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Emily Farah
Assistant General Counsel
Legal Department

June 8, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building – 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120


**Re: James Samuel Defoggi v. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.
Docket No. C-2026-3061290**

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed is Respondent Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.'s Response to Complainant James Samuel Defoggi's Motion to Stay, Formal Notice of Opposition to Respondent's Attempted Termination Tracking, and Notice Of Regulatory and Administrative Violation. As shown on the attached Certificate of Service, a copy has been provided to the Complainant in the manner indicated.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Respectfully,



Emily Farah

Enclosure

cc: Certificate of Service (w/enc.)

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

James Samuel Defoggi,	:	
Complainant	:	
	:	
v.	:	Docket No. C-2026-3061290
	:	
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.,	:	
Respondent	:	

**RESPONDENT COLUMBIA GAS OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.’s
RESPONSE TO COMPLAINANT JAMES SAMUEL DEFOGGI’s MOTION TO STAY,
FORMAL NOTICE OF OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENT’S ATTEMPTED
TERMINATION TRACKING, AND NOTICE OF REGULATORY AND
ADMINISTRATIVE VIOLATION**

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.61(a)(1), Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (“Columbia” or the “Company”) hereby submits the within response to James Samuel Defoggi’s (“Complainant”) Motion to Stay, Formal Notice of Opposition to Respondent's Attempted Termination Tracking, and Notice of Regulatory and Administrative Violation.

I. BACKGROUND

On March 24, 2026, the Company was served with the Formal Complaint at the above caption. On April 13, 2026, the Company timely filed an Answer and Preliminary Objections to the Formal Complaint. On April 14, 2026, Complainant filed a response to the Company’s Preliminary Objections. On April 22, 2026, Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) Mark A. Hoyer was assigned to the above-captioned proceeding for disposition of the Preliminary Objections. On or about May 19, 2026, the Complainant filed a document titled “Motion to Stay Proceedings Pending Correction of Case” (referred to hereinafter as the “Motion”). On or about May 20, 2026, the Complainant made two filings, titled as follows: “Formal Notice of Opposition to Respondent's Attempted Termination Tracking” (referred to hereinafter as “Opposition”) and “Notice of Regulatory and Administrative Violation” (referred to hereinafter as “Notice”). Without waiving

the arguments presented in the Company's Preliminary Objections, Columbia provides the within response to the Complainant's Motion, Opposition, and Notice.

II. RESPONSE TO COMPLAINANT'S MOTION

The Complainant's Motion did not contain a "Notice to Plead" as required by 52 Pa. Code § 5.103(b). Nevertheless, the Motion purports to request that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") modify the caption in this proceeding to replace the Complainant's name with "James Samuel Defoggi, Trustee for the Defoggi Family Irrevocable Living Trust" (referred to hereinafter as the "Trust"). Motion at 4.

The Formal Complaint form, signed and submitted by the Complainant, listed "JAMES SAMUEL DEFOGGI" under the "Customer (Complainant) Information" portion of the Formal Complaint form. Formal Complaint ¶ 1. Therefore, the Complainant, not the Trust, rendered the above-captioned Formal Complaint against the Company and it is appropriate for the caption to reflect as such.

Additionally, the name associated with the utility account number provided on the Formal Complaint is "James S Defoggi Jr." Answer, Exh. A. The definition of "customer" pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 1403, in relevant part, defines a customer as a "*natural* person in whose name a residential service account is listed and who is primarily responsible for payment of bills rendered for the service or any adult occupant whose name appears on the mortgage, deed or lease of the property for which the residential utility service is requested." (emphasis added). The Complainant, not the Trust, meets the definition of customer.

Given the foregoing, it is appropriate for the caption in this proceeding to remain to be in the Complainant's name as opposed to the Trust.

III. RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINANT'S OPPOSITION

The Complainant's Opposition is largely incomprehensible and the Company is unable to provide an adequate response. However, the Company reiterates its Preliminary Objections as if fully restated herein.

To the extent the Opposition references an "undisputed" balance, the Company maintains that the requires the Complainant to pay the utility charges that accrue on the account while the Formal Complaint is pending, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 56.181. The pendency of the Formal Complaint cannot and must not be used as an attempt to place all present and future utility account balances in a dispute hold. As such, the Company respectfully requests that the presiding officer issue an order in this proceeding requiring the Complainant to pay any and all utility charges that have accrued and will accrue during the pendency of the Formal Complaint, or be subject to termination action by the Company.

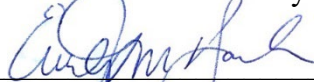
IV. RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINANT'S NOTICE

The Complainant's Notice is largely incomprehensible and the Company is unable to provide an adequate response. However, to the extent that the Notice references a pending termination, such is moot because the Complainant is not currently under threat of service termination and his utility service is currently on and active.

However, the Company maintains that it is entitled to issue termination notices for unpaid portions of the Complainant's bills that have accrued while the present Formal Complaint is pending pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 56.181. The Company reiterates its request for the presiding officer in this proceeding to issue an order in this proceeding requiring the Complainant to pay any and all utility charges that have accrued and will accrue during the pendency of the Formal Complaint, or be subject to termination action by the Company.

WHEREFORE, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission dismiss the Formal Complaint of James Samuel Defoggi with prejudice for the reasons set forth in the Preliminary Objections, deny the Complainant's request to modify the caption in this proceeding, and/or issue an order directing the Complainant to pay the utility charges that have accrued and will accrue during the pendency of the Formal Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.



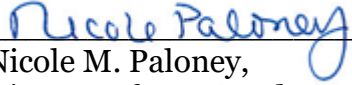
Emily Farah (Atty ID 322559)
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121 Champion Way, Ste. 100
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Tel.: (724) 416-6321
Email: efarah@nisource.com

Date: June 8, 2026

VERIFICATION

I, Nicole M. Paloney, being Director of Rates and Regulatory Affairs of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements made herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: June 8, 2026



Nicole M. Paloney,
Director of Rates and Regulatory Affairs
of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.


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

James Samuel Defoggi
103 Shanor Drive
New Brighton, PA 15066
Jcdefoggi1@comcast.net

Date: June 8, 2026



Emily Farah