



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

August 8, 2017

E-FILED

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
PO Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: Review of Universal Service and Energy Conservation Programs
Docket No. M-2017-2596907**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

The Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”) has determined not to file Initial Comments, to the March 10, 2017 Opinion and Order on the Review of Universal Service and Energy Conservation Programs, at the above-docketed proceeding. Currently, universal service programs exist for, and are funded by residential customers.¹ The OSBA will monitor the comments and reserves the right to file reply comments.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Sharon E. Webb
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney ID No. 73995

Enclosures:

Cc: Mr. Robert D. Knecht
Bohdan R. Pankiw, PUC Law Bureau
Alexis Bechtel, PUC Bureau of Consumer Services

¹ The OSBA has a unique economic interest in Philadelphia Gas Works (“PGW”) universal service programs because non-residential firm service customers are required (at this time) to pay the Universal Service and Energy Conservation Surcharge (“USEC”). The funding mechanism for PGW’s universal service programs was in place prior to PGW becoming subject to the Commission’s jurisdiction on July 1, 2000. The issue of whether non-residential firm service customers allocation should continue for PGW’s universal service programs is currently being litigated at Docket R-2017-2586783.