

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION**

Joseph Taresco	:	
	:	C-2023-3044082
v.	:	
	:	
Pennsylvania Electric Company	:	

**INTERIM ORDER CLOSING
THE HEARING RECORD**

Joseph Taresco (Complainant) filed a Formal Complaint (complaint) on November 3, 2023, against Pennsylvania Electric Company (Company or Respondent). He checked the boxes noting that the utility was threatening to terminate his service and requesting a payment arrangement. For relief, he requested a new payment arrangement and stated that he was experiencing health problems.

Respondent filed an Answer and New Matter on November 27, 2023. In its Answer Respondent admitted that it had issued a 10-day termination notice. Respondent denied, among other things, that Complainant was entitled to a second Commission payment arrangement. In New Matter, Respondent averred that Complainant had defaulted from an earlier 2022 Commission payment arrangement. Respondent also averred that Complainant has a poor payment history and has a balance of \$17,730.21. Respondent requests that the Commission bar Complainant from filing further complaints regarding his arrearage until his balance is paid in full. Respondent included a Notice to Plead which notified Complainant that the Commission's Rules of Procedure require him to file a response to the New Matter within 20 days. The notice also included instructions stating how to file a response.

On January 2, 2024, the Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judge scheduled Mr. Taresco's complaint for a hearing on March 20, 2024, and assigned the case to me. I issued a prehearing order on January 2, 2024, which informed Complainant how to call in

to participate in the hearing and included other important information regarding the procedure for the conduct of the hearing.

I convened the hearing, as scheduled, on March 20, 2024 at 10 a.m.. Respondent appeared with counsel, Margaret Morris, esquire, along with one witness. Complainant did not appear. I attempted to contact Complainant and granted leave to Respondent to present evidence and testimony in support of Respondent's abuse of process defense at 10:19 a.m. Subsequently, Complainant joined to hearing at 10:28 a.m.¹ Complainant requested a continuance to obtain an attorney. Respondent objected to the continuance request. The continuance request was denied.² Respondent Exhibits 1 through 15 were admitted into the record. Finally, I provided Complainant an opportunity to present evidence to support his Complaint.³

The hearing transcript has been received and the record may now be closed.

Under the circumstances, the following Order will be entered.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the record at Docket No. C-2023-3044082 is closed.
2. That an initial decision shall be prepared in this proceeding.

Date: April 22, 2024

/s/
Jeffrey A. Watson
Administrative Law Judge

¹ Tr. 16.

² Tr. 19-23.

³ Tr. 52.

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