

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY	:	
COMMISSION,	:	
	:	
V.	:	Docket No. R-2016-2580030
	:	
UGI PENN NATURAL GAS, INC.	:	

COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY'S
STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF JOINT PETITION
FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT OF ALL ISSUES

NOW COMES the Intervenor, the Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) and files this Statement in Support of the Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of All Issues in the above-captioned matter and agrees to its terms based upon the following:

1. CEO is a not-for-profit Pennsylvania corporation and an advocate for its clients - the low-income population of Luzerne County.
2. CEO intervened in the above-captioned matter to address the adequacy of the Company's programs for its low-income customers and the effect of any proposed rate increase or change in rate structure on those programs and customers.
3. Although CEO joins in the settlement of all issues, this Statement in Support will address only those issues that CEO addressed in its intervention and testimony.
4. CEO supports the Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of All Issues and believes that it is in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations and serves the public interest based upon the following:

A. The Settlement increases funding for the Company's LIURP program commensurate with the percentage rate increase for the residential class. This increase will help low-income customers deal with the effect of the rate increase resulting from this Settlement;

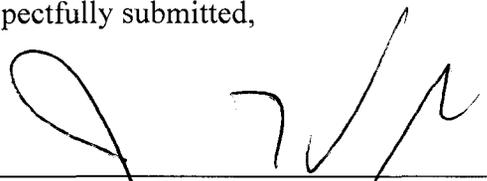
B. In the Settlement the Company reiterates its intent to continue to use community-based organizations to assist in the implementation of its universal service programs;

C. The Company proposed in its initial filing to increase its fixed monthly residential customer charge from \$13.17 to \$18.50. Such an increase in the fixed charge would have lessened the motive and ability of the residential class to conserve energy and reduce their monthly bill. The Settlement lessens such a negative impact in that it provides that the fixed monthly residential customer charge will set at \$13.25;

D. In its filing the Company proposed an Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Plan but the Plan as filed did not have a low-income component. In settlement the Company has agreed to increase LIURP funding beyond the above-described increase and this additional increase addresses in part the fact that the EE&C Plan does not have a low-income component and provides additional help to low-income customers.

E. This settlement is consistent with the Commission's obligation under the Natural Gas Choice and Competition Act to insure that universal service programs are appropriately funded and available, that energy conservation measures are promoted and available to consumers, particularly low income consumers, and that community-based organizations are used to assist in the implementation of a gas company's universal service programs.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JV', is written over a horizontal line.

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PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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 UGI Penn Natural Gas, Inc. :

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certified that he served a copy of the foregoing Commission on Economic Opportunity's Statement in Support of Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of all Issues upon the following participants via first class mail and electronic mail on this 30th day of June, 2017:

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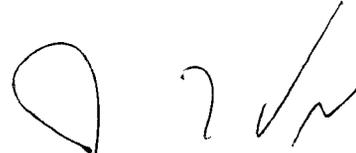
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