

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

|   |   |                |
|---|---|----------------|
| Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, | : |                |
|   | : |                |
| v.                                      | : | G-2025-3056022 |
|   | : | R-2018-2312577 |
| Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.      | : |                |

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

Relevant Procedural History

On June 30, 2025, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (Columbia or the Company) filed an Affiliated Interest Agreement (AIA) seeking approval from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) of its agreement with NiSource Development Company, Inc. (NDC). The proposed AIA would allow Columbia to receive compensation for certain billing related services related to NDC’s Marking and Licensing Agreement (M&L Agreement) with Pivotal home Solutions, LLC (Pivotal).

By letter dated July 1, 2025, the Commission ordered that the 30-day deadline for approval of the AIA was extended until further order of the Commission pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 2102(b).

On July 17, 2025, the Commission’s Energy Industry Group submitted a data request to Columbia.

On July 24, 2025, Columbia filed a response to the data request.

On August 4, 2025, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a Formal Protest (Protest) and Public Statement in this matter.

On August 25, 2025, Columbia filed an Answer in Response to OCA's Protest.

On August 29, 2025, the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (CAUSE-PA) filed a Protest in this matter.

On September 18, 2025, Columbia filed an Answer in Response to CAUSE-PA's Protest.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

**1. DATE AND TIME OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE.** That a telephonic Prehearing Conference will be held in this case on:

**Wednesday, November 12, 2025, beginning at 1:30 p.m.**

To participate in the Prehearing Conference, 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, press the # key, and then the telephone system will connect you to the hearing. If you have any additional participants for the Prehearing Conference who are participating from a separate phone, you must provide them with the telephone number and PIN Number.

Toll-free Bridge Telephone Number: **866-675-4281**

PIN Number: **850575514**

**2. FAILURE TO APPEAR.** That failure of a party to attend the Prehearing Conference, or notify the Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) of their desire to fully participate without 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. 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.222(e) & 5.224.

**3. REPRESENTATION.** If you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may have an attorney represent you. All others, including a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, or admitted *pro hac vice*.<sup>1</sup> And, unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else.

**4. PREPARATION FOR THE PREHEARING CONFERENCE.** That parties shall review the regulations pertaining to Prehearing Conferences, in particular 52 Pa. Code § 5.222(d), which provides that parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

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

At the Prehearing Conference, the parties should be prepared to discuss: (a) all relevant issues related to these proceedings and any related proceedings, (b) a litigation schedule, (c) any need to schedule public input hearing(s), (d) proposed dates, times, locations, venues for any public input hearings and (e) whether the public input hearings should be scheduled by telephone or in-person.

It is anticipated that the parties will present live witness testimony at the evidentiary hearing instead of written testimony. Accordingly, the parties should plan to schedule sufficient time for

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<sup>1</sup> 52 Pa. Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22.

the presentation of direct testimony and cross examination of witnesses at the evidentiary hearing. The presiding officers are available to conduct the evidentiary hearings on the following dates:

- Tuesday, January 20, 2026 – Friday, January 23, 2026
- Tuesday, January 20, 2026 – Thursday, January 22, 2026
- Wednesday, February 3, 2026 – Friday, February 6, 2026
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026 – Thursday, February 19, 2026

**5. PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM.** That on or before **12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 7, 2025**, each party must file and serve a Prehearing Conference Memorandum which sets forth the 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, agreed to by all parties if possible. *The parties are expected to confer and attempt to agree to a proposed litigation schedule in advance of the Prehearing Conference*, to include proposed times, dates and locations of any in-person evidentiary hearings in either Pittsburgh or Harrisburg, and public input hearings as agreed to by all parties. The undersigned may be served with a copy of prehearing memoranda by email at [jeffwatson@pa.gov](mailto:jeffwatson@pa.gov) and [callenswor@pa.gov](mailto:callenswor@pa.gov). Parties represented by multiple attorneys should designate in their prehearing memorandum a lead representative for the purposes of the Prehearing Conference and the telephone number that legal counsel or any unrepresented Parties intend to use to call into the Prehearing Conference, if possible. The dates, times and locations of the evidentiary hearings and public input hearings will be determined at the Prehearing Conference.

**6. DISCOVERY.** That the parties shall conduct discovery pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.321-5.373. We encourage the parties to cooperate and exchange information on an informal basis. The parties shall cooperate rather than engage in numerous or protracted discovery disagreements that require my participation to resolve. All motions to compel shall contain a certification by counsel setting forth the specific actions the parties have undertaken to resolve their discovery disputes informally. If a motion to compel does not contain this certification, we shall contact the parties and direct them to resolve the matter informally and provide the certification if they are unsuccessful. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.361, 5.371-5.372.

7. **CHANGE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE DATE.** That a request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date shall state the agreement or opposition of other parties, and shall be submitted in writing, via email, no later than five (5) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa. Code § 1.15(b).

8. **SERVING THE PRESIDING OFFICERS.** You must serve the presiding officers directly by email with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding. If you send the undersigned any correspondence or a document, you must send a copy to all other parties. The email for Administrative Law Judge Jeffrey Watson is [jeffwatson@pa.gov](mailto:jeffwatson@pa.gov) and the email for Administrative Law Judge Chad Allensworth is [callenswor@pa.gov](mailto:callenswor@pa.gov).

Date: October 8, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_/s/  
Jeffrey Watson  
Administrative Law Judge

\_\_\_\_\_/s/  
Chad L. Allensworth  
Administrative Law Judge

**G-2025-3056022 - PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION V COLUMBIA GAS COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

*Revised: October 6, 2025*

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