

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

**Rahman Bush**  
v.  
**Philadelphia Gas Works**

**Public Meeting held January 23, 2025**  
**3046078-OSA**  
**Docket No. C-2024-3046078**

**JOINT STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN STEPHEN M. DeFRANK &  
COMMISSIONER KATHRYN L. ZERFUSS**


On January 12, 2024, Rahman Bush filed a Formal Complaint against Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW), stating that PGW improperly held him responsible for all arrearages at the service address by “linking” him to the service address through an Experian credit report. PGW is requiring Mr. Bush to assume a \$5,227.35 bill, calculated from December 28, 2021, through November 23, 2023, to have service placed in his name. Mr. Bush avers that he did not live at the service address until August 7, 2023. Since November of 2021, the gas bill for the service address was in the landlord’s name.

The Special Agent in this case determined that Mr. Bush met his burden of proving that PGW improperly held him liable for all arrearages since the December 2021 bill and that Mr. Bush was not responsible for any outstanding balance at the service address prior to August 7, 2023. The Special Agent’s determination is based on Mr. Bush’s sworn testimony that he did not reside at the service address prior to August 2023. PGW filed Exceptions to the Initial Decision on September 9, 2024, arguing, *inter alia*, that PGW properly used a credit report to establish that Mr. Bush resided at the service address before August 7, 2023.

Based on our review of the record, we find that there is an open question regarding whether Mr. Bush is responsible for the outstanding balance at the service address before August 7, 2023. The reasonable course of action under the circumstances in this case would be to remand this matter to the Office of Administrative Law Judge on the limited issue of financial responsibility for the charges accrued from December 28, 2021, through November 23, 2023. We should follow a prudent procedural process by permitting Mr. Bush to provide additional testimony and/or documentary evidence to support his claim that he did not reside at the service address for the period in question, and the Special Agent can weigh both the Complainant’s and PGW’s evidence before determining that Mr. Bush is responsible for an amount exceeding \$5,000.

**January 23, 2025**  
**Date**

  
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**Stephen M. DeFrank**  
**Chairman**

  
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**Kathryn L. Zerfuss**  
**Commissioner**