

The gas cost rate filing was assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for resolution by hearings and for issuance of a Recommended Decision. The matter was assigned to Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge Christopher P. Pell.

A telephonic Prehearing Conference is scheduled in this case for **Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 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 hearing.

Toll-free Bridge Number: 1.866.421.8851
PIN Number: 66640466

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. That a request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date must state the agreement or opposition of other participants and must be submitted in writing no later than five (5) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa.Code § 1.15(b). Requests for changes of the Prehearing Conference date must be sent to me and all participants of record. My correct address is:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
801 Market Street, Suite 4063
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Telephone: 215-560-2105
Fax: 215-560-3133

2. That absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled Prehearing Conference. Failure of a party to participate in the conference, after being served with notice of the date, time, and location thereof, without good cause shown, shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached, and an order or ruling with respect thereto.

3. That the Commission's regulation concerning prehearing conferences in rate proceedings is located at 52 Pa.Code § 5.224. Accordingly, we will discuss the following:

- 1) A proposed plan and schedule of discovery;
- 2) Possibility of settlement;
- 3) Issues;
- 4) Amount of hearing time needed;
- 5) Witnesses;
- 6) Schedule for submission of testimony, hearings, and briefs; and
- 7) Any other appropriate matter.

4. That each active participant must file and serve, on or before 12:00 p.m., Friday, March 7, 2025, a prehearing conference memorandum which sets forth the history of these proceedings and addresses the agenda items listed above. **If more than one attorney represents a party, your prehearing memorandum should identify one attorney who will speak as the lead attorney for the purposes of the prehearing conference.** The following is my proposed schedule for hearings and briefs¹:

Hearings for cross-examination of all witnesses, oral rebuttal/surrebuttal	Week of April 14, 2025
Close of Record	Wednesday, April 16, 2025
Main Briefs Due	Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Reply Briefs Due	Friday, May 16, 2025

¹ As noted, this is a proposed schedule. The parties are encouraged to work together to develop a mutually agreeable litigation schedule. However, please note that the Reply Brief due date of May 16, 2025, is firm. For planning purposes, the parties should be aware that I am unavailable on the following dates: April 18, 21, 23, 29-30, 2025.

Public Meeting²

Thursday, August 14, 2025

End of Suspension

Monday, September 1, 2025

5. That the parties shall review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa.Code § 5.331(b), which provides, inter alia, that “[a] party shall initiate discovery as early in the proceeding as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa.Code § 5.322, which encourages participants to exchange information on an informal basis. All participants are urged to cooperate in discovery. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.361, 5.371-372.

6. That pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21-1.23, you may represent yourself, if you are an individual, or you may have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted pro hac vice, represent you. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, joint venture, other business organization, trust, trustee, legal representative, receiver, agency, governmental entity, municipality, or other political subdivision, you must have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or admitted pro hac vice represent you in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall ensure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code § 1.24(b).

7. That the parties must serve me directly with a copy of any document that they file in this proceeding. Also, if a party sends me any correspondence or document, that party must send a copy to all other parties that have declared they are actively participating in these proceedings. Parties may serve documents electronically by 4:30 p.m. to meet any required due date. Since documents can be submitted to me and the participants by e-mail, e-mail addresses

² The Commission’s August 6, 2020 Opinion and Order in *Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Pennsylvania-American Water Company* at Docket Nos. R-2020-3019369 and R-2020-3019371, provided that a “Recommended Decision is due in a case with a statutory deadline 60 days before the last reasonable public meeting prior to the expiration of the suspension date.” The Commission directed that the “last reasonable public meeting” prior to the expiration of the suspension date is the public meeting that provides between 10 and 14 days for “staff to prepare and enter a revised Commission Opinion and Order” following the public meeting. Pursuant to the Commission’s Order, the “last reasonable public meeting” prior to the September 1, 2025 suspension date for this case is August 14, 2025.

are included on the attached service list. Please check the list for omissions and errors and contact my office to make corrections. My e-mail address is cpell@pa.gov.

8. That the parties shall stipulate to any matters they reasonably can to expedite this proceeding, lessen the burden of time and expense in litigation on all parties and conserve precious administrative hearing resources. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.232 and 5.234. All stipulations entered into by the parties shall be reduced to writing, signed by the parties to be bound thereby, and moved into the record during the hearings in this case. An exception to this requirement may occur when circumstances warrant. If so, an oral presentation of a stipulation is permissible, if it is followed by a reduction to writing as herein directed.

9. That the parties are to confer amongst themselves in an attempt to resolve all or some of the issues associated with this filing. The parties are reminded it is the Commission's policy to encourage settlements. 52 Pa.Code § 5.231(a). The parties are strongly urged to seriously explore this possibility.

Date: March 3, 2025

/s/
Christopher P. Pell
Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge

**R-2025-3053241 PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION v.
PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS**

GARCIELA CHRISTLIEB ESQUIRE
PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS
800 WEST MONTGOMERY AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA PA 19122
215.684.6164

Graciela.christlieb@pgworks.com

Served via eService March 3, 2025

HARRISON WILLIAM BREITMAN ATTORNEY
RYAN MORDEN ESQUIRE
PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
555 WALNUT STREET 5TH FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101

717.783.5048

hbreitman@paoca.org

rmorden@paoca.org

Served via eService March 3, 2025

MICHAEL A PODSKOCH ESQUIRE
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT
PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
400 NORTH STREET HARRISBURG PA 17120

717.783.6151

mpodskoch@pa.gov

Served via eService March 3, 2025

REBECCA LYTTLE, ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE
FORUM PLACE 555 WALNUT STREET, 1ST FLOOR
HARRISBURG, PA 17101

relyttle@pa.gov

Served via email March 3, 2025

HARRISON RYAN BLOCK ATTORNEY
CHARIS MINCAVAGE ESQUIRE
ADEOLU A BAKARE ESQUIRE
MCNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC
100 PINE STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17101

717.232.8000

rblock@mcneeslaw.com

cmincavage@mwn.com

abakare@mcneeslaw.com

Served via eService March 3, 2025

(Counsel for Philadelphia Gas Works)

DEANNE M O'DELL ESQUIRE
ECLERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT LLC
213 MARKET STREET
8TH FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101

717.255.3744

dodell@eckertseamans.com

Served via eService March 3, 2025

(Counsel for Philadelphia Gas Works)