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SAMUEL W. CORTES
Direct No: 610.458.4966
Email: scortes@foxrothschild.com

March 27, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Re: Application for UGI Utilities, Inc.
Motion For Admission *Pro Hac Vice* of R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart
PA PUC - Docket Numbers: A-2026-3060375; G-2026-3060435; G-2026-3060551**

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Please be advised that this office represents BKV Operating, LLC (“BKV”), in the above-referenced action. Enclosed for electronic filing is the Motion For Admission *Pro Hac Vice* of R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart.

A Pennsylvania Limited Liability Partnership

California Nevada Colorado New Jersey Delaware New York District of Columbia North Carolina Florida Oklahoma Georgia **Pennsylvania** Illinois South Carolina Massachusetts Texas Minnesota Washington Missouri



March 27, 2026

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If you have any questions with regard to this filing, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel W. Cortes".

Samuel W Cortes

SWC/tla

Enclosure

cc: Anthony C. DeCusatis, Esquire (w/encl. – via email: adecusatis@postschell.com)
Michael S. Swerling, Esq. (w/encl. – via email: swerlingm@ugicorp.com)
Susan E. Bruce, Esq.; Charis Mincavage, Esq.; Victoria Geddis, Esq.
(w/encl. - via email: sbruce@mcneeslaw.com; cmincavage@mcneeslaw.com;
vgeddis@mcneeslaw.com)
Administrative Law Judge Alphonso Arnold III (w/encl. – via email:
alphonarno@pa.gov)

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Application of UGI Utilities, Inc. for: :
: :
(1) Certificate of Public Convenience :
Evidencing Approval Under 66 Pa. C.S. :
§§1102(a)(3) and 1103(a) for the Transfer of the :
Auburn City Gate Station, Located in Auburn : Docket Number: A-2026-3060375
Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, :
to UGI Auburn Gathering, LLC, an Affiliate of :
UGI Utilities, Inc.; : Docket Number: G-2026-3060435
: :
(2) Approval of the Proposed Transfer of the :
Auburn City Gate Station Pursuant to 66 Pa. : Docket Number: G-2026-3060551
C.S. §2102(b); and :
: :
(3) Approval of a Modification of an Existing :
Affiliated Interest Agreement Pursuant to 66 Pa. :
C.S. §2103. :

NOTICE TO PLEAD

Counsel of Record:

You are hereby notified that BKV Operating, LLC (“BKV”) has filed, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.103(a) and 1.22(b), a Motion for Admission *Pro Hac Vice* ("Motion") in the above-captioned proceeding. You may submit a response to the Motion within twenty (20) days pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.103(c). If no response is submitted, the presiding officer may rule on the Motion without a response from you. All pleadings, such as a response to the Motion, must be filed with the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, with a copy served on the undersigned counsel for BKV, the Administrative Law Judges, and all other parties.

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel W. Cortes (Atty No. 91494)
FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP
747 Constitution Drive, Suite 100
Exton, PA 19341
Telephone: (610) 458-7500
E-Mail: scortes@foxrothschild.com

Dated: March 27, 2026

Counsel for BKV Operating, LLC

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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C.S. §2103. :

**MOTION FOR ADMISSION *PRO HAC VICE* OF
R. TAYLOR SPEER AND CORDON M. SMART**

Pursuant to the Rules of Administrative Practice and Procedure of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), 52 Pa. Code § 1.22(b), and the Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rules, Samuel W. Cortes, Esq., an attorney in good standing and authorized to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, hereby moves for the admission *pro hac vice* of R. Taylor Speer, Esq. and Cordon M. Smart, Esq. to appear and participate on behalf of BKV Operating, LLC in the above-captioned matter.

The Verified Statements of R. Taylor Speer, Cordon M. Smart, and Samuel W. Cortes are attached hereto and relied upon in support of this motion.

I certify that copies of this motion and the attached Verified Statements have been served on all parties of record in the above-captioned matter, and a certificate of service is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel W. Cortes
PA Attorney I.D. No. 91494
FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP
747 Constitution Drive, Suite 100
Exton, PA 19341
Telephone: (610) 458-4966
E-Mail: SCortes@FoxRothschild.com

Dated: March 27, 2026

Counsel for BKV Operating, LLC

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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VERIFIED STATEMENT OF R. TAYLOR SPEER

I, R. Taylor Speer, submit the following verification pursuant to 231 Pa. Code § 1012.1 and in support of the motion filed by Samuel W. Cortes, Esq. for my admission *pro hac vice* in the above-captioned matter. I hereby state as follows:

1. I am admitted to practice and am a member in good standing of the South Carolina State Bar (Attorney ID No. 100455) and the Florida State Bar (Attorney ID No. 0057427).

2. I have never been suspended, disbarred, or otherwise disciplined in South Carolina or Florida, nor am I currently the subject of any proceedings for suspension, disbarment or disciplinary action.

3. I shall comply with and be bound by the applicable statutes, caselaw, and procedural rules of the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct and the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

4. I shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania courts and the Pennsylvania Disciplinary Board with respect to acts and omissions occurring during my appearance in this matter.

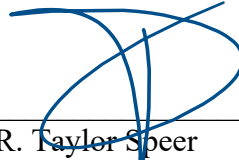
5. I have been admitted *pro hac vice* before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to appear and participate in Docket No. P-2026-3060298. I have not been admitted *pro hac vice* before any other courts or administrative proceedings of record in Pennsylvania.

6. I consent to the appointment of Samuel W. Cortes, Esq. as the agent upon whom service of process shall be made for all actions, including disciplinary actions, which may arise out of my practice of law in this matter.

7. It is my understanding that a *pro hac vice* appearance before the Commission is the equivalent of appearance before a special court as defined in 204 Pa. Code § 81.501(g). As such, a *pro hac vice* candidate's appearance in this proceeding *pro hac vice* does not require the payment of any fee to the Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts Board (“IOLTA Board”) pursuant to 204 Pa. Code § 81.505(c) or the filing of an informational form with the IOLTA Board pursuant to 204 Pa. Code § 81.503(c) and 204 Pa. Code § 81.504. I note that the website for IOLTA Board provides information that a payment form and payment of a *pro hac vice* fee to the IOLTA Board is not required for administrative agency proceedings.¹ In the event that a payment form and admission is in fact required, I will promptly file the form and make the payment.

8. I verify that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

¹ The “Frequently Asked Questions” on the IOLTA Board’s website provides: “Is a payment form and admission fee required for state agency appearances? No. The rule does **not** apply to administrative agency proceedings”



R. Taylor Speer
FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP
2 W. Washington Street, Suite 1100
Greenville, SC 29601
Telephone: (864) 751-7665
E-Mail: TSpeer@FoxRothschild.com

Dated: March 27, 2026

Pro Hac Vice Candidate

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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C.S. §2103. :

VERIFIED STATEMENT OF CORDON M. SMART

I, Cordon M. Smart, submit the following verification pursuant to 231 Pa. Code § 1012.1 and in support of the motion by Samuel W. Cortes for my admission *pro hac vice* in the above-captioned matter. I hereby state as follows:

1. I am admitted to practice and am a member in good standing of the North Carolina State Bar (Attorney ID No. 52401).
2. I have never been suspended, disbarred, or otherwise disciplined in North Carolina, nor am I currently the subject of any proceedings for suspension, disbarment or disciplinary action.
3. I shall comply with and be bound by the applicable statutes, caselaw, and procedural rules of the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct and the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

4. I shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania courts and the Pennsylvania Disciplinary Board with respect to acts and omissions occurring during my appearance in this matter.

5. I have not previously been admitted *pro hac vice* before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission or any courts of record in Pennsylvania.

6. I consent to the appointment of Samuel W. Cortes, Esq. as the agent upon whom service of process shall be made for all actions, including disciplinary actions, which may arise out of my practice of law in this matter.

7. It is my understanding that a *pro hac vice* appearance before the Commission is the equivalent of appearance before a special court as defined in 204 Pa. Code § 81.501(g). As such, a *pro hac vice* candidate's appearance in this proceeding *pro hac vice* does not require the payment of any fee to the Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts Board (“IOLTA Board”) pursuant to 204 Pa. Code § 81.505(c) or the filing of an informational form with the IOLTA Board pursuant to 204 Pa. Code § 81.503(c) and 204 Pa. Code § 81.504. I note that the website for IOLTA Board provides information that a payment form and payment of a *pro hac vice* fee to the IOLTA Board is not required for administrative agency proceedings.² In the event that a payment form and admission is in fact required, I will promptly file the form and make the payment.

8. I verify that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

² The “Frequently Asked Questions” on the IOLTA Board’s website provides: “Is a payment form and admission fee required for state agency appearances? No. The rule does **not** apply to administrative agency proceedings”

Cordon M. Smart

Cordon M. Smart
FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP
230 N. Elm Street
2000 Renaissance Plaza, Suite 1200
Greensboro, NC 27401
Telephone: (336) 217-1903
E-Mail: CSmart@FoxRothschild.com

Dated: March 27, 2026

Pro Hac Vice Candidate

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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VERIFIED STATEMENT OF SAMUEL W. CORTES

I, Samuel W. Cortes, hereby state as follows:

1. I am counsel for BKV Operating, LLC in the above-captioned matter currently pending before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
2. I am admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and am in good standing with all courts and administrative agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
3. In addition to my sponsorship of R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart in this proceeding, I am acting as a sponsor of a candidate for *pro hac vice* admission in the Court of Common Pleas of Chester County, Pennsylvania and a sponsor for *pro hac vice* admission of R. Taylor Speer and Karen M. Kemerait in Docket No. P-2026-3060298 before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. I have never been suspended, disbarred, or disciplined by any court

or administrative agency, nor am I subject to any proceedings for suspension, disbarment, or disciplinary action.

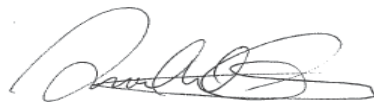
4. After reasonable investigation, I believe that R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart, the candidates for admission *pro hac vice* before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, are reputable and competent attorneys.

5. I am in a position to recommend the admission *pro hac vice* of R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart.

6. If there are any proceeds from the settlement of this matter, such proceeds shall be received, held, distributed and accounted for in accordance with Rule 1.15 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct, including the IOLTA provisions thereof, if applicable.

7. I shall remain the attorney of record for this case, in accordance with the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure.

8. I verify that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.



Samuel W. Cortes (Atty No. 91494)
FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP
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Telephone: (610) 458-7500
E-Mail: SCortes@FoxRothschild.com

Dated: March 27, 2026

Counsel for BKV Operating, LLC

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**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR ADMISSION
PRO HAC VICE OF R. TAYLOR SPEER AND CORDON M. SMART**

Upon consideration of the Motion for Admission *Pro Hac Vice* of R. Taylor Speer and
Cordon M. Smart, on this ___ of March, 2026, it is hereby

ORDERED that the Motion is hereby GRANTED; and

ORDERED that R. Taylor Speer and Cordon M. Smart are admitted *pro hac vice* for the
purposes of representing BKV Operating, LLC in the above-captioned action.

Administrative Law Judge

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing documents upon the parties listed below in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party) on March 27, 2026.

Via Electronic Mail

Anthony C. DeCusatis, Esq. Post & Schell, P.C. 17 North Second Street, 12th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601 adecusatis@postschell.com	Susan E. Bruce, Esq. Charis Mincavage, Esq. Victoria Geddis, Esq. McNeese Wallace & Nurick LLC 100 Pine Street, P.O. Box 1166 Harrisburg, PA 17101-1166 sbruce@mcneese.com cmincavage@mcneese.com vgeddis@mcneese.com <i>Counsel for Procter & Gamble Paper Products Company</i>
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<p>Michael S. Swerling, Esq. UGI Corporation 500 North Gulph Road King of Prussia, PA 19406 swerlingm@ugicorp.com</p> <p><i>Counsel for UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division</i></p>	<p>Administrative Law Judge Alphonso Arnold III alphonarno@pa.gov</p>
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Dated: March 27, 2026



Samuel W. Cortes