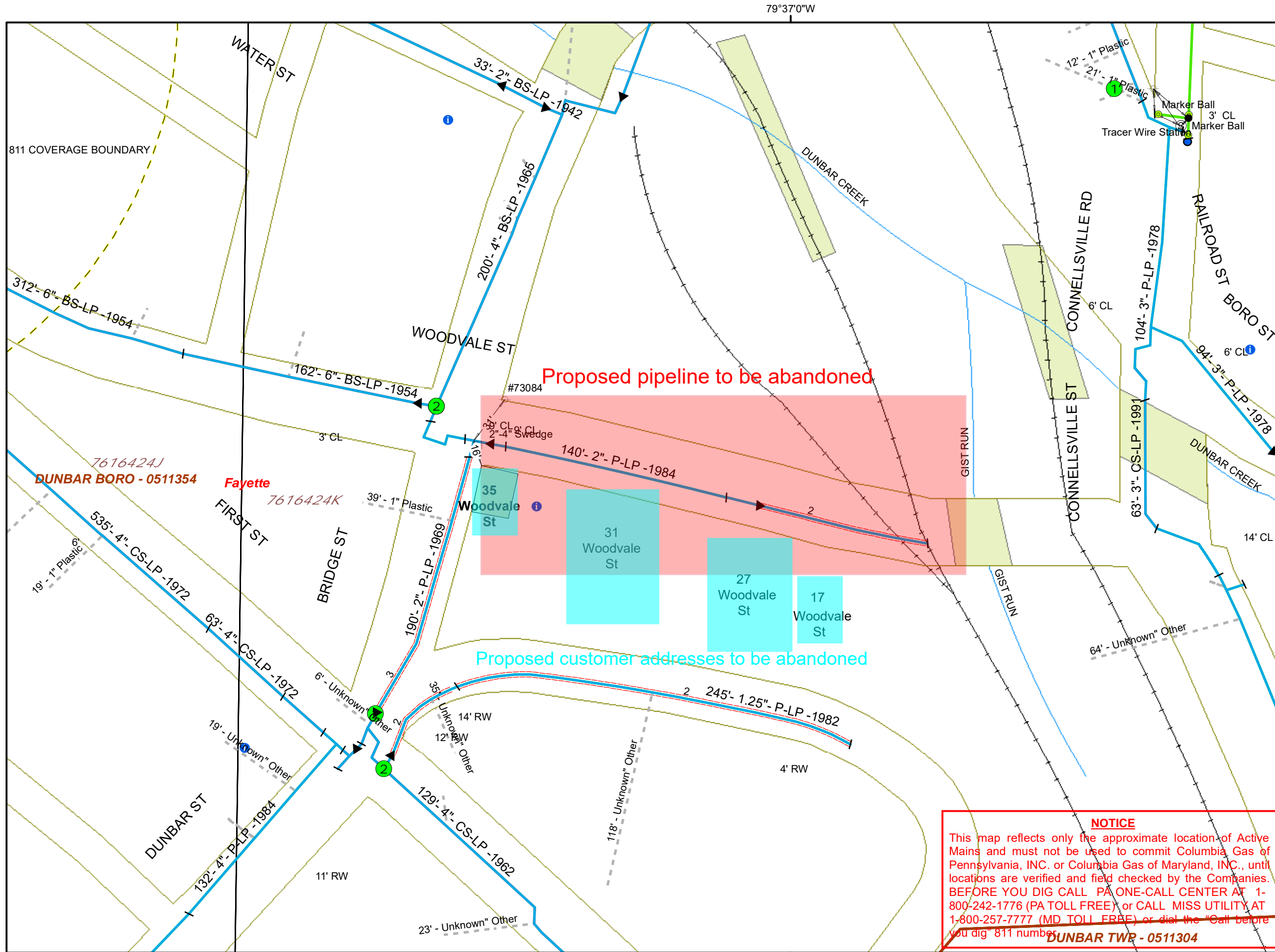
*Attorneys for Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.*

**Attachment "A"**  
Map of the Affected Area

# Woodvale Ave - Proposed Abandonment



NiSource Companies



Proposed pipeline to be abandoned

Proposed customer addresses to be abandoned

**NOTICE**  
 This map reflects only the approximate location of Active Mains and must not be used to commit Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, INC. or Columbia Gas of Maryland, INC., until locations are verified and field checked by the Companies. BEFORE YOU DIG CALL PA ONE-CALL CENTER AT 1-800-242-1776 (PA TOLL FREE) or CALL MISS UTILITY AT 1-800-257-7777 (MD TOLL FREE) or dial the "Call before you dig" 811 number.  
**DUNBAR TWP - 0511304**

**Legend:**

**Gas Valve**

- ⊗ Closed - Critical
- ⊙ Closed - Not Critical
- ⊗ Open - Critical
- ⊙ Open - Not Critical
- ⊗ Unknown value

**Gas Main by Pressure**

- Red line HP (> 60 psig)
- Green line MP (< 10 - 60 psig)
- Purple line IP (1 - 10 psig)
- Blue line LP (< 1 psig)
- Dark blue line All other values
- Yellow line Unknown Pressure

**Gas Service**

- Red dashed line Steel
- Green dashed line Plastic
- Purple dashed line Cast Iron
- Blue dashed line Wrought Iron
- Dark blue dashed line Fittings
- Light blue dashed line Other
- Yellow dashed line All other values

⬜ Historic Map

Prepared by:	
Date:	
Coordinates: GCS (Lat/Long) in DMS. Datum: WGS84	

## VERIFICATION

I, Ribeka S. Danhires, Manager of Rates & Regulatory Service for Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements made herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: October 26, 2023



Ribeka S. Danhires  
Ribeka S. Danhires  
Manager of Rates & Regulatory Service  
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

### **VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL**

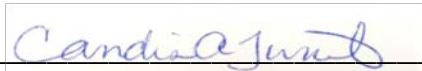
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