

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	R-2024-3047014
Office of Consumer Advocate	:	C-2024-3047737
Office of Small Business Advocate	:	C-2024-3047686
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. 1307(f)	:	

PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER

A Prehearing Conference is scheduled in this case for **Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** To participate in the hearing, you must dial the toll-free number listed below. You will be prompted to enter a PIN number, which is also listed below. You will be asked to speak your name and then the telephone system will connect you to the conference.

CALL-IN INFORMATION

Toll-free Bridge Number: 1- 888-547-8922
PIN Number: 74903461

You must call into the conference on the scheduled day and time. Failure of any party to attend the prehearing conference without good cause shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference. You will not be called by the Administrative Law Judge.

The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. Each party must file and serve, **prior to 12:00 p.m. noon on Tuesday, April 2, 2024**, a Prehearing Conference Memorandum which sets forth the history of the proceeding, the issues you intend to present, a proposed plan and schedule of discovery, a listing of your proposed witnesses and the subject of their testimony, and a proposed litigation schedule,

agreed to by all parties if possible. 52 Pa.Code § 5.222(d). The undersigned may be served by email at edevoe@pa.gov, and there is no need to follow email service by hard copy until further notice. **Parties represented by multiple attorneys should designate in their prehearing memorandum a lead representative for the purposes of the prehearing conference.**

2. A request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date must state the agreement or opposition of other parties and must be submitted by email to the undersigned no later than three (3) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa.Code § 1.15(b). Only the undersigned Administrative Law Judge or the Office of Administrative Law Judge Scheduling Unit may grant a request for a change of a prehearing conference. Such changes are granted only in rare situations where sufficient cause exists. Requests for changes of subsequent prehearing conferences or hearings, if any, should also be served directly on the presiding Administrative Law Judge.

In accordance with the foregoing, absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled Prehearing Conference.

3. Please review the regulations pertaining to prehearing conferences, 52 Pa.Code § 5.221-§ 5.224, and in particular, § 5.222(d) which provides, in part:

(d) Parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for a useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

(1) The preparation must include submission of a prehearing memorandum and list:

- (i) The presently identified issues.
- (ii) The names and addresses of the witnesses.
- (iii) The proposed area of testimony of each witness.

(2) The preparation may include:

(i) Development of a proposed procedural schedule.

(ii) Advance study of all relevant materials.

(iii) Advance informal communication between the parties, including requests for additional data and

information, to the extent it appears feasible and desirable.

(Emphasis added.)

4. Parties should review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa.Code §5.331(b), which provides, *inter alia*, that “a party shall endeavor to initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa.Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery, and advise us at the prehearing conference as to discovery problems which have not been resolved. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.361, 5.371-5.372.

5. Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22, if you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, you must be represented in this proceeding by an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall insure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code § 1.24(b).

6. Failure of a party to attend the prehearing conference without good cause shown shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference, including, but not limited to, any special discovery rules and the litigation schedule established for this case. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.222(e) & 5.224.

7. **You must serve the presiding Administrative Law Judge directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding.** If you send the undersigned any correspondence or document, you must send a copy to all other parties. For your convenience, a copy of the Commission's current service list of the parties to this proceeding is enclosed with this Order.

Date: April 1, 2024

_____/s/
Emily I. DeVoe
Administrative Law Judge

**R-2024-3047014 - PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION V. COLUMBIA
GAS OF PENNSYLVANIA**

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