



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

April 17, 2026

A-2026-3061228

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD

Application of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. for approval to alter the public crossing (DOT 145 316 M) by the installation of an underground 8-inch plastic gas main within a 12-inch steel casing pipe where Maple Street crosses, at grade, one (1) track of Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company located in the City of Uniontown, Fayette County.

To Whom It May Concern:

By application filed with the Commission on March 20, 2026, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (Columbia) seeks Commission approval to alter the public crossing (DOT 145 316 M) by the installation of an underground 8-inch gas main within a 12-inch steel casing pipe where Maple Street crosses, at grade, one (1) track of Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company located in the City of Uniontown, Fayette County.

Columbia will install an underground 8-inch plastic (Medium Density Polyethylene) gas main within a 12-inch steel casing pipe by method of directional bore. The installation will provide a minimum vertical cover of 5.5 feet from the bottom of the rail to the top of the new pipeline casing.

The Commission hereby establishes its jurisdictional limits at the subject crossing as the area within the confines of the railroad right-of-way and the highway right-of-way.

In its application, Columbia states that the proposed installation is necessary for the expansion of its medium pressure system and subsequent abandonment of the existing medium pressure and low pressure systems throughout the City of Uniontown. Additionally, Columbia noted that it identified a leak in the existing medium pressure line near the tracks. A Commission staff engineer notified Columbia by electronic mail that the processing of this application does not preclude Columbia from addressing an immediate safety hazard at the crossing and advised that in the event this needs to be addressed sooner than approval can be provided, Columbia can work directly with the Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company and request affirmation from the Commission at a later date (nunc pro tunc filing).

Columbia will be directed to perform the necessary installation, provide for maintenance and protection of highway and pedestrian traffic during installation and accept future maintenance responsibility for the facilities, at its sole cost and expense. The cost of the project is anticipated to be approximately \$400,000.00.

Columbia has served a copy of the application and plans on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad, Fayette County, City of Uniontown, AT&T, Verizon Pennsylvania LLC, DQE Communications LLC, West Penn Power, Omni Fiber LLC, Vitalink LLC, Breezeline and Pennsylvania American Water. All parties in interest were queried by letter dated March 24, 2026 sent by electronic mail as to any objection to the subject application and plans on an expedited basis.

By electronic mail dated March 27, 2026, Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company provided a list of comments for the applicant to address regarding its plan. On April 3, 2026, Columbia filed a revised plan, addressing the comments of Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Additionally, Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company requested that since the proposed boring pits are within the railroad's Live Load Zone B, Columbia must use vertical shoring during the installation process. None of the other parties have responded with any objection to the subject application or revised plans.

All work is to be performed in accordance with the revised plans entitled: "EXHIBIT A," consisting of three (3) sheets submitted to the Commission on April 3, 2026.

The Commission has exclusive jurisdiction in crossing alterations and is the final arbiter of any fees associated with a crossing application. Any conditions, including fees associated with a crossing application, must be approved by the Commission.

Not all parties to this proceeding have had adequate time to review the application and revised plan. However, we determine that the request by Columbia for expedited approval is needed and will be granted provided that the remainder of the parties to this proceeding do not state any objections to this Secretarial Letter within the period of time prescribed herein.

Upon full consideration of the matters involved, we find that a hearing is not necessary and that a Secretarial Letter may be issued approving the application.

The Commission issues this Secretarial Letter in accordance with Section 2702 of the Public Utility Code and finds that the alteration of the crossing is necessary and proper for the service, accommodation, convenience or safety of the public.

The application of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. is approved as herein directed:

1. The caption of the subject proceeding is hereby revised as shown herein.
2. The public crossing (DOT 145 316 M) where Maple Street crosses, at grade, one (1) track of Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the City of Uniontown, Fayette County be altered generally in accordance with the revised installation plans entitled: "EXHIBIT A" consisting of three (3) sheets provided to the Commission on April 3, 2026; which plans are made part hereof and are hereby approved except insofar as they may relate to the division of work, deletion of work, or the allocation of costs and expenses incident to the installation of the project.

3. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to alter the crossing by the installation of an underground 8-inch plastic gas main within a 12-inch steel casing pipe within the right-of-way of the highway where Maple Street crosses, at grade, one (1) track of Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company, all in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

4. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, furnish and maintain vertical shoring for the proposed boring pits within the railroad's Live Load Zone B influence as required during the time the crossing is being altered.

5. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to establish and maintain any detours or traffic controls that may be required to properly and safely accommodate highway and pedestrian traffic during the time the crossing is being altered.

6. Any relocation of, changes in and/or removal of any adjacent structures, equipment or other facilities of any non-carrier public utility, other than Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., which may be required as incidental to the alteration of the crossing, be made by said public utility at its initial cost, and in such a manner as will not interfere with the alteration of the crossing; and such relocated or altered facilities thereafter be maintained by said public utility, at its sole cost and expense.

7. Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at the sole cost and expense of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., furnish all material and perform all work relating to its facilities which may be required as incidental to the performance of the proposed work and furnish any watchmen, flagmen, inspectors and/or engineering services that may be deemed necessary to protect the railroad's operations or facilities during the time the facilities are being installed.

8. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to complete the remainder of the project, and any other ancillary features of the project, generally in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

9. The alteration of the crossing be completed on or before April 30, 2027, and that on or before said date Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., report in writing the date of actual completion of the work to this Commission and certify to the parties of record and this Commission that the work has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

10. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, pay all compensation for damages, if any, due to owners of property taken, injured or destroyed by reason of the alteration of the crossing in accordance with this Secretarial Letter.

11. All parties involved herein cooperate fully with each other so that during the time the work is being performed, vehicular, pedestrian and railroad traffic will not be endangered or unnecessarily inconvenienced, and so that the requirements of each of the parties will be provided for and accommodated insofar as possible.

12. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. cooperate with the non-carrier utilities involved, so that during the alteration of the involved crossing, the facilities of the non-carrier utilities will not be endangered or unnecessarily interrupted.

13. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at least five (5) days prior to the start of work, notify all parties in interest of the actual date on which work will begin.

14. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary thereafter to maintain its underground 8-inch plastic gas main within a 12-inch steel casing pipe and any ancillary facilities installed in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

15. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to maintain its railroad facilities at the subject crossing, including the warning devices and all appurtenant equipment; and maintain at all times in a smooth and satisfactory condition the crossing surface located between the rails and for a distance of twenty-four (24) inches beyond the outermost rails, all in accordance with Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter, and provide the City of Uniontown at least ten (10) business days' advance notice when performing any work that may affect their facilities, as directed by this paragraph.

16. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, City of Uniontown, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and do all work necessary thereafter to maintain the highway approach roadway of the subject crossing to points twenty-four (24) inches beyond each outside rail and in addition, maintain the grade crossing advance warning signs, stop lines and pavement markings, if required, all in accordance with Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter, and provide Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad Company at least ten (10) business days' advance notice when performing any work that may affect their facilities, as directed by this paragraph.

17. Upon completion of the work herein directed, and upon written request from any party of record, this proceeding be scheduled for a hearing at a time and place to be determined by the Commission, for the purpose of taking testimony upon the final allocation of any remaining costs incurred by the non-carrier utility companies and other matters relevant to this proceeding.

The Parties are reminded that failure to comply with this or any Order or Secretarial Letter in this proceeding may result in an enforcement action seeking civil penalties and/or other sanctions pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 3301.

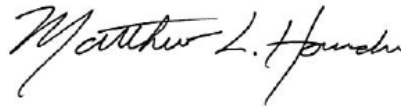
All formal documents must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission. Documents must be eFiled, mailed or hand delivered. All filings should be addressed to the Secretary, PA Public Utility Commission, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120. The Commission will not accept documents delivered by fax or by e-mail. Parties are encouraged to file formal documents by eFiling with the Secretary of the Commission by opening an eFiling account through the Commission's website (the account is free of charge) and accepting eService at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/filing-resources/efiling/>.

If your filing contains confidential material, you are required to file by overnight delivery to ensure the timely filing of your submission. There are certain filings that cannot be eFiled, such as filings containing confidential or proprietary material. These must be submitted to the Secretary by overnight delivery, priority or certified mail to allow tracking of your filing.

If you are dissatisfied with the resolution of this matter, you may, as set forth in 52 Pa. Code §§ 1.31 and 5.44, file a Petition for Reconsideration from Staff Action (Petition) with the Commission within twenty (20) days of the date of this letter. The Petition shall be eFiled with the Secretary of the Commission or sent to: Secretary, PA Public Utility Commission, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120, and must be filed within twenty (20) days, or if no timely request is made, the action will be deemed to be a final action of the Commission.

The Petition MUST include: (1) a written statement (divided into numbered paragraphs) outlining the reasons for the request; (2) the case docket number (it is provided for you at the top right-hand corner of this letter); (3) the party on whose behalf the petition is made; (4) a Certificate of Service on the other parties of record; and (5) a Verification with original signature in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 1.36.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew L. Homsher".

Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary