
Megan E. Rulli

mrulli@postschell.com
717-612-6012 Direct
717-731-1985 Direct Fax
File #: 212923

March 31, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al. v. National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation
Docket Nos. R-2025-3059428, et al.

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed for filing are Proofs of Publication evidencing that notice of the public input hearing in the above-captioned proceeding was published in the following newspapers on the dates indicated below:

- March 17, 2026 – *Bradford Era, DuBois Courier Express, St. Mary's Daily Press, Warren Times Observer.*
- March 18, 2026 – *Erie Times-News, The Meadville Tribune, Sharon Herald.*
- March 24, 2026 – *Bradford Era, DuBois Courier Express, Erie Times-News, Warren Times Observer.*
- March 25, 2026 – *The Meadville Tribune, Sharon Herald, The Leader Vindicator.*

National Fuel is awaiting affidavits from certain of the publications listed above, as well as further proofs of publication from newspapers where the notices of the public input hearings were published. The remaining proofs of publication will be filed with your office upon receipt.

Copies of this letter will be provided as indicated on the Certificate of Service.

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
March 31, 2026
Page 2

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M E Rulli', written in a cursive style.

Megan E. Rulli

MER/sll
Attachments

cc: Honorable Katrina L. Dunderdale (*via email; w/attachment*)
Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

VIA E-MAIL

Scott B. Granger, Esquire
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor West
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
E-mail: sgranger@pa.gov

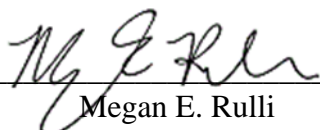
Joel H. Cheskis, Esquire
Harrison W. Breitman, Esquire
Ryan M. Morden, Esquire
Olivia M. Spergel, Esquire
Janna E. Williams, Esquire
Crystal M. Zook, Esquire
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street
Forum Place, 5th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
E-mail: JCheskis@paoca.org
E-mail: HBreitman@paoca.org
E-mail: RMorden@paoca.org
E-mail: JWilliams@paoca.org
E-mail: OSpergel@paoca.org
E-mail: CZook@paoca.org
E-mail: OCANFGBRC26@paoca.org

Rebecca Lyttle, Esquire
Office of Small Business Advocate
555 Walnut Street
Forum Place, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
E-mail: relyttle@pa.gov

Joseph L. Vullo, Esquire
Burke Vullo Reilly Roberts
1460 Wyoming Avenue
Forty Fort, PA 18704
E-mail: jlvullo@bvrrlaw.com

Levi A. Phillips, Esquire
Ria M. Pereira, Esquire
Elizabeth R. Marx, Esquire
John W. Sweet, Esquire
Lauren N. Berman, Esquire
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
E-mail: pulp@pautilitylawproject.org

Date: March 31, 2026


Megan E. Rulli

ASK ABOUT OUR Print & Web Ad Bundle Rates

I MEAN, WE COULD TRY IT.

WED BRIDGE
Maximizing your chances

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 6 5 2
♥ 4
♦ 1 9 8 4
♣ 10 9 2

WEST
♠ 1 9 3
♥ 1 10 8 3 2
♦ K 10 5
♣ 8 6

EAST
♠ K 10 7 4
♥ 7 6 5
♦ 7 6 3 2
♣ 4

SOUTH
♠ A K Q
♥ A Q
♦ A K Q J 7 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass

Opening lead — jack of hearts.
Many hands offer declarer a choice of two or more lines of play. Declarer's job in these cases is to try to find the method of play most likely to succeed — in other words, he percentage play.
In considering his options, declarer should examine all the possibilities and not just the obvious ones. Unfortunately, the best line of play is often camouflaged by alternatives that are much easier to see.
For example, take this deal where South, encouraged by partner's positive response to his forcing two-bid, contracted for a grand slam and discovered he had a potential diamond loser. Making the slam seemed to take a finesse in diamonds or in spades — each a 50% proposition. As can be seen, neither finesse would have worked as the cards lie.
But South saw a third option that offered a substantially better chance than either finesse — the possibility of establishing a spade trick in dummy by trumping spades in his own hand. Furthermore, he could pursue this possibility without relinquishing the 50% chance of rying on a finesse to bring the diamond finesse in reserve.
So, after winning the heart lead with the queen, declarer cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade high. Next, he led a low trump to dummy's nine and ruffed another spade high. Then came a low trump to dummy's ten, which drew West's last trump and allowed South to ruff the fourth round of spades, felling East's king.
Declarer now ruffed the ace of hearts with dummy's deuce of trump and discarded the diamond queen on dummy's queen of spades to put the finishing touch on a well-played hand.

Tomorrow: A super safety play.
©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WED LOCKHORNS

"YOU DO KNOW THAT LETTERS COME IN LOWERCASE, TOO, DON'T YOU?"

WED HOROSCOPE
Horoscope

MECCA WOODS
What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign.

For Thursday, March 19, 2026

ARIES
(March 21 to June 19)
Take time to nourish yourself today. Don't neglect your self-care.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Maintaining good boundaries will help you know which relationships are made to last and which connections are flimsy.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
Your spiritual and emotional well-being are just as important as your financial well-being.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Pace yourself. Not everything needs to be done in one day.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
If you have a support system, utilize it. If you don't have one, it's time to start building your community.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Joy is a practice — not a given. To make sure that you're getting enough of it, you must carve out the time for it.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Today might be challenging, but your resilience will get you through it.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Trust yourself. Your inner wisdom will guide you during times of confusion.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Share your knowledge with others. You never know who could benefit from your wisdom.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Taking a one-day-at-a-time approach to your life or work will help to reduce stress.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Don't be afraid to depend on others. You need people, too.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
Don't settle. Hold out for what you really want. It'll be worth it in the end.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Stay connected to your community and support local journalism!

The Bradford Era
Call
814-368-3173

WED SUDOKU
Conceptis
SUDOKU
数独

King Classic Sudoku

	9	4				5	6
5	6			7		3	
	3						8
1	8	6					
		3		1		6	4
	5		7		9		
			9			8	
	2			6	4	3	9
3		7		8	5		4

Difficulty: ★★★ 3/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

BELOW IS THE ANSWER FOR PUZZLE 3/17/26

5	3	9	4	1	7	2	8	6
1	6	2	3	9	8	7	5	4
7	8	4	5	2	6	3	9	1
4	9	6	1	5	2	8	7	3
8	1	7	9	6	3	4	2	5
3	2	5	8	7	4	1	6	9
6	5	3	2	8	1	9	4	7
9	4	8	7	3	5	6	1	2
2	7	1	6	4	9	5	3	8

Difficulty: ★★ 3/17

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS
For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places.

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS
Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS
Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM
If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

Toll-free Conference Number: 866.675.4411 • PIN Number: 23464163

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER THINGS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

LIFESTYLES

ON THE WEB:
www.thecourierexpress.com

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event March 28

DAGUS MINES — Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event will be held from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, March 28 at the Dagus Mines Legion and sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America 720. There will be live music and DJ mix by Freedom. Please stop in for food and refreshments. Veterans of any era are welcome.

Bussell graduates from Millersville University of PA

MILLERSVILLE — Nolan Bussell of DuBois graduated from Millersville University of Pennsylvania in December with a Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral and Human Services.

Boyfriend's behavior swings from one extreme to another

Dear Abby: My boyfriend, "Roy," is a quiet person. His ex-girlfriend put him and his family through something so terrible that he shuts down and pulls away from me a lot. He won't introduce me to his mother, although I have met his son. We've been together almost 18 months.

Five months ago, Roy stopped making love with me. I accused him of cheating, but he denied it. He's just 44 and claims he has lost interest in sex and he doesn't know why. He claims he's still in love with me, but at times, I feel unloved by him. He has never treated me badly, but he barely kisses me now and he used to be affectionate. He says he was affectionate before his ex nearly destroyed him and his family's lives.

Roy loves it when I call myself his wife and him my husband, but he acts like he is scared of love. What do you think? — **Loves My**



Dear Abby
Jeanne Phillips

Teddy Bear Man

Dear Loves: I think your boyfriend (not husband) is sorely in need of counseling to resolve his trauma. Your relationship will not progress unless he finds the courage to discuss what happened with his ex with someone who can guide him on a path forward.

Dear Abby: I married a man who was divorced after 10 years of marriage. He and his ex-wife had four children together. After their divorce, they received joint custody of the children. He moved to another state, and the children remained with their mother.

We have been married for 38 years. When

my husband's mother died, his ex-wife attended the funeral. All of the children, spouses and grandchildren sat with her and not their father at the viewing and funeral service. It was heartbreaking.

How can I or my family ask her to NOT attend my husband's funeral when he passes away? — **His Longtime Wife**

Dear Wife: Funerals are for the comfort of the living, not the dead. If your husband predeceases you, the person who will be in charge of the arrangements for his funeral, memorial, cremation or burial will be you. If you prefer that his former wife not make an appearance, speak up at the appropriate time. If she shows up anyway, you can instruct security not to admit her.

TO MY READERS: Happy St. Patrick's Day! May there always be work for your hands to do.

May your purse always hold a coin or two. May the sun always shine on your windowpane.

May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.

May the hand of a friend always be near you.

May God fill your heart with gladness and cheer you.

LOVE, ABBY
□□□
To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 446, Kings Mills, OH 45034-0446. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)
□□□

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

BITS & PIECES

HR group plans wage compliance program

BROCKWAY — The Human Resource Management Association of North Central Pennsylvania (HRMANCPA) is inviting area professionals to attend an upcoming presentation focused on wage and hour compliance.

The program, titled "It's Time: Reevaluating Your Wage & Hour Compliance," will feature attorney Julia Herzing, Esq., of Knox Law. The presentation will address common mistakes and frequently asked questions regarding wage and hour compliance.

Topics will include salary exempt classifications, the regular rate of pay, overtime require-

ments, the impact of the OBBBA, travel time considerations and child labor laws.

The event will take place Thursday, March 19, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at BC3, 1200 Wood St., Brockway. Breakfast and networking will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The cost to attend is: Free for HRMANCPA Chapter Advanced Members

• \$15 for HRMANCPA Chapter Basic Members

• \$25 for non-chapter members

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Tuesday, March 17 by emailing — hrmancpa485@gmail.com.

Rabies clinic set for April 18

DuBOIS — The Old Town Beagle Club, 205 Beagle Area Road, DuBois, is holding a rabies clinic on April 18 from 1-3 p.m.

The price is \$15. For more information, please call 814-590-0428.

In DuBois, Sandy Township . . .
To report local news, call (814) 503-8875

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.65 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdcdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate Toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.



Back before powered machinery on local farms, hay was handled manually with pitchforks. They were called that because the farmer had to "pitch" the hay onto the wagon, and then from the wagon into the hayloft in the barn. This photo shows the result of a long day's work in the hayfield.

Judge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4
 The lawsuit was updated as Kennedy took more steps that alarmed medical societies, causing the plaintiffs to ask Judge Brian E. Murphy to take steps to address those policy changes too.
 For example, the plaintiffs amended the lawsuit to stop the

scaling back of the nation's childhood vaccination schedule. They also asked the court to look at Kennedy's actions concerning the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which advises public health officials on what vaccines to recommend to doctors and patients.
 Kennedy, a leading anti-vaccine activist before becoming the nation's top health official, fired the entire 17-member panel last year and replaced it with a group that includes several anti-vaccine voices.
 Murphy, who was nominated to the bench by President Joe Biden, said Kennedy's reconstitution of ACIP likely violated federal law. He ordered the appointments — and all decisions made by the reformed committee — put on hold.



CALL 814-781-1596 TO PLACE YOUR AD HERE

- Booking Roofing & Seamless Gutters**
 Top of the Line Builders
 814-965-5785
- St Marys Methodist Pavilion**
 Easter Egg Hunt
 Sat., April 4 • 11am
- DS Outdoor Services**
 Call 814-512-6593 for your FREE estimate.

More than 200 people killed in Pakistan strike on Afghanistan hospital treating drug users

By Abdul Qahar Afghan and Munir Ahmed
 Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan on Monday accused Pakistan's military of targeting a Kabul hospital that treats drug users in airstrikes, with the country's Health Ministry spokesman saying more than 200 people had been killed. Pakistan dismissed the accusation, saying the strikes — which were also conducted in eastern Afghanistan — did not hit any civilian sites.

Health Ministry spokesman Sharafat Zaman gave the death toll during a television interview with local media that was posted on X. He said all parts of the drug treatment hospital had been destroyed. Afghanistan's government spokes-

man, Zabiullah Mujahid, also posted the video interview. Local television stations posted footage showing firefighters struggling to extinguish flames among the ruins of a building.

The alleged attack came hours after Afghan officials said the two sides exchanged fire along their common border, killing four people in Afghanistan, as the deadliest fighting between the neighbors in years entered a third week.

Mujahid had earlier condemned the strike on X, before the death toll had become apparent, saying it violated Afghanistan's territory. He said most of those killed and wounded were patients undergoing treatment at the facility.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's spokesman, Mosharraf

Zaidi, dismissed the allegations as baseless, saying no hospital was targeted in Kabul.

In a post on X, Pakistan's Ministry of Information said the strikes "precisely targeted military installations and terrorist support infrastructure including technical equipment storage and ammunition storage of Afghan Taliban" and Afghan-based Pakistani militants in Kabul and Nangarhar, saying the facilities were being used against innocent Pakistani civilians.

It said Pakistan's targeting was "precise and carefully undertaken to ensure no collateral damage is inflicted." The ministry said Mujahid's claim was "false and misleading" and aimed at stirring sentiment and cover what it described as "illegitimate support for cross-border terrorism."

ST. MARYS AMBULANCE 2026 SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE: MARCH 1ST - APRIL 30TH

Go to our website: www.stmarysambulance.com to get yours today!

2026 Rates:
\$50/individual
\$75/family

Any questions, please contact us at **(814) 781-1571**

YOUR PAST SUPPORT IS MUCH APPRECIATED AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR DONATION AGAIN THIS YEAR!



NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center
 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center
 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
 - You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
 - Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and Legislators.

- **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@puc.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

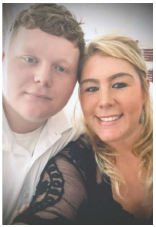
REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pucdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Local / State



Caleb Pangborn, left, and Meghan Kelsey and Skylar Martin will be part of the event.

Power ...

McCorison said crews are making progress and power companies are catching up with repairs in impacted areas. As of Monday, no road closures related to the recent weather were reported.

Outage data from Penelec shows the largest concentration of outages currently in the North Warren area. Current reported outages include: North Warren: 148 customers; Starbuck: 68 customers; Tidilute: fewer than 48 customers; Sugar Grove: fewer than 20 customers; Chandlers Valley: fewer than 20 customers; Clarendon: fewer than 20 customers.

Columbus: fewer than 20 customers

Looking ahead, the National Weather Service is forecasting mostly cloudy conditions throughout the week, with occasional chances of snow or rain.

Monday Forecast: Tuesday: A 30% chance of snow, mainly before 1 pm. Mostly cloudy with a high near 27 degrees. Winds 11 to 13 mph with gusts up to 30 mph. Tuesday Night: Slight chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy with a low around 17 degrees.

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy with a high near 37 degrees. Wednesday Night: Slight chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy with a low around 29 degrees.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of showers after 2 pm. High near 47 degrees.

Thursday Night: A 30% chance of showers before 8 pm. Mostly cloudy with a low around 32 degrees.

Friday: Partly sunny with a high near 51 degrees.

Friday Night: A 40% chance of showers after 8 pm. Mostly cloudy with a low around 35 degrees.

Saturday: A 30% chance of showers with a high near 52 degrees.

Saturday Night: A 30% chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy with a low around 30 degrees.

Worship ...

Other members include: Ed Bennett, who plays the fiddle and has been part of the local orchestra and also played in local churches; Steve Cofer, who plays the bass and was part of a praise and worship team and local country and bluegrass groups; Tom Hodges, who plays the dobro and has been part of a number of country and bluegrass groups; A.J. Maze, who plays the banjo and guitar and has served as a worship leader at a local church; and Bill Smith, who plays the mandolin, and comes from a long line of family musicians and has played in local country and bluegrass groups.

Both Denny Maze and his son A.J. Maze have been part of The Stuart Family

gospel singing group that traveled around to perform for more than 35 years.

For the King Music Ministries was developed by singer/songwriter Caleb Pangborn. For more information visit: www.forthekingmusic.com.

Students will also perform at the concert.

Warren County Christian School is located at 165 Mead Run Road in Youngsville.

Shauna Sanders, the school's fundraising coordinator, has organized the event on behalf of the school with all proceeds benefit WCCS. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and include a food voucher for a hot dog, chips and water.

Storms force cancellation of more U.S. flights

By RIO YAMAT and MARGERY A. BECK

Thousands of flights across the U.S. were canceled or delayed Monday as powerful storms swept across the eastern half of the country and a partial government shutdown affecting airport security screeners dragged into a second month.

The disruptions come at an already challenging time for air travel, in part because the shutdown that began Feb. 14 has strained staffing at some security checkpoints. At the same time, airports are crowded with spring break travelers and fans heading to March Madness games, the annual NCAA men's and women's college basketball tournaments.

Flight delays and cancellations piled up Monday at some of the nation's largest airports, including those in New York, Chicago and Atlanta.

The storm system that dropped snow by the foot in the Midwest was barreling toward the East Coast with dangerously high winds and the potential for "producing strong and long track tornadoes," the National Weather Service warned Monday.

More than 3,900 flights scheduled to fly into, out of or within the U.S. on Monday have been called off, according to flight-tracking site FlightAware. Roughly 8,200 other U.S. flights were delayed.

Kelly Price, who was trying to get home to Colorado after a family vacation in Orlando, Florida, said her Sunday night flight wasn't canceled until early Monday.

"By that time the only place for us to sleep was the airport floor. So we're all tired and frustrated," she said, adding that the soonest flight she and her family could book doesn't leave until Tuesday afternoon.

The nationwide cancellations included more than 500 in and out of Chicago O'Hare International, 350 at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International and over 260 at John F. Kennedy International Airport, according to FlightAware.

Earlier Monday, citing severe weather, the Federal Aviation Administration ordered ground stops at Hartsfield-Jackson and Charlotte Douglas International Airport, along with ground delays at JFK and Newark Liberty International Airport.

Danielle Cash found herself stranded in St. Louis on Sunday while trying to get home to Tampa, Florida, after a weekend girls' trip to Las Vegas. Now she's spending several hundred dollars more than planned on a hotel room in a snowy city she wasn't dressed for.

"It was 80 degrees in Tampa when I left and then going to Vegas," she said. "And it was 90 degrees in the desert."



Rep. Ryan Bizarro, D-Erie, is pictured during a recent committee meeting.

Bill ...

"Pennsylvanians should have the same protections. This legislation will prevent price increases within 24 hours of a prior increase, outlaw unconscionable increases during emergencies, and empower the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute gasoline price gouging."

Last week, state Sen. Lisa M. Boscola, D-Bethlehem, said she is drafting legislation that would temporarily suspend Pennsylvania's gasoline and diesel taxes for 60 days to provide relief for consumers and businesses facing rising fuel costs. Boscola said the two bills are intended to help

Pennsylvania drivers and businesses cope with fuel price increases tied to instability in global oil markets.

"Pennsylvanians drivers are already facing rising costs, we should use every tool available to provide some short-term relief."

Pennsylvania motorists currently pay one of the highest fuel taxes in the nation. The state gasoline tax is 57.6 cents per gallon, while the diesel tax is approximate-

ly 74 cents per gallon. Boscola noted that while fuel taxes are an important source of funding for transportation infrastructure, temporary suspension would be structured to ensure those commitments remain intact.

"Our legislation would temporarily suspend these taxes while authorizing bonding to replace any short-term loss to the Motor License Fund," Boscola said.

"This ensures we can provide relief at the pump without disrupting funding for State Police or critical road and bridge projects."

The proposed 60-day suspension would provide relief for

commuters while also helping businesses that rely heavily on diesel fuel, including trucking, agriculture, manufacturing, and construction industries. Boscola previously introduced similar legislation during the summer of 2022 after global energy markets were disrupted following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"When affordability becomes a challenge for Pennsylvania families and business owners, government has a responsibility to step in and look for ways to help," Boscola said. "Providing temporary relief at the fuel pump is a practical step we can take right now."

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.66 million per year.

The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center **Location:** Bayfront Convention Center
 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM
 If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: 866.675.4411 • PIN Number: 23464163

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/podocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free and 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@puc.pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

Please Fill out Information Below:

(Note: Any line marked with an asterisk (*) must be filled in completely & accurately)

*Name of Publication: *Warren Times Observer*

*City, State: *Warren, PA*

*Advertiser Name: *National Fuel*

Insertion Order #: *57475*

*Date of Insertion: *3/17/26*

Caption:

*Ad Size: *6 columns x 10.5 in.*

*Total # Inserted:

Please return completed & signed affidavit to any of the following:

E-mail: tearsheets@mansimedia.com

Fax: (717) 703-3022

Mail:

MANSI Media – Tearsheet Dept.
3899 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

Lori Emborsky
Signature

3/17/26
Date

Lori Emborsky
Name (Please Print)

Please note, this form does **NOT need to be notarized, unless you are told otherwise by a MANSI Media representative.*

PROOF OF INSERTION

Name of Publication: The Newville Tribune

City, State: Newville, PA

Client/Advertiser: National Fuel

Insertion Order #: 57471

Date[s] of Insertion: 03/18/2026, 03/25/2026

Caption: National Fuel - Rate Case March 2026

Ad Size: 10.25" x 10.75"

Total Number of Insertions: 2

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.



Signature

03/30/2026

Date

Claire Nicholson

Name [please print]

PROOF OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IN THE HERALD

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Mercer

Vanessa Koper, of The Herald, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says The Herald is a newspaper of general circulation published at 52 South Dock Street, Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania. The Herald was established May 13, 1935 and has been regularly published and issued in Mercer County since that time. The printed notice attached to affidavit is exactly the same as was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of The Herald on the dates listed below. I certify that I am duly authorized to verify this statement under oath and am not interested in the subject matter of the attached notice or advertisement. All allegations in this affidavit as to time, place and character of publication are true.

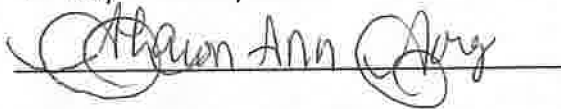


Vanessa Koper

Advertising Director

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this

30^h day of March, 2026



Sharon Ann Sorg

My commission expires February 9, 2030

Date	Ad Caption	Size
3/18/2026	National Fuel Notice of Rate Increase	6 col. x 10"
3/25/2026	National Fuel Notice of Rate Increase	6 col. x 10"



USPS⁷

Continued from Page 1A

slight improvement over the \$9.5 billion loss the year before.

For many Americans, the postal service is the most visible connection they have to the federal government, as its 640,000 workers fan out each day to deliver holiday cards, drop off packages and hand over prescription medications. And it remains one of the most beloved government agencies: A 2024 Pew Research Center survey found that 72% of Americans had a favorable opinion of the service, behind only the National Park Service and 10 points ahead of NASA.

The postal service is being squeezed by the growth of online sellers such as Amazon and the declining volume of first-class mail, which has dropped 80% since the late 1990s. Unlike UPS or FedEx, the postal service must charge the same amount to send a letter anywhere in the United States, regardless of distance. The service receives no taxpayer funding for ongoing operating expenses.

The postal service is overseen by a five-member Postal Regulatory Commission whose members are appointed by the president. Congress also has authority over the service, and lawmakers often intercede to halt post office closures in their districts and other proposed cost-cutting measures.

Leaders committed to changes

Postal service leaders say they're committed to continuing at least some of the changes launched in 2021 under the "Delivering For America" plan that has seen significant first-class mail price increases paired with consolidation, and in some cases slower mail deliveries.

Today, a first-class stamp costs 78 cents, up from 55 cents for most of 2021. Businesses that depend on mailing a large number of letters say it's unfair to charge 41% more, especially when first-class letters are now often being delivered more slowly than in previous years.

Speaking to the postal service's governing board last month, Postmaster General David Steiner acknowledged the challenges ahead. Steiner was a long-term board member at FedEx, and unionized postal service workers criticized his appointment as postmaster general over concerns he was too aligned with private parcel delivery services. The board appointed Steiner in May and he took the post in July.

"We don't get to choose whether the market changes," Steiner told the board. "We only choose whether we're flexible enough to meet it. And as I have said before, we cannot cost-cut our way to prosperity."

The postal service has a current goal of delivering first-class mail on time 88% of the time, significantly lower than its goal of 92.5% in 2023. Part of the challenge, the inspector general has previously reported, is that the postal service hasn't adequately adjusted its system to compensate for the drop in first-class mail volume while maintaining its legal obligations to



Last fall, the U.S. Postal Service reported an annual loss of \$9 billion, which was a slight improvement over the \$9.5 billion loss the year before. TREVOR HUGHES/USA TODAY

deliver to every address.

Before former Postmaster General Louis DeJoy stepped down in spring 2025, he signed an agreement with Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency team for a cost-cutting review.

Among the changes Steiner is exploring is whether the postal service can help Americans make returns on things like Amazon purchases, and also permit smaller businesses to contract for deliveries the way Amazon and other large retailers historically have.

Steiner earlier this month told reporters that the postal service may run out of money next year unless the agency gets approval to borrow billions more to cover expenses. Since 2007, the postal service has lost money almost every fiscal year, according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Losses from fiscal years 2007 through 2024 have totaled about \$109 billion, the watchdog agency said.

Trump attacks mail voting

The ongoing financial challenges faced by the postal service come as Trump has repeatedly cast doubt on mail voting, a common practice across most of the country. Trump argues that mail ballots cannot be trusted, although he has not provided any evidence that the

practice is widely insecure.

"And no more crooked mail-in ballots except for illness, disability, military or travel," Trump said during his State of the Union address in February. "None."

In January, the postal service alerted voters to a change in how it postmarks ballots, which affects whether they will be counted in elections. Under the new procedures, ballots might not be postmarked for several days after being mailed, meaning they might not be counted. The postal service recommends sending ballots back at least a week before the election deadline.

RIVER CRUISE VACATIONS
Experience the beauty and history of the St. Lawrence & Ottawa Rivers on a classic Canadian riverboat. Request our free travel brochure.
1-800-267-7868 www.StLawrenceCruiseLines.com
253 Queen St., Suite 200, Kingston, ON K7L 2Z2 • 562-6769

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC Judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Oil prices resume rise, but stocks hold steadier this time around

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil prices resumed their rise on Tuesday because of the war with Iran, but U.S. stocks held steadier this time around. The S&P 500 rose 0.2 percent to add to its gain from the day before, which was its biggest since the war began. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 46 points, or 0.1 percent, and the Nasdaq composite rose 0.5 percent. It's a break, for now at least, from the usual play-

book since the start of the war, where stock prices have tended to go in the opposite direction of oil prices. The fear in financial markets has been that a long-term disruption to the global flow of oil could send prices so high for so long that it damages the global economy. Not only would higher gasoline prices sap households' budgets, it could also push companies to pass on their own higher transportation costs to customers.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

TUESDAY'S STOCKS	OVER-THE-COUNTER
OF LOCAL INTEREST	OF LOCAL INTEREST
Apple Inc. 254.23	PPM Resources 203.62
Amer. Eagle Outfitters 37.53	Ridwell Education 38.44
AFLAC 109.54	Shenon Williams 201.06
AT&T 39.69	Stata Corp 201.15
Abercrombie & Fitch 88.38	AT&T 27.85
Best Buy 42.24	Trinity 30.59
BankNY Mellon 116.10	Verizon 91.50
Capo Systems 78.27	Exxon Mobil 106.52
Walgreens 100.37	Verizon 26.52
Fuel Energy 51.22	GMAC 5,023.40
FNB Third Bank 41.22	Sher 7.57
FNB Corp. 10.10	
Heard 21.68	
Men Mining 149.95	
National Fuel Gas 33.47	
North Southern 201.42	
Northwest Bancorp 125.13	
PeopCo 150.50	

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS PER PENELEC'S PROPERTY RIGHTS

Penelec has contracted for the application of herbicide solutions on electric line rights-of-way in parts of Crawford County. Both the herbicide solution and the application method are specified by Penelec. The herbicides are registered and approved for this use by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The application will be performed on electric line rights-of-way during the period commencing 14 days from the date of publication of this notice and extending to 45 days from the date of publication. Prior to the application, an attempt will be made to contact property owners registered on the property scheduled for treatment of woody vegetation. Additional information will be furnished during this contact. Requests for additional information should be directed to: Penelec 1-800-545-7741.



NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafraz Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC Judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email, please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone, please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at https://www.puc.pa.gov/pccocs/1917641.pdf. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@puc.pa.gov.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@puc.pa.gov. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/.

CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE YOUR AD,
CALL 814.724.6370
or PLACE ONLINE AT
MEADVILLETRIBUNE.COM
Click on "Place an Ad" under the Classifieds menu bar.

105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES	105 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p>Public Notice Request for Proposals (RFP)</p> <p>5th Ward Park Master Site Plan</p> <p>The City of Meadville requests proposals from qualified firms for a DCNR-compliant Master Plan for 5th Ward Park located at the intersection of Lyons Street and Lincoln Avenue in Meadville, Pennsylvania. Copies of the RFP are available by emailing Peyton Jackson, Owners Project Manager, at peyton@spark-communitycapital.com. Inquiries</p>	<p>can also be made by phone at 814-831-9675. Firms will be evaluated and selected based on the qualifications set forth in the RFP. The City of Meadville intends to negotiate a contract with the firm it determines is the most qualified to perform the required service. Bids must be submitted to the City of Meadville, at the office of the City Clerk, located at 894 Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335 by 2:00 PM on April 15, 2026. Proposals should be addressed as follows: 5th Ward Park</p>	<p>Master Plan Ms. Maryann Menanno, City Manager City of Meadville 894 Diamond Park Meadville, PA 16335</p> <p>03/18,21/2026</p> <p>Public Notice PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE</p> <p>The Borough of Edinboro Zoning Hearing Board will conduct a hearing on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Edinboro Municipal Building located at 124 Meadville Street, Edinboro, PA to consider the following appeal:</p>	<p>Appeal: Christine & James Houser, Owners of 301 Lakeside Dr (11-002-025,0-002.02), Zoned R-3 are requesting relief into 20 rear setback by 28 to add a 2nd FL addition by cantilever over existing attached garage for additional living space. All interested parties are encouraged to attend this public hearing and provide relevant testimony. If you have any questions regarding this notice, feel free to contact the Zoning Administrator, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at</p>	<p>(814) 734-1812 x 130.</p> <p>EDINBORO ZONING HEARING BOARD</p> <p>03/18,25/26</p> <p>Public Notice SHERIFFS SALE</p> <p>By virtue of Certain Writs of Execution issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Crawford County, Pennsylvania, and to me directed, I will expose the following described property at public sale at the Crawford County Judicial Center, in the City of Meadville, Pennsylvania, on Friday, April 10 2026 @ 10:00 AM</p>	<p>All parties in interest and claimants are further notified that a schedule of distribution will be on file in the Sheriff's Office no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the sale of any property sold hereunder and transfer of the proceeds made ten (10) days after said filing, unless exceptions are presented to the Sheriff's Office prior thereto:</p> <p>SALE NO. 1 SALE NO. 2 SALE NO. 4 SALE NO. 5 SALE NO. 6 TERMS: The price for which</p>	<p>the property is sold must be paid at the time of sale by Certified Check or cashiers check otherwise, the property must be put up and sold again at the expense and risk of the person to whom it was first sold, and in no case shall the transfer be made unless the money is actually paid to the Sheriff. Persons who are lien creditor must present a list to the Sheriff of the liens they have in order to apply the amount of bids or any part thereof on their liens.</p> <p>DAVID L. POWERS, SHERIFF CRAWFORD COUNTY, PENN.</p>	<p>SYLVANIA</p> <p>SALE NO 1</p> <p>By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. AD 2025-909 (EX 2026-14)</p> <p>CITIZENS BANK NA FKA RBS CITIZENS NA v. JOSEPH A. BOYER, CORNELIA R. BOYER (owner(s) of property situate in the LINESVILLE BOROUGH, CRAWFORD COUNTY, Pennsylvania, being 227 S. MERCER STREET, LINESVILLE, PA 16424 Tax ID No. 3012-008 (Acreage or street address)</p> <p>Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING</p> <p>Judgment Amount: \$189,384.11</p> <p>Seized and taken in execution as the property of Joseph A. Boyer and Cornelia R. Boyer at the suit of Citizens Bank NA FKA RBS Citizens NA to be sold on Writ of Execution No. 2026-14.</p> <p>David L. Powers, Sheriff Attorney for Plaintiff Brock & Scott, PLLC King of Prussia, PA</p> <p>SALE NO 2</p> <p>Property Address:</p>		

Mercer wins sweepstakes title, qualify five for national tournament

The Mercer High School Speech team took another big step toward competing on the national level Saturday, March 14, by recording an impressive performance at the annual Pittsburgh District National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Qualifying Tournament held at Ingomar Middle School in the North Allegheny School District.

The 19-member Mercer squad, competing on the heels of impressive performances the last two weeks at the Pennsylvania High School Speech League (PHSSL) District 1 state qualifying event on Feb. 28 and the Catholic Forensic League of Erie (CFL) National Qualifier on March 7, did not rest on their successes against a much more challenging field of large school districts at the Pittsburgh District National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) District Tournament.

In fact, Mercer surprised its much larger Pittsburgh adversaries enrollment-wise by winning the team speech sweepstakes championship with 31 points, edging out large Pittsburgh area powers North Allegheny High School (29 points) and Upper St. Clair High School (24 points), along with other Pittsburgh schools such as Mt. Lebanon, Pine-Richland North



Mercer Area High School speech team standout Kailyn Minner (center) poses for a photo with speech team coaches Wylie Earnhart (left to right), Chelsea Cameron, Matt Smetzler and Head Coach Hugh Ringer, at Minner's signing with Alabama University on a full speech scholarship.

Catholic, and Bethel Park.

Mercer's 11-member team recorded two first-place performances, three second-place finishes, a third place finish and a fifth place.

First and second place finishes automatically qualify students to compete at the National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament the week of June 14-20 in Richmond, Virginia.

Leading the victory

parade for Mercer was its outstanding triple-event standout, senior Kailyn Minner who utilized her superior talent to win first place in humorous interpretation. Minner, who has received a scholarship to attend the University of Alabama this fall to major in competitive forensics, received four first place rankings, a second, and a fourth from her five judges. She also placed second in programmed oral interpretation with top-three

rankings from her three judges.

Minner is currently ranked the state's top-ranked humorous performer by the NSDA. Two Mercer juniors, Aida Seyfert (third place) and Aiden Jewell (fourth place) received awards for placing in humorous as well.

Mercer's junior extemporaneous speaker, Emma-Kate Magee, is on the fast track of success in her specialty as the regular season winds down. Over

the last month, Magee has placed at her last three awards tournament competitions, and she saved her best performance for last Saturday at Ingomar Middle School where she brought home the first-place trophy in international extemporaneous with three first place rankings, two second places, and a fourth in four rounds of speaking in front of six judges. Mercer's duo interpretation team of juniors Cash Flores and Aiden

Jewell show continued improvement on a week-to-week basis, and last Saturday was no exception as they won first place trophies with a first place ranking and two seconds in their three rounds.

This week the Mercer Speech Team faces another significant challenge as 12 speakers hit the road Thursday morning for Bloomsburg University to compete in the annual Pennsylvania High School Speech League (PHSSL) State Tournament. Nine of Mercer's speaker won state qualifying spots a few weeks ago when they placed first or second at state qualifying competition held at Pittsburgh's Moon High School.

Mercer speakers will compete in the following events, prose, poetry, dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, duo interpretation, extemporaneous speaking, persuasive speaking, storytelling, and news broadcasting.

Last year six of Mercer's twelve state qualifiers placed as state finalists, and two — seniors Alex Cameron in poetry and Ben Hamilton in humorous interpretation — won state championships. Mercer has produced 25 state champions since 1972.

BIRTHS

Santino Leone Collins

A son, Santino Leone Collins, was born to Gianna and Brandon Collins of Mercer, on March 11, 2026, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell. He weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces and was 20½ inches long.

He has a brother, Franco, 3½,

and a sister, Valina, 1¼.

His grandparents are Anthony and Diana Francis of Girard, and Bill and Terri Collins of Hadley.

Fern Irene Jordan

A daughter, Fern Irene Jordan, was born to Sophia C. and Nicholas P. Jordan of Sharon, on March 9, 2026, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell. She weighed 9.4 pounds and 21.25 inches long.

She has a brother, Nashon Al-

exander Jordan, 15 months.

Her grandparents are Vince and Rene Fustos of Hermitage, and Patricia and Norris Jordan of Long Beach, Calif.

Ameirah Ray McFadden

A daughter, Ameirah Ray McFadden, was born to Kara Booth of New Castle and Gregory McFadden of New Castle, on March 7, 2026, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell. She weighed 7 pounds, 10

ounces and was 20 inches long.

Her grandparents are Anifa and Todd Booth of West Middlesex, and Julie Smolnik of Grove City and Cory McFadden of Clintontville.

Ethel Mae Means

A daughter, Ethel Mae Means, was born to Kaylee and Fredrick Means of Greenville, on March 13, 2026, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell.

BRIDGE WINNERS

Friday bridge at Hickory VFW

■ **March 13:** First place, Connie Bestwick and Carolyn Stevenson; second place, Gus Bengé and Regis Ryan; Third-place tie, Gwen Albers and Ruth Fletcher and Diana Bock and Darla Hoagland

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed

- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Lifestyles

Dear Abby: Grandson restricts access to his righteous flock

DEAR ABBY: I'm a Christian. I've raised my family to be Christians, and they have raised theirs to be Christians, even though we may not all be members of the same denomination.

One of my grandsons believes that his denomination is the only one and the rest of us are all sinners. He and his wife have decided that no one outside of his church can see his child. It's his decision, his choice, but I'm heartbroken and, of course, angry. I'm afraid my great-grandchild will grow up never knowing his great-grandparents

or his grandparents. I believe that I will never know him.

I told my grandson I understand that this is his family and, therefore, his choice. He knows I'm heartbroken. Since they won't be coming to family gatherings, how should I handle gifts in the future? Should I acknowledge the baby and send a gift in the mail? I pray that someday soon my grandson realizes that we love him and his family. — PRINCIPLED IN FLORIDA

DEAR PRINCIPLED: I always thought Christianity was a wel-

coming religion. This is the first time I have heard of a denomination that decides other Christians are not Christian enough. The church your grandson has joined sounds more like a cult than a religion. Before making any decisions about how, what or whether to gift anything to the new baby, ask your grandson whether accepting a gift from an "outsider" is even allowed.

DEAR ABBY: A dear friend of 40 years, "Dorothy," came to visit me for my birthday. She has visited numerous times over the years, and

this was her third trip to my current home. As we were walking into the garage to take my car for a drive, she slipped off a small step and fell, injuring her shoulder and foot. Six months later, she still wasn't healing and said she would file a claim against my insurance to cover some of her expenses (her medical was covered, but she needed more in-home care and had to board her dog for many months).

My insurance company has been diligent about investigating the incident and decided I had no liability as a homeowner.

They determined that Dorothy's physical condition (diabetes, neuropathy in her feet, obesity) was more likely the cause of her fall and slow recovery. They recommended I have no contact with Dorothy, so we haven't spoken in eight months. When she learns of the insurance company's decision, I suspect she may sue me next.

I truly don't feel I am at fault. The area was clearly lit, there was no clutter or other impediments, and she had been up and down that step many times. I'm sorry to lose a treasured, decades-

long friendship, but here we are. Am I wrong? — INNOCENT IN THE WEST

DEAR INNOCENT: You are wrong to end a 40-year friendship because some employee at an insurance company told you not to speak to Dorothy eight months ago. What you should have done then was tell your friend to contact her insurance company so the two companies can thresh out in court who is responsible for what and to what degree. It may not be too late to revive the friendship if you give her a call now.

Hints from Heloise: Consuming psyllium-husk fiber

Dear Heloise: Some readers prefer fiber pills, but I like to take a different route. I am 75 and have been taking psyllium-husk fiber for about 15 years to start my day. Each morning, I put 2 scoops of psyllium into a blender with 2 cups of low-sugar diet fruit juice, plus fresh fruit like berries or a banana. Sometimes I even add a little tofu for protein.

I blend everything well and drink it right away. Psyllium thickens quickly, so don't let it sit in the glass. Also, take care when swallowing because thick fiber can stick in your throat if you sip it too slowly. This smoothie works well for me. By morning, everything is back to normal, and my system runs smoothly. I wish your readers good health! — Alfred Beck, in

Redondo Beach, California

AIR-DRYING SPONGES
Dear Heloise: Kitchen sponges often stay damp, which can cause unpleasant odors. I found a simple solution by using something most of us already recycle — the plastic container that strawberries or other berries come in. Cut off the lid and trim the sides of the bottom piece until the edges measure to be about an inch high. Then flip the container upside down on your counter or near the sink. The small holes allow air to circulate, while the raised surface keeps the sponge off the counter.

Set your sponge on top and let it dry between uses. This little platform helps the sponge to dry faster and keeps water from pooling underneath it. Best of all, it gives new life to pack-

aging that could otherwise go straight into the trash. Hope this helps others keep their kitchens fresh! — Stephanie Campbell, in Pomona, California

ONLINE WISH LISTS

Dear Heloise: Many readers want to support their local animal shelters but don't know which items the shelters need most. One easy way to help is to check whether your shelter maintains an online wish list.

I saw suggestions for donations to animal shelters in your column in the Baton Rouge Advocate. Our shelter in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, maintains an Amazon wish list that includes food, cleaning supplies, toys, blankets, and other items we use every day. Supporters simply purchase an item, and it ships directly to the shelter.

This makes donating quick and ensures that the shelter receives exactly what it needs. Some shelters also list urgent needs on their websites or social media pages. While older programs such as AmazonSmile no longer operate, many retailers and organizations still offer similar charity partnerships or donation options. A quick search online can reveal several easy ways to help homeless animals in your community. Thank you for supporting local shelters! — Linda Lynch, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

LAWN HEIGHT

Dear Heloise: Lawn care advice often suggests keeping the grass tall for a healthier lawn, but this rule doesn't apply to every type of grass. Different grass varieties grow best at

different heights. Setting your mower too high or too low for the specific grass can weaken the lawn and lead to poor growth. Homeowners should learn which type of grass grows in their yard before adjusting the mower blade. A great source of reliable information is your local cooperative extension office. These offices operate in every state and offer free publications and advice that is customized to local soil, climate and grass varieties. Their guidance may help you maintain a greener, healthier lawn. — Ann Hinds, via email

(Send a money-saving or time-saving hint to Heloise@Heloise.com. I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.)



FINK
LAW OFFICE
Dawn A. Fink Esquire

Real Estate • Estate & Wills • Family Law
Criminal Law • Oil & Gas Lease Negotiation

814-642-5133

219 North Main Street, Port Allegany PA

IT'S YOUR DECISION
CHOOSE

Bradford Manor

Rehabilitation & Long Term Care
Bradfordmanor.com



BRADFORD MANOR
RESIDENTIAL CARE

50 Langmaid Lane | Bradford, PA | 814-362-6090

*Our Residents do not live in our workplace
We work in their Home*



State Farm

Devon Kloss
Agent

53 Main St.
Bradford, PA 16701-6520

Bus: 814-817-2086
devon@devonklossinsurance.com
www.statefarm.com/agent/cpa/bradford/devon4kbs



NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Bayfront Convention Center **Location:** Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pddocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Man accused of placing hidden camera in tanning room at Punxsutawney gym

By **Brianne Fleming**

bfl Fleming@thecourierexpress.com

PUNXSUTAWNEY — A Punxsutawney man is facing charges for allegedly placing a hidden camera in the tanning room at Anytime Fitness. Punxsutawney Borough Police have charged Kyle Lee Beatty, 30, with one count of criminal attempt — interception, disclosure or use of wire, electronic or oral communications, a felony of the third degree, and one count of invasion of privacy, a misdemeanor of the second degree, according to a criminal complaint filed at Magisterial District Judge Jacqueline Mizero's office March 19.

According to the affidavit of probable cause,

Police took a memory card out of the pen. One of the video files reportedly shows Beatty placing the pen behind a trash can and using a crumpled up piece of paper to conceal it. The video was recording until a cleaner at the gym picked the pen up. There were other recordings of conversations between a man and woman, but there were no other video recordings that showed anyone, according to the affidavit of probable cause.

During an interview with police, Beatty stated that about a week prior, he was on a walk on the trails and was approached by a man jogging who went by the name Chuck. He gave Beatty \$700 in cash to place the audio pen in the

tanning room at Anytime Fitness, and he was told to hide it. He stated that he did it for the money, and was unable to give a physical description of the man. When asked if he purchased the pen, as police felt the story did not line up, Beatty said again that "Chuck" gave it to him.

Beatty ultimately admitted to police that he allegedly purchased the pen and he knew it was a video camera. He was adamant that he did speak to someone on the trail who offered him \$500 to place the pen at the gym, but Beatty "got the offer up to \$700." Beatty was placed under arrest.

Beatty's bail was set at \$20,000. His preliminary hearing is set for April 21 at Mizero's office.

Beatty was placed under arrest. Beatty's bail was set at \$20,000. His preliminary hearing is set for April 21 at Mizero's office.

DuBois man accused of stealing catalytic converters, fuel from Reynoldsville business

By **Brianne Fleming**

bfl Fleming@thecourierexpress.com

REYNOLDSVILLE — A DuBois man is accused of stealing several catalytic converters and diesel fuel from a Reynoldsville business.

State police in DuBois have charged Eric James Shaffer, 40, with one count of theft of a catalytic converter — \$1,000+, one count of theft by unlawful taking — movable property, one count of receiving stolen property, and one count of theft of secondary metal, each felonies of the third degree, according to a criminal complaint filed at Magisterial District Judge David Inzana's office March 23.

On Nov. 18, 2025, state police in DuBois received a report from part-owner of Wells Auto Wreckers on Route 322 in Reynoldsville regarding the

alleged theft of catalytic converters and off-road diesel fuel by an employee.

The individual informed police that Shaffer had worked at the business for about two or three years, and said employees there had been suspecting him of taking scrap metal from the business, but never found proof. On Nov. 14, 2025, an individual reportedly saw Shaffer taking two catalytic converters outside of the business and placing them in his pickup truck, according to the affidavit of probable cause. The part-owner told police that this witness related that within three days, Shaffer allegedly removed five catalytic converters, which is close to \$1,000. She said Shaffer owns a scrap yard in Penfield, so this was not out of the ordinary for Shaffer to have these

things. This individual said that Shaffer told her he has \$7,000 worth of "cats" and knows of a place he may try and sell the items to. She related Shaffer processes and strips out the vehicles that come to Wells Auto Wreckers. She said he allegedly cuts the catalytic converters off and puts them somewhere else on the property for the day, then when everyone leaves, he puts them in the back of his truck. She related they were planning on placing cameras that Shaffer didn't know about at the business. She said that the last few weeks, Shaffer allegedly "amped up" stealing the converters to a couple of days a week, and had not been keeping up with his inventory sheets.

Police interviewed this witness on Nov. 20, 2025, who said that she did reportedly see Shaffer take

two converters and place them into his truck and leave the business.

On Feb. 13, 2026, a DuBois state trooper responded to Wells Auto Wreckers for a report of Shaffer allegedly stealing a catalytic converter and placing it in his pickup truck. He was arrested and placed in the Jefferson County Jail.

The part-owner of the business told police she was going to round up all of the alleged thefts that Shaffer has been doing over the course of his employment. She told police she wanted to pursue the thefts of catalytic converters and diesel fuel as well.

Police received information on Feb. 18, 2026, about thefts that were on surveillance camera at the business.

On Jan. 20, 2026 at 4:30 p.m., Shaffer

See Accused, A4

ACROSS

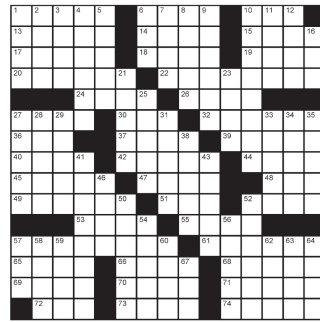
- 1 Flat candies
- 6 Flagstaff
- 10 Feminine pronoun
- 13 Ancient Greek marketplace
- 14 Dull pain
- 15 Ventilates
- 17 Modified leaf
- 18 Hammer end
- 19 Arm zone
- 20 Firmmaker — Spielberg
- 22 Edited
- 24 Jacob's twin
- 26 Actress — Campbell
- 27 Corridor
- 30 "— now or never"
- 32 Make explanation
- 36 Sash
- 37 Very, very bad
- 39 Less common
- 40 "— of Anarchy"
- 42 Antelope
- 44 Wheel hub
- 45 Striped animal
- 47 Kett of old comics
- 48 Odorous, e.g.
- 49 Maxim
- 51 Get more solid
- 52 Auto pioneer
- 53 Roman poet
- 55 Ill-mannered
- 57 Aristocrat
- 61 Acts just like
- 65 Small case
- 66 Born and —
- 68 USA part
- 69 Cash drawer
- 70 Wicked look
- 71 Gladden
- 72 Foxy
- 73 Whippool
- 74 Extend a subscription

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

A	C	E	D	C	E	L	T	D	A	B			
L	O	V	E	H	E	A	R	T	E	U	R	O	
E	L	I	A	A	R	R	A	V	E	I	N		
C	A	L	L	E	R	I	D	P	H	I	L	L	
E	D	G	E	S	H	O	T						
C	O	A	R	S	E	S	T	O	W	A	W	A	
H	I	T	E	S	T	O	I	C	H	I	E		
A	L	A	C	H	U	R	N	O	R	A			
R	E	L	S	H	I	N	G	H	L	E	S		
T	R	E	E	T	O	P	S	M	O	D	E	S	T
M	A	R	S	T	O	U	R						
D	E	S	E	R	T	M	A	D	R	I	S	A	L
L	O	C	O	N	L	O	U	P	E	V	I	S	A
S	H	O	D	E	N	T	E	R	E	G	A	D	
H	O	T	T	E	R	N	R	I	P	E			

3-24-26 © 2026 LFS, Dist. by Andrew McMeel for LFS

- ### DOWN
- 1 Part of MIT (Abstr.)
 - 2 "— — a kick out of you"
 - 3 Yep's opposite (2 wds.)
 - 4 Go from place to place
 - 5 Retail events
 - 6 Atlas page
 - 7 Computer maker
 - 8 Lustier
 - 9 Painful to the touch
 - 10 Kitchen item
 - 11 Sword handle
 - 12 River in Ireland
 - 16 Melancholy
 - 21 Artless
 - 23 Say with confidence
 - 25 Serviceable
 - 27 Emcees
 - 28 Seething
 - 29 Jargon
 - 31 Bed frame parts
 - 33 Greek Muse
 - 34 "It's — too late" (Abstr.)
 - 35 Tire surface
 - 38 Stage direction
 - 41 Utah's flower (2 wds.)
 - 43 Single bit of numerical info
 - 46 Rant and
 - 50 "Jack be — ..." (Abstr.)
 - 52 Mother or grandmother
 - 54 Was bold
 - 56 Restaurant patron
 - 57 Total earnings
 - 58 — Spunkmeyer cookies
 - 59 Bovine
 - 60 Require
 - 62 Filmmaker — Blanchett
 - 63 Actress —
 - 64 Murdered
 - 70 Wipe



Do you have a story idea?

Call us at: (814) 503-8875

or email us at: newsroom@thecourierexpress.com

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC Judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

• **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

• **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdcdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@pa.gov.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@pa.gov. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interests of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

100 years

Continued from Page 1A

Mercy Catholic identity," said Jeanette Britt, Mercyhurst chief operating officer and senior vice president for administration.

"As long as we stay grounded in our mission while being bold and innovative, Mercyhurst will remain relevant, resilient and purpose-driven for the next century."

'Auspicious beginnings'

Erie's Sisters of Mercy shared plans to build the "Mercy Hurst," or Mercy hill, school on property along East 38th Street, then called Cooper Road, in May 1924.

Mother M. Borgia Egan of the Sisters of Mercy led fundraising, oversaw construction of the school and ensured that sisters furthered their education to teach there. She would serve as the college's first president.

The school's cornerstone was laid in August 1925.

The new college, said the Rev. Dr. W.J. Kerby, of Catholic University in Washington, D.C., would be "rich in meaning for the church as a whole, for this diocese in particular, for this community and for the Sisters of Mercy out of whose zeal and vision this enterprise takes its auspicious beginnings." Kerby was featured speaker for the cornerstone ceremony.

"A large number of girls who otherwise might not find a college education possible will find it within their reach when this college begins its work," Kerby said.

By then known as Mercyhurst College, the school opened on Sept. 20, 1926. Its three buildings included a classroom and administration building today known as Old Main. Designed by Philadelphia architect Ferdinand Durang and built by Erie's H.J. Conrath Company, the campus also included "powerhouse" and laundry buildings.

By mid-November, 125 students were enrolled "from all sections of the United States" and "representing various creeds and nationalities," the Times-News reported.

The campus fronted "Cooper Road Boulevard," created by the city between State and Parade streets in 1924. The



A bus provided by the Sisters of Mercy took Mercyhurst College students to and from campus in 1926. PROVIDED BY MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Sisters of Mercy had donated a 20-foot strip of college land for its construction.

'Bringing out the best'

Major milestones in Mercyhurst history include opening enrollment to male students, earning university status and, most recently, joining the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Northeast Conference Division I.

The college officially became coeducational in fall 1969 to be a "more realistic reflection of the larger society," college leaders said. There had been some men on campus, mostly part-time students from Gannon College, since 1962.

Fifty men enrolled full-time in September 1969.

Mercyhurst College was granted university status by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in January 2012.

"I think it recognizes the diversity of the institution," then-Mercyhurst President Tom Gamble said. "Colleges usually just do baccalaureate degrees, but universities are more diverse. We have associate degree students, baccalaureate students, graduate degree students and online and off-site students." Mercyhurst University joined the top

ranks of intercollegiate athletics with its invitation to join NCAA Division I in fall 2024.

"Mercyhurst's commitment to bringing out the best in their student-athletes, both on the field and in the classroom, alongside their focus on community engagement, deeply resonates with our mission and values," NCAA Northeast Conference Commissioner Noreen Morris said.

The centennial celebration

Special events celebrating Mercyhurst's first century will get underway in earnest after graduation this spring and will include dance, music and theater performances; an art show featuring Mercyhurst community artists; lectures; centennial games celebrating the history of each athletic team; and a variety of events during Homecoming weekend Sept. 18-20.

The Most Rev. Dermot Farrell, archbishop of Dublin, Ireland, and in the elaborate centennial Mass of the Holy Spirit in September in a nod to the Irish roots of the Sisters of Mercy.

There are also plans to remember the school's first century beyond 2026.

"We don't want to have a year of events and then forget about the centennial," said Britt, chairperson of the Mercyhurst centennial committee. "We want to do things that will leave a lasting presence."

Special initiatives will include a centennial mural on the west wall of Zurn Hall; walking and virtual tours featuring 12 wayside markers detailing Mercyhurst history; "Mercyhurst Unarchived," a 10-part docuseries, monthly through October, on university history; National Register of Historic Places designation, expected to be approved by the National Park Service this spring; and "100 Acts of Mercy," an invitation to past and current students and employees to spread the school's mission of mercy and kindness.

Moving forward

Mercyhurst University will begin its second century under new leadership.

Kathleen Getz, the university's 13th president, will retire on June 30. David Livingston will serve as interim president for two years, beginning in July.

Livingston is a former Mercyhurst faculty member and administrator and current president of Lewis University in Illinois.

"Dr. Livingston has a deep-rooted connection to Mercyhurst and will lead us through our centennial year and through the transition to a permanent president," Britt said. "His work here will allow us to take our time to get the best next president of Mercyhurst."

Also looking ahead, the university is reviewing its academic programs to ensure that they meet evolving student and workforce needs.

In 2025: Mercyhurst University president to retire, interim president named

The university community is excited for the school's future, Britt said.

Fall 2025: How are western PA colleges holding up to enrollment challenges?

It's not an easy time for higher education. But holding to our mission and why we're here while being agile for what's ahead will serve us in serving students well into our next 100 years.

About 2,600 students are enrolled at the school this academic year.

Contact Valerie Myers at vmyers@gannett.com.

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: 866.675.4411 • PIN Number: 23464163

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC Judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberty@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pddocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Local & World News

GLP-1 ...

"Social media and advertising sometimes create the impression that these medications are a quick fix, but obesity is a complex, chronic, progressive disease" that requires ongoing medical management, she added.

What does research show about GLP-1s and lifestyle changes?

The clinical trials of anti-obesity medications like Wegovy and Zepbound included structured lifestyle programs along with the medication, which are advised along with every new prescription.

That results not only in significant weight loss, but improved health markers.

A February study of more than 98,000 U.S. military veterans found that those who used a GLP-1 and adhered to six to eight healthy habits had a 43% lower risk of serious cardiovascular events such as stroke and heart attack than those who didn't use the drugs and followed three or fewer such habits.

Lifestyle habits "can substantially amplify the benefits of modern medications" noted Dr. Frank Hu, a lead author and chair of the nutrition department at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Which changes are most important?

To maximize the benefits of GLP-1s and reduce potential side effects like nausea, vomiting, constipation and muscle loss, Dushay and other experts

offer specific advice.

Maintain muscle by eating 20 grams to 30 grams of protein per meal, which could include fish, poultry, yogurt and beans. Eat more fiber and drink more water — as much as 8 to 12 cups a day. If heartburn or nausea is a problem, avoid fried foods and spicy foods, and don't lie down after meals.

Aim for 150 minutes of aerobic exercise a week, or, ideally, about an hour a day. Add in 30 minutes of strength training two or three times a week, such as lifting weights or using resistance bands.

Get enough sleep — seven to nine hours a day for a healthy adult. Take steps to reduce mental and emotional stress.

Finally, check in with a health care provider about your progress. The GLP-1 drugs can have rare but serious side effects, the experts noted.

"Someone really does need to keep track of: What is the pace of your weight loss? What are your side effects? And not just mailing you a prescription every month," Dushay said.

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Jailed ...

Johnson was taken to the Youngsville Police Department, where she allegedly admitted that there were an additional 1.5 ounces of cocaine inside the lock box as well as allegedly admitting to selling cocaine. Johnson also told police about a .380 caliber pistol under the driver's seat of the vehicle. The officer

also noted in the charging documents finding "a large sum of currency."

"This officer will be applying for a search warrant to obtain this pistol, conduct a thorough search of the vehicle and another search warrant to open the lock box container with the other cocaine," the officer states.

A look at who holds the reins of power in Iran since the country's top leaders were killed

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — One after another, Israel has taken out Iran's top leaders.

First it was Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, killed in the opening shots of the war. Now Ali Larijani, the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council who was considered one of the most powerful figures in the country, has also been killed. As have a raft of other top-ranking military and political leaders.

With so many top leadership figures taken out, who is now running Iran? Here is a look at the country's power structure, what is known — and what is not.

Khamenei's successor
Ultimate authority in Iran rests with the country's supreme leader, who has sat at the top since the creation of the Islamic Republic in 1979 after the revolution that overthrew the shah.

After Khamenei was killed, his son, 56-year-old Mojtaba Khamenei, was named to replace him as Iran's new supreme leader. A secretive figure, the younger Khamenei has not been seen in public since the airstrike killed his 86-year-old father.

The cleric had long been considered a contender for the post, despite never having been elected or appointed to a government position. The younger Khamenei maintains close ties to the country's powerful paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

His views are believed to be even more hard-line than those of his father. Officially, he is now in charge of Iran's armed forces, and any decision regarding the country's nuclear program rests with him.

But is he truly running Iran?

Israel says Iran's leadership is in disarray
"I'm not sure who's running Iran right now," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said during a news confer-



AP Photo

In this photo released by an official website of the office of the Iranian supreme leader, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, center, accompanied by the armed forces commanders, visits an exhibition of the Revolutionary Guard's aerospace achievements, in Iran, Nov. 19, 2023.

full impact of the war on the country could take time to emerge, Ozcelik explained.

"We need to be prepared for change that may take years, not weeks or months."

The Revolutionary Guard
For many analysts, true power now rests with Iran's feared paramilitary Islamic Revolutionary Guard.

"The Revolutionary Guard is the state now," said Ali Vaez, Iran project director at the International Crisis Group. Before the war, the country's civilian leadership was "subservient entirely" to the supreme leader, he explained, while the Guard was the second-most powerful force in the country.

But now, with the elder Khamenei gone and his son not enjoying the same authority as his father, "it is really the Revolutionary Guards who are running the country."

The Guard rose out of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution as a force meant to protect the country's Shiite cleric-overseen government. It later became enshrined in its constitution and operated parallel to Iran's regular armed forces.

The Guard's expeditionary Quds Force was key in creating what Iran describes as its "Axis of Resistance" against

Israel and the United States. It backed Syria's former President Bashar Assad, the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, Yemen's Houthis rebels and other armed groups in the region.

An independent military
Early on in the war, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi suggested the country's military units were acting independently from central government control.

"Our ... military units are now in fact independent and somewhat isolated and they are acting based on instructions — you know, general instructions — given to them in advance," Araghchi had said on Al Jazeera on March 1.

Pressed about Tehran's attacks on other Gulf nations — such as Oman, which has acted as an intermediary for Iran in recent nuclear talks with the U.S. — he said: "What happened in Oman was not our choice. We have already told our ... army, armed forces to be careful about the targets that they choose."

"Multiple layers of leadership"

The possibility of an Israeli or a U.S. attack on Iran had long been in the cards. It was something the Islamic Republic had factored into its planning, setting up multiple contingency plans, Vaez said.

"I think the mistake in the U.S. and in Israel is that they ended up believing their own rhetoric that Iran is akin to a terrorist organization, that decapitating the regime or removing one or two layers of political elite would result in paralysis and collapse," Vaez said.

"Whereas this is a state, ... it has multiple layers of leadership."

Even if all top generals are eliminated, he said, others lower down the ranks can pick up where their superiors left off. "The expectation that this regime will ... implode by removing a few dozen senior leaders, I think is nothing but an illusion."

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year.

The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged, Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free and at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION

Please Fill out Information Below:

(Note: Any line marked with an asterisk (*) must be filled in completely & accurately)

*Name of Publication: *Warren Times Observer*

*City, State: *Warren, PA*

*Advertiser Name: *National Fuel*

Insertion Order #: *57475*

*Date of Insertion: *3/24/26*

Caption:

*Ad Size: *6 columns x 10.5 in.*

*Total # Inserted:

Please return completed & signed affidavit to any of the following:

E-mail: tearsheets@mansimedia.com

Fax: (717) 703-3022

Mail:

MANSI Media – Tearsheet Dept.
3899 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

Lori Emborsky
Signature

3/24/26
Date

Lori Emborsky
Name (Please Print)

Please note, this form does **NOT need to be notarized, unless you are told otherwise by a MANSI Media representative.*

Cambridge Springs applies for stormwater management permits to move park plan forward

By Mary Ann Mook
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS — The borough is preparing for the next phase of improvements at the Cambridge Springs Recreation Park off Snow Alley at the Carnival Grounds. Phase 1, which included removing the old equipment and installing a new play structure with a safe, engineered wood fiber base, was 95 percent completed this past fall. The play area includes hellbender play climbers (sal-amanders) — which was named the Pennsylvania state amphibian — for children to climb on.

Work included removal of trees, which will be replaced, handicapped-accessible parking for those with disabilities and a sidewalk around the perimeter of the playground. The park is awaiting landscaping outside the playground as soon as the weather breaks.

Cambridge Springs Borough Council member and Mayor Delores Hale is overseeing the project, which is being paid for through grants, donations and in-kind services. Cam-

bridge Springs Recreation Park funds are funds that have been set aside for the recreation park project. Borough money is not being used to fund the project, which carries a total cost of about \$2 million.

The five-year project includes five phases, and it's time for Phase 2, which includes the installation of two pickleball courts, a full basketball court and stormwater management. Plans call for Phase 2 to be completed this year.

"We can't move forward on the pickleball and basketball courts until we have stormwater management done, so we're working on that," Hale said during council's recent meeting. Stormwater management requires the borough to apply for permits through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Clean Water.

One permit is the state notification of planned land development for Chapter 102 permits; another application is for county notification of planned land development for Chapter 102 permits.

Both applications give the following description for proposed land development and stormwater controls: Cambridge Springs Borough is proposing to construct improvements at the local carnival grounds, which include a new concession stand, sidewalks, courts and stormwater features.

"We have to apply for one to the county and one to the state with stormwater plans for what we want to put in at the Carnival Grounds," Borough Manager Sandy Pude said. Stormwater management is necessary because there is a grassy area at the Carnival Grounds where the rain water seeps into the ground. The plan includes putting in a cement pad so there is less grassy area for the water to seep into.

Hale does not want a retention pond to be installed. Instead, there will be a StormTech chamber, a tank that will be buried in the ground to catch the excess water and slowly and naturally filter it through the ground.

"The stormwater management

plan will keep the water from running directly into French Creek without being filtered," Hale said.

According to the permit application, the project area is 5.96 acres and the surface water receiving stormwater discharge is French Creek and the Wastewater Facility. With the permit applications, the borough is required to provide a Notice of Intent for General Permit fee in the form of a \$500 check made payable to the Crawford County Clean Water Fund and to provide the DEP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge acreage fee in the amount of \$500 payable to the Pennsylvania Clean Water Fund.

Pude was required to sign the paperwork for both and return it to Deiss & Halmi Engineering Inc., the engineers for the Cambridge Springs Recreation Park project, or Carnival Grounds Improvement Project.

An engineer with Deiss & Halmi would add reports, maps and drawings, make copies and submit the application packet to the Craw-

ford County Conservation District. Deiss & Halmi would also provide the Stormwater Management plan to Jeff Korles for his review as borough engineer.

Phase 3 of the project calls for new Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible restrooms and a new concession stand, set for 2027, provided a matching grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) is awarded. Phase 4 will see a walking trail around the perimeter of the park, and phase 5 will be lights for the ball fields so Cambridge can hold larger softball tournaments, attracting teams from the tri-state area to the community and boost the local economy, Hale said. Phases 4 and 5 have a planned completion date of 2028-29.

The DCNR, which has supplied funding through grants, required a temporary funding acknowledgment sign be placed at the site. That sign has been installed. The borough will also place a permanent funding acknowledgment sign when the project reaches its completion.

Franklin senior Curry sings national anthem at state basketball finals

By Richard Sayer
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Franklin senior Halle Curry stood on the floor of the GIANT Center belting out this country's national anthem, an

honor not many get. Curry, whose voice is very familiar inside The Castle, Franklin's home court, was asked to kick off two state championship basketball games on Saturday. She

learned a few weeks ago from athletic director Becky Barnes that she would be singing prior to the Oakland Catholic vs. Neumann Goretti Class 4A girls game and the Trinity vs. West Catholic Prep Class 3A boys game.

"When we got to Hershey Friday night and even to the arena the next day, I wasn't nervous at all," Curry said. "But then about six-ish minutes before I had to go out and sing, I started feeling that little sick in my stomach. Just the usual 'don't mess it up, don't forget the lyrics, don't be dumb' feeling for me."

But the trained singer, who has sung the anthem dozens hundreds of times, stood out there and, according to her mom, Tammy Curry, "she crushed it."

Halle, who focused on the basics as she sang, might not



Contributed photo
Halle Curry sings the national anthem at the GIANT Center in Hershey on Saturday.

go as far as her proud mom in assessing her performance, but she thinks things went well.

"When I got out to sing, all I could focus on was my

tempo," Halle said, because it can be difficult concentrating in an echoey stadium. "Aside from my tempo, I also focused on my pitch and my different points of emphasis for the anthem. There's always room for improvement when it comes to anything, but I don't think I did too shabby singing."

She also noted that in the second game she did a little better and the student section from Trinity joined in with her singing, which gave her a boost. But what she did didn't hit her right away. The teenager said she was more concerned about getting off the court not looking awkward; later, when she got home, it finally hit.

"I honestly remember crying a little after I finally got unpacked and in my own bed. I think I finally went, 'Hey,

not a lot of people get to do this in life, and a lot of people loved it,'" she said.

"The fact that some weird girl from a teeny-tiny town like me just sang the national anthem for state championship games settled in, and I just felt so weird. I don't really know what kind of weird, but it wasn't a terrible weird."

She had the support of her mom, her mom's boyfriend, and a host of District 10 officials there to work games and see her sing. A few years back, Halle watched her brother Damon play on that court in the 3A boys championship and the good little sister thinks his experience was better, but she has an experience of a lifetime under her belt and represented Franklin very well with her voice and grace.

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

• **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.gov and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

• **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present, TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pccdocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@pocaa.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@pocaa.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Exhibits draw connections between local, international World War II stories

By **DAVE SUTOR**
CNHI News Service

JOHNSTOWN — From the summer of 1942 until August 1944, Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish teenager, kept a personal journal of her experiences while she and her family hid from Nazi occupiers in Amsterdam.

"The Diary of a Young Girl" has since become one of the best-known books in the world.

Meanwhile, in Johnstown, Harry Epstein, a Polish Jewish immigrant, wrote letters and telegrams to government officials and anybody else he thought could help him learn the fate of his family back in his homeland, which was overrun by invading German and Soviet Union forces in 1939.

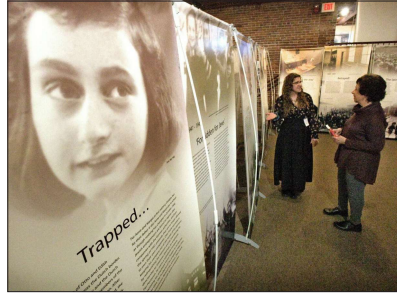
His correspondence is mostly remembered by only a few people in Johnstown.

Now their words and stories have been brought together.

"Let Me Be Myself: The Life Story of Anne Frank," a display about the Epstein family, and the "World War II: Johnstown and Service" exhibit are all being shown at Heritage Johnstown's Frank & Sylvia Pasquerella Heritage Discovery Center in the Cambria City Historic District of Johnstown.

Heritage Johnstown curator Amy Regan said the written words and photos in the exhibits make the stories "very personal," connecting Frank and Epstein, along with events taking place during World War II and the Holocaust.

"I think today, probably more so than ever, it is vitally important that people know this story," Regan said. "For educational



CNHI News Service

Heritage Discovery Center curator Amy Regan (left) and Rebecca Catelinet, executive director of Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance, talk amid the new "Let Me Be Myself: The Life Story of Anne Frank" exhibit at the educational center and museum on Broad Street in the Cambria City section of Johnstown earlier this month.

purposes here, we are incredibly glad to have this here.

"Obviously, we are very Johnstown-focused, and so being able to bring in an international story — but a story that can be related to by Johnstowners and our local area — I think just offers such a broad range for education, especially for children to kind of get a sense of what has gone on in the past, and what people can endure and have endured."

"It shows humanity"

The Frank exhibit was developed by the Anne Frank Center at the University of South Carolina. It is being supported locally by the Blanche Beerman Holocaust Museum Fund, through the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, as part of

the "Hope Springs Eternal: The Holocaust Project" that launched in 2024.

The exhibit chronicles the life of Frank, who was born in 1929. She and her family hid in a secret annex above her father Otto Frank's business premises for two years. The location was raided by the Nazis and the family captured on Aug. 4, 1944.

Anne Frank died at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945, buried in an unmarked mass grave.

Her diary was saved by Miep Gies, one of the helpers who hid the family, and returned to Otto Frank after the war.

"I hope that (visitors) will take away the fact that this is a timeless story and it shows

humanity and goodness, compassion, well-being of others, looking after each other, giving people a chance to reflect about what happened in the time that this took place and how Anne Frank's family lived through it or didn't live through it," said Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance Executive Director Rebecca Catelinet, a niece of Blanche Beerman.

"Let Me Be Myself: The Life Story of Anne Frank" is scheduled to be at the Discovery Center through June.

"Know their fates"

Epstein was born in December 1891 in the small town of Czyzew and emigrated to the United States in 1907, according to information compiled by Richland High School student Sabir Barrett-Ross and posted at heritagejohnstown.org/johnstowns-epstein-family-and-world-war-ii.

He eventually became a prominent businessman in the Johnstown region, founding Royal Plate Glass Co.

In late 1938 and early 1939, he traveled to Europe, visiting family in Czyzew. His mother died soon thereafter, on April 13, 1939, leaving behind a reported seven children — Harry Epstein's brothers and sisters in Poland. He attempted to facilitate their emigration to the United States, but to no avail.

Nazi Germany invaded Poland in September 1939 and captured Czyzew before handing the town over to the Soviet Union as part of the non-aggression Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. That alliance ended when Germany invaded the Soviet Union in 1941 and retook Czyzew along the way.

Epstein received two brief Western Union telegrams, postmarked in December 1939, informing him that his family was alive. Then nothing.

Epstein never heard from them again or ever learned their fates for certain, as Poland fell behind the Iron Curtain after the war. He received a message that appears to be from somebody in Czyzew in which a person was asked to "inform the addressee that nobody is alive from his family," but there is no name or date on the letter.

There is a note from 1947 in which Epstein referenced brothers and sisters who were "murdered" by Nazis.

"It's one of those stories that stick with you," Regan said.

Regan is attempting to learn what happened to Epstein's family members.

"I would really like to know their fates, even just so I can go visit Harry's grave and he like, 'OK, found this out for you,'" Regan said.

Epstein died in 1955.

Local reactions, losses

"World War II: Johnstown and Service" tells the story of Johnstown before, during and after World War II, from the battlefield to the home front.

There are photos, written messages and artifacts, such as uniforms, on display. Attention is also brought to women working during the war, Purple Heart recipients and Black servicemen.

"We're using what we have in our archive to kind of tell Johnstown's involvement and reactions and understanding of what was happening, and also some of the losses," Regan said.

First Energy joins food bank's carrot club providing 30,000 meals to those in need

SHARON — First Energy has joined Mercer County Food Bank's Carrot Club, providing 30,000 meals to neighbors facing hunger in our community.

Carrot Club is an annu-

al major gift program that helps the food bank get to the root causes of hunger.

Local companies, organizations and individuals can join at four donor levels — Seedling, Sprout, Root, and Harvest — to

advance the mission of Mercer County Food Bank.

"We are grateful to First Energy for joining Carrot Club as our first Root level member," said Rebecca Page, executive director

of the food bank. "Their generosity will help ensure we are able to keep up with the ever-growing need for food assistance in Mercer County."

In 2025, Mercer County Food Bank distributed 3

million pounds of food to neighbors in need and is serving on average more than 14,000 different people each month, getting closer to bridging the meal gap that exists within the county.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on Carrot Club or how to get involved with the food bank, contact Alexis Spence-Locke, development director at 724-981-0353 ext. 108 or alocke@mercercountyfoodbank.org

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2026, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafraes Pier, Erie, PA 16507

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafraes Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 1:00 PM

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • **Time:** 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed

- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

- **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.
- **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge's office at 412.565.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pdocus/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.

Paint Mills Road Bridge slated for June replacement

SHIPPENVILLE — The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) District 10 is announcing a bridge replacement project with a road closure on Paint Mills Road in Clarion County.

Currently, the contractor is clearing and trimming trees to prepare the work site for the anticipated closure. Traffic will be impacted by daylight flagging operations as needed. Drivers may experience some delays during daylight hours.

Paint Mills Road is anticipated to be closed June 1 through Aug. 21, for the replacement of the Paint Mills Bridge. The closure will be between the intersections of Route 66 and Route 208 with Paint Mills Road near Shippenville.

During the closure, drivers will detour on the northbound side of the structure by travelling Route 66 south to the intersection of Route 322. Turn right onto Route 322 west and continue to the intersection of Route 208 in Shippenville. Turn right onto Route 208 north to the intersection of Paint Mills Road and then turn right onto Paint Mills Road east to the bridge. From the southbound side, drivers will reverse the directions.

Francis J. Palo Inc. of Clarion is completing this \$1.7 million bridge replacement project.



By JOSH WALZAK/L-V Editor

EDDIE CONNER WORKS to pack an order from the StylePlus warehouse in Rimersburg. He is among five workers at the facility, which opened around three years ago in the former Davis Cookie Co. building along Baker Street.

Council Continued from A1

rooted in due diligence, transparency, and responsible governance.”

The press release noted that the council “fully supports the Southern Clarion County Regional Police Department and recognizes the essential role law enforcement plays in keeping our community safe. Council extends sincere appreciation to Chief Robert Malnosky for his leadership and continued service.”

The council also thanked the police department for “its detailed written response, including the letter and Q&A appendix provided at the March meeting. Both organizations remain committed to professional dialogue, transparency, accountability and effective communication moving forward.”

According to the press

release, the council also gave its thanks to the residents who attended the March meeting to show their support for the police department.

“This level of engagement, guided by discernment, strengthens local decision-making and community trust,” the press release said. “Residents are encouraged to seek information directly from borough officials or Police Department Board members before engaging in speculation. Contact information is available on respective websites, and constructive dialogue is always welcomed.”

“New Bethlehem Borough Council remains committed to working collaboratively to ensure the continued safety, transparency and well-being of our community,” the press release concludes.

Band Continued from A1

Rimersburg, where the former iBake and Davis Cookie Company building near Union High School was recently vacated.

“I came out and met the Realtor,” Mangee said. “I made an offer on the spot.”

StylePlus purchased the Rimersburg facility in the end of 2023, and has worked the past two-plus years to renovate the site and consolidate things from both the New Jersey and Missouri locations.

“It’s been a lot of change,” he said. “We now run both companies here.”

But it wasn’t easy in the early days, as the iBake folks had left everything in the building, including “flour everywhere.”

“We were in here scraping all the flour off the floors,” he said, explaining that he brought

in scrapers to dismantle the large pieces of equipment inside the site, opening it all up for the warehouse.

Heating units were replaced, the outside of the building was fixed up, and work continues on the office area at the front of the complex.

“We just want to keep making it look nicer,” Mangee said.

When he purchased the building, he estimated it would take about five years to get everything done that he wanted.

“I think five years is going to be about right,” he said.

Work on the large warehouse area is mostly complete, he said, and the company is using every space it can, lining the large and small rooms alike with shelving stacked high with merchandise.

“We try to use every little corner,” he said, noting that the stacks of items will only grow in the coming weeks.

“We really try to gear up before summer and get everything on the shelf,” he said. “We’re getting ready for that rush. Most everything is ordered during the summer months.”

A team of five employees — not counting Mangee and his wife, Christi, who spend time at the Rimersburg site every couple of weeks — keep the shelves stocked, and take care of packaging the many orders that come in from across the country, and even from around the world.

“We send a lot of stuff to Japan,” he said, adding that orders can be as small as one item, to as large as outfitting an entire marching band.

Although StylePlus has consolidated a lot at the Rimersburg location, Mangee explained that the company still has a facility in New Jersey where it manufactures some of the band items, including rain coats and some uniforms.

Overall, Mangee said he’s been very happy with the move to Rimersburg, and has worked with the neighboring high school so that it can use the company’s large yard for parking during football games and other events. He said he would like to eventually work more with the local schools.

“It’s worked out very well here,” he said, expressing relief that the major work on the building is complete. “It’s nice we can finally take a breath. We’ve done so much in the last few years.”

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Rate Increase Request

Docket No. R-2025-3059428

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct four Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation on January 28, 2025, seeking to increase natural gas distribution rates by \$19.68 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officer: Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is not required.

Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bayfront Convention Center **Location:** Bayfront Convention Center
1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA 16507

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Pre-registration is encouraged. Read below.

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 1:00 PM **Date:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 • Time: 6:00 PM

If you choose to register, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12 PM.

Toll-free Conference Number: **866.675.4411** • PIN Number: **23464163**

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is encouraged by March 30, 2026 at 12PM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. Individuals will testify in the order in which they pre-register, although priority may be given to customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and legislators.

• **To pre-register by email,** please email the PUC Judge’s Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov, and provide: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, and (4) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

• **To pre-register by phone,** please call the PUC Judge’s office at 412.665.3550 and leave a message providing: (1) your first and last name, (2) the time of the hearing at which you wish to testify, (3) the phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing, (4) a phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing if we need to contact you, (5) your email address, if you have one, and (6) if you require an interpreter to participate in the hearing, the language of the interpreter.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge’s Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired is: 711.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge’s Legal Assistant, Cadi Eberly, at caeberly@puc.pa.gov and to all active parties to this proceeding, and include in your email a list of who was served the exhibits. The list of active parties is available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pddocs/1917641.pdf>. Exhibits for the public input hearing should be received by Noon the business day immediately before the hearing and pre-marked for identification purposes. If you need assistance with any exhibits you might present, please contact the Office of Consumer Advocate toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company’s requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings. The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interest of small commercial customers before the PUC. If you are a small commercial customer with questions about the public input hearings or the Company’s requested rate increase, please contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at ra-sba@pa.gov.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC’s website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>.