



Tishekia E. Williams
Managing Director, External Affairs & Regulatory law

411 Seventh Avenue
Mail drop 15-7
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Tel: 412-393-1541
twilliams@duqlight.com

May 31, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

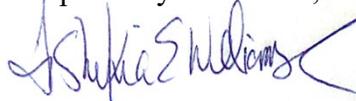
Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Duquesne Light Company
Docket No. R-2024-3046523

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached please find the Proof of Publication of the scheduled Public Input Hearings in the above-captioned docket. The Public Input Hearings were advertised in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on May 23, 2024 and May 30, 2024 (both attached). The hearings were advertised in the Beaver County Times on May 22, 2024 (attached) and May 29, 2024 (not attached/available at this time). In addition to newspaper circulation, Duquesne Light posted information regarding the upcoming hearings on its social media channels.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,


Tishekia E. Williams
Managing Director, Ext. Affairs & Regulatory

Enclosure

Cc: Certificate of Service
Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge Mark A. Hoyer (mwarnar@pa.gov)

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):

ELECTRONIC MAILING

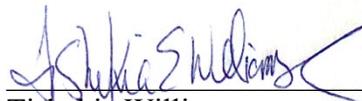
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
Carrie B. Wright, Esq.
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
PO Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
carwright@pa.gov

Office of Small Business Advocate
Sharon E. Webb
Rebecca Lyttle
555 Walnut Street, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
swebb@pa.gov
relyttle@pa.gov

Office of Consumer Advocate
Christy M. Appleby, Esq.
Darryl A. Lawrence, Esq.
David T. Evrard, Esq.
555 Walnut Street
Forum Place, 5th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
cappleby@paoca.org
OCADuquesne2024@paoca.org

Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
Ria M. Pereira, Esq.
John Sweet, Esq.
Lauren Berman, Esq.
118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
pulp@pautilitylawproject.org
Counsel for CAUSE-PA

Mr. Robert D. Knecht
5 Plymouth Road
Lexington, MA 02421
rdk@indecon.com
*Witness for Office of Small Business
Advocate*



Tishekia Williams
Duquesne Light Company
411 Seventh Avenue, 15-7
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-393-1541
Email: twilliams@duqlight.com

Dated: May 31, 2024

HEALTH & WELLNESS, EVERY SUNDAY

— Helping you live better and feel better —



PG Health & Wellness provides in-depth stories about Pittsburgh's world-class health community told by our talented journalists and health practitioners on the front lines.

Should modern parents allow Pittsburghese to persist among the next generation, or is it time to yank the yinz ... n'at? This Sunday, we get nebbly.



Find this story and more at post-gazette.com/health.

Sponsored by
UPMC HEALTH PLAN

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette®

Election 2024

Voters err on many mail ballots

BALLOTS, FROM A-1

"I think what we have here is clear and reliable data indicating that there was a decrease in ballots being rejected because of the issues the Department of State sought to address with the redesign of the secrecy envelope and the declaration envelope," Mr. Schmidt told the Associated Press.

At least one change — made to alert voters that the current date, not their birth date, was required — was not fully understood by some voters.

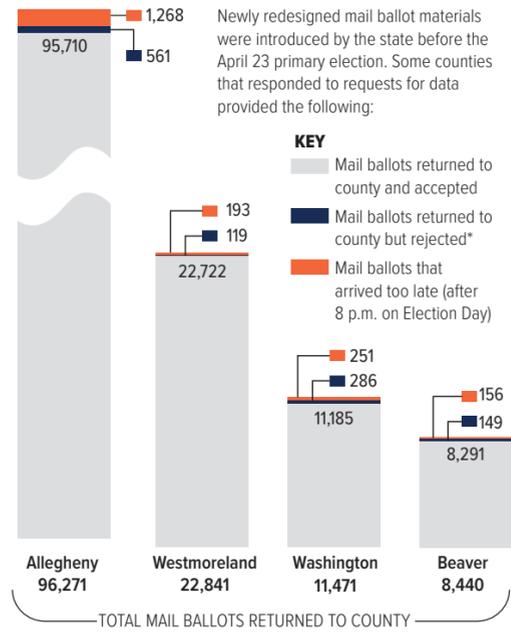
In Beaver County, many of the 112 ballots that were rejected for having a wrong date were instances in which the last two digits were not filled in, according to Director of Elections Colin Sisk. In Lehigh County, Tim Benyo, chief clerk to the board of elections, said 68 of the 178 mail ballots rejected for a date problem were instances where the voter did not fill in the year.

County officials said the department issued guidance by email April 19 — four days before the primary — that said counties should still accept ballots even if the last two digits of the year were not filled in. Mr. Sisk said some counties decided not to follow the guidance.

"It was our position, and the position of many other counties, that the date needed to be complete," Mr. Sisk said. Guidance, he said, is different from a 'directive' and the email from the department was "deemed to be a fairly late change."

An Allegheny County official said it followed the guidance. In total, the county rejected 561 ballots, for other reasons. Allegheny County also allowed voters to "cure" problem mail ballots, and the

Mail ballot rejections in April primary



*Reasons for rejections include missing or incorrect date, problematic signature, no secrecy envelope.
 Source: County elections offices
 James Hilston/Post-Gazette (graphic)
 Ford Turner/Post-Gazette (research)

official said many of those returned to voters for curing were because of missing digits in the year space.

Overall, though, Mr. Benyo — a veteran election director who has testified before state lawmakers — liked the effects of the redesign.

"It's good progress," he said. "I think voter education is about the only thing that can bring the numbers [of rejections] down."

Mr. Sisk said he thought a lot of the changes implemented in the redesign had a positive effect. "In some ways, voters were able to adapt to the process well," he said.

Mass voting by mail was introduced in Pennsylvania in 2020 — the last presidential election year.

That year, 2,637,065 mail ballots were cast in an election that saw a 76.5% voter turnout. The numbers could be similar in the November election this year.

When the redesign was unveiled late last year, Mr. Schmidt said the intent was to give voters more help "in making sure their completed mail ballot packet is filled out correctly and can be counted."

Mr. Sisk said that in Beaver County, it appeared there were fewer voters who failed to sign the mail ballot materials. And, he said, the number of so-called "naked" ballots — ones that were not put inside the "secrecy" ballot as required — declined.

Concerning those who did not complete the "24" for the year, Mr. Sisk said he figures some voters must have glanced at the first two digits without realizing two more had to be added.

Several election directors said it was not possible to give a set, final figure of "late" mail ballots, meaning those that arrived after the statute-set deadline of 8 p.m. on Election Day.

PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

on Duquesne Light Company's Rate Increase Request

Duquesne Light Company (DLC) encourages customers to participate in public hearings about its recent rate increase request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC).

The PUC will hold a series of hearings to gather public input on DLC's request, which would raise the monthly bill for residential customers using 600 kWh per month from \$130.67 to \$139.19, or 6.52%. In-person public input hearings are scheduled on Wednesday, June 5 at 1 p.m. at Piatt Place in Pittsburgh, and again at 6 p.m. at the Community College of Beaver County in Monaca. Telephonic public input hearings are scheduled for Thursday, June 6 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Registration is not required for those interested in testifying at the in-person public input hearings on June 5. To testify by phone at one of the telephonic public input hearings scheduled for June 6, interested persons must register by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, by calling **412-565-3550** or by emailing mwarnar@pa.gov. Interested persons must provide their full name, phone number, email address (if any), and the time of the telephonic public hearing they wish to testify at, either 1 p.m. or 6 p.m. Those who register will testify in the order they signed up. Anyone who wants to listen to the hearings without testifying can call **412-565-3550** for the dial-in information.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the PUC's website at www.puc.pa.gov.

Gibson, other Negro Leagues players gain new status

GIBSON, FROM A-1

Re-writing the books

This process, of course, was not simple. It was spearheaded by the Negro Leagues Statistical Review Committee, which was comprised of Negro Leagues experts, baseball historians, ex-players, journalists and researchers. The group reviewed box scores, stats and other relevant information that was uncovered by such services as the Elias Sports Bureau, Seamheads and Retro Sheet.

The changes are significant.

Gibson's career average of .372 pushes him past Ty Cobb (.366), while the former's slugging percentage (.718) moves him ahead of Babe Ruth (.690). The same goes for Gibson's OPS, the mark of 1.177 also pushing him past the Babe (1.164).

When it comes to single-season records, Gibson's .466 average for the Grays in 1943 is now considered the best in MLB history, eclipsing fellow Hall of Famer Hugh Duffy (.440 in 1898). Fellow Negro Leagues star Charlie Smith (.451 for the 1929 New York Lincoln Giants) ranks second. Barry Bonds' slugging percentage of .863 from 2001 dropped from first to fifth, with Gibson's .974 from 1937 taking over the top spot. Gibson's incredible OPS marks of 1.474 in 1937 and 1.435 in 1943 now occupy the top two spots.

It's not just Gibson, either.

Willie Mays now has 3,293 career hits with his numbers from the 1948 Birmingham Black Barons added. Jackie Robinson picked up an additional 49 thanks to his Kansas City Monarchs total from 1945. The record adjustment gives Satchel Paige (1.01 for the Monarchs in '44) the third-best single-season ERA.

But as encouraging as it might be for MLB to justly honor these great players, along with Oscar Charleston, Buck Leonard or Minnie Minoso, Sean Gibson knows the Negro Leagues legacy runs much deeper, which is why the Oakdale resident has

been busy with interview requests from ESPN, CNN, CBS and more.

"I always try to use our platform to help others," Sean Gibson said. "My phone hasn't stopped, but it's exciting. I'm just so happy for all of the families this impacts."

Spinning it forward

I've gotten to know Sean Gibson well over the years, and it's easy to respect and appreciate all the good that he does in the community. The Josh Gibson Foundation runs several programs based on the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) curriculum, as well as mentorship programs for young males and another through Point Park University on the business of sports.

We're lucky to have Sean Gibson here because of the positive impact he continually has on area kids, but there's another side to him that I've really come to admire — his work advocating for Negro Leagues players and their families.

"My grandfather always told me, 'The most important thing you have in life is your name,' " said Sean Gibson, who went to Langley High School in the City League before playing college hoops at Robert Morris and Edinboro. "I took that to heart."

Thousands of Negro Leagues families can be thankful for the work Sean Gibson has done — and he's hardly finished.

In addition to the revamped numbers, he has two more immediate goals.

One is to rename at least one of the Baseball Writers' Association of America's MVP awards — in either the National or American League and perhaps both — after Josh Gibson. The other is to adopt a Negro Leagues Day throughout MLB every May 2 that looks similar to those already held for Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente.

The BBWAA award used to bear the name of former Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis, but it was

(rightfully) removed in 2020 due to his racially discriminatory past.

"Now that the numbers are official, we feel we would make a great case for why the MVP award should be named after Josh Gibson," Sean Gibson said. "Even though the stats are great, we're still not finished. I still believe the MVP award should be named after Josh."

"It wouldn't just be representing Josh Gibson. It would be representing all the men in the Negro Leagues who were denied the opportunity to play baseball because of Kenesaw Mountain Landis."

When it comes to the other part of Sean Gibson's vision, he would love to see every MLB team adopt the uniform of their closest Negro Leagues team. It might present a fun challenge in Pittsburgh, as the Pirates would have to choose between the Grays and Crawfords.

Both employed Josh Gibson. They're also two of the most successful franchises throughout Negro Leagues history. The date was chosen because May 2, 1920, was when the first game of the inaugural Negro National League season was played, a contest between the Indianapolis ABCs and the Chicago Giants.

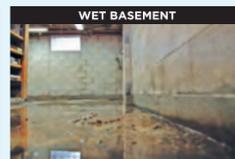
"It's not taking anything away from Jackie Robinson," Sean Gibson said. "We love Jackie Robinson. But that celebrates one person."

"With a national Negro Leagues day, you're celebrating all the players who sacrificed in the Negro Leagues."

Wanting to ensure everyone is included is what has helped Sean Gibson form friendships with the families of so many Negro Leagues families — Buck Leonard, Satchel Paige and more. In fact, Sean Gibson co-founded the Negro Leagues Family Alliance and every year leads an effort to visit area cemeteries and place markers on the graves of former Black baseball stars.

Jason Mackey:
jmackey@post-gazette.com
and @JMackeyPG on X.

BECAUSE YOUR BASEMENT HAS WATER.



LIMITED TIME OFFER
\$500 OFF*

- ▶ FOUNDATION REPAIR
- ▶ BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
- ▶ CRAWL SPACE REPAIR
- ▶ CONCRETE LIFTING

412-910-1097

BAKER'S
WATERPROOFING
A Groundworks Company

GET A FREE INSPECTION

*Ten percent off any job over \$2500 up to a max of \$500. Coupon must be presented at time of inspection. Offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Ask inspector for further details. Promo valid through 06/30/2024.



PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

on Duquesne Light Company's Rate Increase Request

Duquesne Light Company (DLC) encourages customers to participate in public hearings about its recent rate increase request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC).

The PUC will hold a series of hearings to gather public input on DLC's request, which would raise the monthly bill for residential customers using 600 kWh per month from \$130.67 to \$139.19, or 6.52%. In-person public input hearings are scheduled on Wednesday, June 5 at 1 p.m. at Piatt Place in Pittsburgh, and again at 6 p.m. at the Community College of Beaver County in Monaca. Telephonic public input hearings are scheduled for Thursday, June 6 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Registration is not required for those interested in testifying at the in-person public input hearings on June 5. To testify by phone at one of the telephonic public input hearings scheduled for June 6, interested persons must register by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, by calling **412-565-3550** or by emailing **mwarnar@pa.gov**. Interested persons must provide their full name, phone number, email address (if any), and the time of the telephonic public hearing they wish to testify at, either 1 p.m. or 6 p.m. Those who register will testify in the order they signed up. Anyone who wants to listen to the hearings without testifying can call **412-565-3550** for the dial-in information.



DLC DUQUESNE LIGHT CO.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the PUC's website at www.puc.pa.gov.

Tourists chase danger in Tornado Alley

Adventure tourism has grown in popularity

Elizabeth Weise
USA TODAY

Pat Timmons has seen hail the size of baseballs and lightning storms bombard the sky. She faced wind so strong she could barely stand – and multiple tornadoes, too.

“My friends and family think I’m crazy, but I’m having the time of my life,” the 76-year-old said from a roadside stop in Texas where she was on her second storm-chasing trip of the year with Tempest Tours.

Timmons is one of thousands of people from around the world who flock to Tornado Alley to get as close as safety allows to the massive storms that roar across the American countryside from March through June. As climate change warms the atmosphere, the number of storms is increasing and the crowds are only growing.

There are currently over a dozen companies that run storm-chasing tours in the United States, a number that’s increased slowly but steadily over the past few years, said Christoffer Björkwall, a Swede who caught the storm-chasing bug in 2009 and now runs StormChasingUSA, a website that tracks tour companies.

That doesn’t surprise Alan Fyall, Visit Orlando professor of tourism marketing at the University of Central Florida. Adventure tourism has been becoming more popular in the past few decades, and especially in the last ten or 15 years with the rise of social media, he said.

“Twisters,” a new stand-alone sequel to the 1996 movie “Twister,” will be hitting theaters this summer, and experts expect an even greater surge of interest.

“It’s a bigger market than people appreciate,” Fyall said. “People want the thrill and the adrenaline rush.”

Storm-chasing tours are part of that market. They’re not your typical bus tour – no visiting tourist traps for quick photos.

Most tour companies run between one and three small vans with perhaps six people in a van. They seldom have more than 20 guests per trip. The groups



A tornado spins beneath a supercell thunderstorm in Selden, Kan. The National Weather Service is not in favor of the public going out in severe weather and says it would rather have people stay safely at home. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

drive as far south as Texas and as far north as the Canadian border, chasing images on a radar screen and then patiently waiting for a storm to form.

Costs vary between \$2,000 and \$4,500 depending on how long, how luxurious and how many people on the trip. The season typically lasts from April through August, though May is generally the busiest month.

Björkwall estimates between a quarter and a third of people who go on these kinds of tours are from outside the U.S.

“This kind of weather only exists in the United States,” he said. Add to that an excellent system of freeways and rural roads, accessible weather data, and the endless vistas of the plains – it make for a perfect recipe.

How safe are the tours?

The National Weather Service is very much not in favor of the public going out in severe weather and would much rather have people stay safely at home.

“The NWS does not encourage anyone to pursue dangerous storms for any reason other than promoting public safety (spotting) and official research,” the agency stated in a FAQ about severe weather.

But the agency acknowledges that despite the dangers, people do it. So it cautiously suggests that tours are a better way of seeing storms. “Joining one of the professional tour groups is probably safer than going out yourself without appropriate training,” it stated.

Fyall said that’s the trick of this kind of extreme travel.

“The key with adventure tourism is to make it look as dangerous as possible but at the same time make it as risk-free as possible.”

Tour operators are very clear that while there’s never a guarantee of safety, they do everything they can to keep their clients satisfied but safe, said Rodger Hill of Silver Lining Tours based in Denver.

“Any time you’re around a severe thunderstorm, especially a supercell thunderstorm, there’s an inherent risk,” he said. “You can’t keep anything 100% safe; it’s not possible. That’s why every tour operator has guests sign a waiver saying these are the potential dangers.”

Tours offer long and detailed safety information before anyone even sets foot in a van.

“The first night they went over safety and how everything works, down to how to get in and out of the van and who

has responsibility for moving the back seat so the last person could get out quickly,” said Samantha Ashby, 33, who took her first storm-chasing tour earlier this month.

And unlike in the movies, tours stay well away from the heart of the action. They want a vantage point with a vista, not a target.

If a storm starts getting too close, they move farther away.

The thrill is not seeing things get destroyed, like in the movies, but to see something so powerful and beyond any human control, said Erik Burns, the owner of Tornadic Expeditions in Whitesboro, Texas.

While being flattened by a tornado might seem the biggest danger, traffic is more of a threat, say tour leaders.

“The traffic issue has gotten horrible, there’s no question about it,” said Hill. May, which is prime tornado month, is especially bad.

“When we first started running tours in the late ’90s a lot of times there was no one else around,” he said. “But now if you have a very significant threat area in Oklahoma or Kansas, every storm chaser or storm spotter or local resident is out there chasing. You can get a line of traffic that’s a mile or more long.”

“The best storms for us are out in the middle of nowhere,” he said. “They’re not going to hurt anything, maybe some fence posts, some hay bales. But when it’s right in front of you, it makes you feel really insubstantial,” he said.

But there are other dangers. Quite a few years ago, a lightning bolt hit one of Burns’ vans, destroying it. But none of the guests was injured because the electricity went through the van and into the ground. Surprisingly, the guests loved it.

“About every one of those guests came back; they said it was so much fun,” Burns said.

A typical day on one of the tours means driving hundreds of miles. They usually begin around 9 or 10 in the morning, after the tour guides have decided on a likely area for storms.

“The day before our chase we look at the data and make our forecast and then plan our logistics,” Burns said.

Getting to the next spot might mean traveling halfway across a state, then setting up to wait for what might come.

PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

on Duquesne Light Company’s Rate Increase Request

Duquesne Light Company (DLC) encourages customers to participate in public hearings about its recent rate increase request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC).

The PUC will hold a series of hearings to gather public input on DLC’s request, which would raise the monthly bill for residential customers using 600 kWh per month from \$130.67 to \$139.19, or 6.52%. In-person public input hearings are scheduled on Wednesday, June 5 at 1 p.m. at Piatt Place in Pittsburgh, and again at 6 p.m. at the Community College of Beaver County in Monaca. Telephonic public input hearings are scheduled for Thursday, June 6 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Registration is not required for those interested in testifying at the in-person public input hearings on June 5. To testify by phone at one of the telephonic public input hearings scheduled for June 6, interested persons must register by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, by calling **412-565-3550** or by emailing **mswarner@pa.gov**. Interested persons must provide their full name, phone number, email address (if any), and the time of the telephonic public hearing they wish to testify at, either 1 p.m. or 6 p.m. Those who register will testify in the order they signed up. Anyone who wants to listen to the hearings without testifying can call **412-565-3550** for the dial-in information.

