



March 11, 2025

To: All Parties of Record at Docket No. M-2021-3029323, PGW's Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan for 2023-2027

**RE: Philadelphia Gas Works 2023-2027 USECP
Docket Nos. M-2021-3029323 and P-2024-3048856**

Overview

On September 27, 2024, Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) filed and served a Petition for Emergency or Expedited Order (2024 Petition) at Docket Nos. M-2021-2029323 and P-2024-3048856. The 2024 Petition related to PGW's 2023-2027 Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan (2023 USECP).

On January 23, 2025, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) entered an Order (January 2025 Order) granting PGW's 2024 Petition to make the Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) the temporary administrator and payor of its Hardship Fund program and to revise the Hardship Fund provisions in Appendix O of PGW's 2023 USECP. The January 2025 Order directed PGW to, *inter alia*, file and serve a petition to amend its 2023 USECP to reflect the new Hardship Fund administrator once PGW had selected a long-term administrator within 30 days of the effective date of an agreement with the new administrator. The Commission also directed PGW to include updated budget amounts and projected enrollment numbers for its Hardship Fund for 2025-2027. January 2025 Order at 13, OP #3.

On January 31, 2025, PGW filed and served a Petition (January 2025 Petition) requesting approval of the further revised Appendix O¹ in its 2023 USECP, explicitly noting that ECA will be its permanent Hardship Fund administrator. PGW also provided updated budget and enrollment projections for program years 2025 through 2027, as shown below:

¹ In its January 2025 Petition, at paragraph 24, PGW described the process by saying that "[u]nder this budget, PGW will continue the issuance of matching bill credits of up to \$750 per customer." PGW has advised BCS Staff that in reference to "matching bill credits," there is no matching credits as the city of Philadelphia is no longer providing funds, however PGW will continue to use the "matching bill credits" terminology and that the Hardship Fund grants will be cash grants issued by EAC.

Annual Hardship Fund Budget and Participation: 2025-2027

Description	Amount
Administrator Operating Budget	\$260,149
PGW Contribution	\$695,500
Pilot Program	\$100,000
Customer/employee contributions (PGW)	\$2,000
Total Calendar Year Budget	\$1,057,649
Average annual participation***	725

***Annual participation was calculated by taking the previous expected customer count of 1,184 and dividing by half as the total grant is now \$750 and then adding in the expected 133 customers for the Pilot program.

No protests or other responsive pleadings have been filed relative to PGW’s January 2025 Petition.

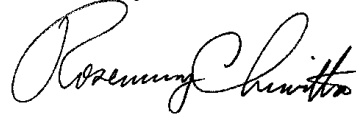
The Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS) has reviewed PGW’s January 2025 Petition and determined that the information provided in the further revised Appendix O of its 2023 USECP provides the information requested by the Commission in the January 2025 Order.

Conclusion

Accordingly, BCS finds PGW’s proposed revisions to Appendix O of its 2023 USECP to be compliant with the January 2025 Order. The determinations in this Secretarial Letter have been made by BCS staff under authority delegated by the Commission. Parties have the right to seek reconsideration of this staff action. These determinations relative to the review of PGW’s January 2025 Petition will be deemed to be the Commission’s final action unless reconsideration is sought from the Commission within 20 days after service of this Secretarial Letter. *See* 52 Pa. Code § 5.44 (relating to petitions for appeal from actions of the staff).

If you have any questions, please contact Norma Bowman in the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services at nobowman@pa.gov.

Sincerely,



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

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