

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

|                                 |   |                |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Shirley Nicodemus               | : |                |
|                                 | : |                |
| v.                              | : | F-2025-3055828 |
|                                 | : |                |
| Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC | : |                |

**FIRST INTERIM ORDER**

To Reschedule  
Initial Telephonic Hearing

On June 13, 2025, Shirley Nicodemus (Complainant or Ms. Nicodemus) filed a Formal Complaint with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) against Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC (Respondent or Peoples) alleging she had a reliability, safety or quality problem with her service. Ms. Nicodemus further alleged she stopped receiving billing statements from Peoples, starting in June 2024, and Peoples damaged her basement. The Complaint is a timely appeal of a decision rendered by the Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS) on May 1, 2025, at BCS No. 4037356.

On February 20, 2025, Respondent filed an Answer, in which Peoples acknowledged it experienced a delay in timing billing until it contracted for a new provider of mailing services. Respondent also acknowledged completing a pipeline replacement project in front of the service address in September 2023 and admitted it took remedial action at Complainant’s request but asserted Complainant’s basement shows widespread damage resulting from the age and material of the foundation coupled with an abnormally high level of precipitation. Respondent contends the claim for damages should be addressed in the local Court of Common Pleas.

On July 18, 2025, the Office of Administrative Law Judge (OALJ) issued an Initial Call-In Telephone Hearing Notice, which scheduled an initial telephonic hearing to be

conducted on September 9, 2025 before Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Katrina L. Dunderdale. Also, on July 18, 2025, the ALJ issued a Prehearing Order, reminding the parties as to the date, time and manner of the hearing, and advising the parties about various procedural rules, including the rules concerning how to request a continuance.

On August 25, 2025, Respondent served a Motion for Continuance on the presiding officer and Complainant via electronic mail.<sup>1</sup> Counsel for Respondent averred she had a personal matter which would prevent her from being able to participate in a hearing in this proceeding. The continuance request indicated counsel contacted Complainant on August 25, 2025, to discuss possible available dates for a rescheduled hearing. Counsel did not indicate if Ms. Nicodemus objected to or consented to the continuance request. Counsel provided the ALJ with a list of dates between September 9, 2025, and November 5, 2025, when counsel and Peoples would not be available.

Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §1.15, extensions of time may be granted by the presiding officer for good cause shown. A review of this continuance request leads to the conclusion that a scheduling conflict exists which prevents the attorney for Respondent from participating in the telephonic hearing on September 9, 2025. Although Complainant did not consent to the request, it appears she requested a 10:00 a.m. start time. Counsel for Respondent provided a list of dates when Respondent would not be available to participate in a telephonic hearing, which alternatives were within two months of September 9, 2025.

Counsel for Respondent justified a need for a short continuance. Under the circumstances, the request shows sufficient cause exists. Accordingly, the Motion for Continuance will be granted in the Ordering Paragraphs below.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

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<sup>1</sup> The Motion for Continuance was not filed with the Secretary's Bureau.

1. That the Initial Call-In Telephonic Hearing scheduled for September 9, 2025, shall be rescheduled and the parties will receive a new Call-In Telephonic Hearing Notice from the Commission setting forth Wednesday, October 8, 2025, as the new date for the Initial Call-In Telephonic Hearing.

2. That, prior to the hearing on October 8, 2025, the parties shall engage in discussions with each other and pursue a possible settlement of the outstanding issues, consistent with provisions in the Commission's regulations in 52 Pa.Code §5.231(a).

Date: August 26, 2025

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/s/  
Katrina L. Dunderdale  
Administrative Law Judge

**F-2025-3055828 - SHIRLEY NICODEMUS v. PEOPLES NATURAL GAS COMPANY  
LLC**

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Served via eService – August 26, 2025

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Served via USPS First Class Mail – August 26, 2025