

- The Gas Works will convene stakeholder meetings to discuss best practices for serving victims of domestic violence.
- PGW will convene two community engagement meetings to inform its evaluation of various potential pathways and considerations for long-term greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Philadelphia.

It is the core function of this Commission to balance the safe and reliable provision of utility service with customer affordability. PGW's at-risk pipe profile, comprised of over 1,000 miles of cast iron main, necessitates a continued capital expenditure program to improve or replace its most vulnerable distribution assets. However, in today's economic environment, where more families struggle to make daily ends meet, we must be sure that utility infrastructure replacement programs are not overextending customer pocketbooks.

I applaud the parties herein for the myriad of beneficial settlement terms that help to more properly achieve this balance. The proposed Settlement will increase the average residential customer bill by 6.6%, significantly less than PGW's original filing which would have raised monthly bills 13%. I am also pleased to see the significant commitment to process improvement for PGW's various customer assistance programs. The Gas Works' efforts to enhance coordination of CRP enrollment with other agencies and entities is consistent with recent efforts of this Commission to improve coordination via our Universal Service Programs Working Group.¹ As well, I am encouraged by PGW's agreement to fully research the viability of smart methane detectors. This is a technology that PGW is already piloting pursuant to a previous Commission proceeding, and I find the commitment in this Settlement to be a positive next step toward researching the efficacy and value these detectors.²

For these reasons, I support approval of the proposed Settlement.

October 9, 2025
Date



Stephen M. DeFrank
Chairman

¹ See Docket No. M-2023-3038944

² See Docket No. C-2022-3033834