

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Kimberly Russell	:	
	:	
v.	:	C-2024-3050901
	:	
Duquesne Light Company	:	

**INTERIM ORDER
RESCHEDULING HEARING**

On August 26, 2024, Kimberly Russell filed a Formal Complaint (Complaint) with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission), against Duquesne Light Company (DLC, Company, or Respondent) regarding service at her residence at 577 Orchard Avenue, Bellevue, PA (service location). Complainant checked the boxes indicating the utility was threatening to shut off her service or had already shut off her service, she would like a payment arrangement (PAR), and the “other” box, writing, “I need a new payment arrangement.” She further averred that she tried to file a medical certificate, but it was denied. As relief, Complainant requested a new PAR due to a decrease in wages due to illness. Regarding service by the Commission, Complainant selected service by eService, checking the box next to this option.

On September 16, 2024, DLC filed an Answer admitting it issued a termination notice due to nonpayment but averring it did so consistent with the Public Utility Code (Code), the Commission’s regulations, and the Company’s Commission-approved tariff. DLC denied that Complainant is entitled to the relief sought in the Complaint, namely, a payment arrangement, because she has received, and failed to adhere to, four Company-issued payment arrangements and two Commission-issued payment agreements since 2017. The Company submits that Complainant defaulted on all six payment agreements. The Company noted that, as of the date of the filing of the Answer, the Complainant’s overdue account balance was \$12,105.30.

On September 24, 2024, the Commission issued a Hearing Notice, assigning this matter to me and scheduling an evidentiary hearing for November 6, 2024.

Also on September 24, 2024, I issued a Prehearing Order.

The Notice and Prehearing Order were eServed on the parties.

On November 1, 2024, Megan Rulli, Esq., counsel for DLC, served me by email with a copy of a Motion for Continuance (Motion), copying Complainant. DLC sought to continue the hearing due to its witness having an “unavoidable and ongoing family emergency” and being unavailable for the hearing. In its Motion, DLC explained Complainant had been contacted but it was unable to reach her to determine whether she opposed the continuance.

At 4:26 p.m. on November 1, 2024, Ms. Rulli emailed me, copying Complainant, explaining that she was able to contact Complainant after filing the Motion and advising that Complainant did not oppose the Motion.

At 4:34 p.m. on November 1, 2024, I responded by email to both parties advising them that the Motion was granted and instructing them to confer and provide three mutually agreeable dates for the rescheduled hearing by close of business on November 6, 2024.

On November 6, 2024, the Commission issued a Hearing Cancellation Notice, cancelling the hearing for November 6, 2024.

On November 6, 2024, Ms. Rulli emailed me, copying Complainant, and providing mutually agreeable dates for the rescheduled hearing, one of which is January 28, 2025.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That evidentiary hearing be rescheduled to **January 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**
2. That the parties shall be prepared to participate in and present evidence at the hearing on January 28, 2025.
3. That Complainant's failure to appear at the hearing on January 28, 2024, may result in dismissal of the Complaint with prejudice.
4. That the parties shall comply with all terms of the Prehearing Order issued on September 24, 2024, that are not inconsistent with this Order.

November 8, 2024
Date

_____/s/
Emily I. DeVoe
Administrative Law Judge

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