

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	R-2025-3053499
Office of Consumer Advocate	:	
Office of Small Business Advocate	:	
	:	
Terri Walker	:	C-2025-3054662
	:	
Linda Slick	:	C-2025-3054552
	:	
Linda Allison	:	C-2025-3054434
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.	:	

PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER

A Prehearing Conference is scheduled in this case for Wednesday, **May 7, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** The undersigned administrative law judges will preside telephonically. 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: 866-675-4281
PIN Number: 85057514

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 Judges. **If you intend to participate as an active party or represent a party at the prehearing conference, please e-mail the legal assistant Mary Swarner (mswarner@pa.gov) and provide your name, identify the party you represent and provide the phone number from which you will be calling so that you can be properly identified.**

The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. Each active party must **e-file** and serve by email, prior to **4:30 p.m. on May 5, 2025**, a Prehearing Conference Memorandum which sets forth the information identified in this Order including a history of the proceeding, the issues you intend to present, a proposed plan and schedule of discovery, a listing of your proposed witnesses and the subject of their testimony, and a proposed litigation schedule to include the dates, times and locations of any proposed in-person and telephonic public input hearings, agreed to by all parties, if possible. The litigation schedule will require the filing of reply briefs by **September 5, 2025**. 52 Pa.Code § 5.222(d). The Parties should also be prepared to discuss the consolidation of the proceedings identified in the docket numbers above and any other appropriate issues, matters, and objections. Parties represented by multiple attorneys must designate a primary speaker for the purposes of the prehearing conference. If you do not timely file and serve upon the parties, a prehearing memoranda, as outlined above, you will be recognized as an inactive party to this proceeding, as described herein.

2. A request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date must state the agreement or opposition of other parties, and must be submitted by email no later than five (5) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa.Code § 1.15(b). Requests for changes of initial prehearing conferences must be sent by email, with copies to all parties of record. Only the undersigned Administrative Law Judges may grant a request for a change of a prehearing conference. Such changes are granted only in rare situations where sufficient cause exists. Requests for changes of subsequent Prehearing Conferences or hearings, if any, should also be served directly on the presiding Administrative Law Judges.

In accordance with the foregoing, absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled Prehearing Conference.

The Parties and Public may review filings and further requirements or Orders entered in these proceedings at the Docket numbers referenced above, on the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission website at: www.puc.pa.gov/search/document-search/.

Furthermore, formal complaints or other appropriate pleadings must be timely filed and served in accordance with Title 52 of the Pennsylvania Code. All filings must be made with the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, P.O. Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265, and with a copy served on the parties and their legal counsel, if represented.

The documents filed in support of the base rate proceeding are available for inspection at the Office of the Commission Secretary.

The Prehearing Conference is for the discussion and planning of the litigation of the case. No testimony will be taken. Lawyers representing parties of record and individual persons representing themselves as active parties will be permitted to participate in the Prehearing Conference. The Conference is open to the public.

3. In response to this Prehearing Order, you may proceed one of three ways:

a. **Do nothing.** If you do nothing after receiving this Prehearing Conference Order, you will be treated as an inactive party to this proceeding. Inactive parties will receive the presiding officer's written orders, notices of hearings, the Recommended Decision and any Commission decisions and orders. Inactive parties will not participate in discovery, testify at the evidentiary hearing, or cross-examine witnesses. Inactive parties will not receive copies of the hearing exhibits or briefs filed by the active participants.

b. **Testify at a public input hearing if one is scheduled.** Public input hearings, if scheduled, are for the purpose of giving citizens who do not wish to participate in the formal litigation an opportunity to express their opinions regarding the Company's proposal. If you testify at a public input hearing, you will not be permitted to also testify at the technical evidentiary hearings. If you want to participate in a public input hearing and do not wish to remain on the service list for pleadings, filings, discovery requests or orders and decisions in this matter, you are not required to do anything. You will receive a copy of the notice of the public input hearing which will include instructions for your participation. Generally, notice of the public input hearing, if one is scheduled, will be published on the Commission's website and in your local newspaper at least two weeks before it is held.

c. **Become a party of record.** As an active party of record, you will be served with all of the pleadings, filings, discovery requests, written testimony and orders and decisions served and issued in this proceeding. **These documents will be voluminous.** Your *rights* as an active party of record include the ability to present your own testimony and to cross-examine other witnesses at the formal hearings, and to file exceptions to the presiding officer's recommended decision. Your *duties* as a party of record are that you must answer all discovery requests served upon you in accordance with the rules. You will be required to serve a copy of anything that you *file* upon the presiding officer and **each party appearing on the service list**, as modified after the Prehearing Conference. If you intend to present evidence at the formal evidentiary hearings, you will be required to submit your testimony in writing in advance, in accordance with the schedule to be set after the Prehearing Conference and to provide a copy of your written testimony to each party on the service list at that time.

If you want to become an active party of record, you must register to e-file with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau, if you have not already done so, and timely file and serve your prehearing memoranda indicating your election to participate as an active party in this proceeding. Filings may not be made by emailing or faxing the Secretary's Bureau.

You will be expected to become familiar with the Commission's rules of practice and comply with the instructions and deadlines imposed by the orders of the presiding Administrative Law Judges. The Commission's rules of practice appear in Title 52 of the Pennsylvania Code Chapters 1, 3 and 5. **The Pennsylvania Code is available on-line at <http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/>.** Although a natural person or a sole proprietor may appear on their own behalf, if you are any entity other than a natural person or a sole proprietor, (e.g., a corporation, partnership, municipality, etc.), you will be required to have an attorney represent you in accordance with the laws of Pennsylvania. *See Ordering Paragraph 6.*

4. Please review the regulations pertaining to prehearing conferences, 52 Pa.Code § 5.221-§ 5.224, and in particular, § 5.222(d) which provides, in part:

(d) Parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for a useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

(1) The preparation must include submission of a prehearing memorandum and list:

- (i) The presently identified issues.
- (ii) The names and addresses of the witnesses.
- (iii) The proposed area of testimony of each witness.

(2) The preparation may include:

- (i) Development of a proposed procedural schedule.
- (ii) Advance study of all relevant materials.
- (iii) Advance informal communication between the parties, including requests for additional data and information, to the extent it appears feasible and desirable.

(Emphasis added.)

5. Parties should review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa.Code § 5.331(b), which provides, *inter alia*, that “a party shall endeavor to initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa.Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery, and advise us at the Prehearing Conference as to discovery problems which have not been resolved. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.361, 5.371-5.372.

6. Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22, 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, or governmental agency or 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. Failure of a party to attend the Prehearing Conference, and to be excused from participating at the prehearing conference, for good cause shown, shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the Prehearing Conference, including, but not limited to, any special discovery rules and the litigation schedule established for this case. Any party who fails to attend and participate in the prehearing conference will be considered an inactive party in this proceeding. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.222(e) & 5.224.

8. Any party may request to change in status from an inactive party an active party or from active party to become an inactive party by filing a written request for such change in status, serving all active parties with a copy of such filing and sending an email with a copy of such filing to the presiding officers in this proceeding. The email address for Judge Watson is jeffwatson@pa.gov and for Judge Allensworth is callenswor@pa.gov.

9. You must serve the presiding Administrative Law Judges directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding. If you send the undersigned any correspondence or document, you must send a copy to all other parties. If you fail to provide a copy of any filing or communication to the presiding Administrative Law Judges to all active parties, your filing, pleading or communication will not be considered. For your convenience, a copy of the Commission's current service list of the parties to this proceeding is enclosed with this Order.

10. If you have a limited ability to speak or understand English or are deaf or hearing-impaired, a qualified interpreter may be provided upon your timely request. If you want

an interpreter, please contact the Scheduling Office at least ten (10) days before the scheduled Prehearing Conference or Hearing to make your request.

Scheduling Office: (717) 787-1399

AT&T Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired:
1-800-654-5988.

Date: April 24, 2025

_____/s/
Jeffrey A. Watson
Administrative Law Judge

_____/s/
Chad Allensworth
Administrative Law Judge

R-2025-3053499 - PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION V. COLUMBIA GAS OF PENNSYLVANIA INC

CANDIS A TUNILO ESQUIRE
COLUMBIA GAS OF
PENNSYLVANIA INC
800 N THIRD ST STE 204
HARRISBURG PA 17102
717-233-1351
ctunilo@nisource.com
Served via eService April 24, 2025

ANTHONY D KANAGY ESQUIRE
MEGAN E RULLI ESQUIRE
MICHAEL W HASSELL ESQUIRE 17
NORTH SECOND ST 12TH FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101-1601
717.612.6034
akanagy@postschell.com
mrulli@postschell.com
mhassell@postschell.com
Served via eService April 24, 2025

SCOTT B GRANGER ESQUIRE
ADAM WILLIAMS ESQUIRE
PA PUC BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
& ENFORCEMENT
SECOND FLOOR WEST
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17120
717-425-7593
sgranger@pa.gov
adawilliam@pa.gov
Served via eService April 24, 2025

CHRISTY APPLEBY ESQUIRE
BARRETT SHERIDAN ESQUIRE
JACOB GUTHRIE ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
555 WALNUT STREET 5TH FLOOR
FORUM PLACE
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717-783-5048
cappleby@paoca.org
bsheridan@paoca.org
jguthrie@paoca.org
Served via eService April 24, 2025

REBECCA LYTTLE ESQUIRE
STEVEN C GRAY ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
ADVOCATE
555 Walnut Street
1ST FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717.783.2525
relyttle@pa.gov
sgray@pa.gov
Served via email April 24, 2025

JOHN SWEET ESQUIRE
RIA PEREIRA ESQUIRE
LAUREN BERMAN ESQUIRE
PA UTILITY LAW PROJECT
118 LOCUST STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717-701-3837
jsweet@pautilitylawproject.org
rpereira@pautilitylawproject.org
lberman@pautilitylawproject.org
Served via eService April 24, 2025

LINDA ALLISON
522 PACIFIC AVENUE
YORK PA 17404
717-852-0474
xdiver@verizon.net
C-2025-3054434
Served via email April 24, 2025

LINDA SLICK
2200 BROADWAY AVE
2 FLOOR
PITTSBURGH PA 15216
412-295-8360
15216slick@gmail.com
C-2025-3054552
Served via eService April 24, 2025

TERRI WALKER
508 MAIN STREET
MEYERSDALE PA 15552
814-483-2526
2shihtzu@gmail.com
C-2025-3054662
Served via email April 24, 2025