



Deposition of:
Hearing

June 24, 2020

In the Matter of:
Gas Hearing

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PHILADELPHIA GAS COMMISSION
- - -
FY 2021 BUDGETS/OVERSIGHT PROCEEDING
- - -
June 24, 2020
11:08 a.m.

- - -
VIA ZOOM MEETING
- - -

BEFORE: GEMELA N. McCLENDON, ESQ.
Hearing Examiner
ERIN BAGLEY LAI, ESQ.
Hearing Examiner

HEIDI L. WUSHINSKE, ESQ.
Hearing Examiner

- - -

VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS
MID-ATLANTIC DIVISION
1801 Market Street - Suite 1800
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

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1 APPEARANCES:
2
3 LINDA A. MEDLEY, ESQ.
4 Divisional Deputy City Solicitor
5 Counsel to Philadelphia Gas Commission
6
7 ANDRE C. DASENT, ESQ.
8 Counsel to Philadelphia Gas Works
9 COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.
10 BY: ROBERT W. BALLENGER, ESQ.
11 KINTÉSHIA SCOTT, ESQ.
12 Counsel to Public Advocate
13
14 PRESENT ON BEHALF OF PGC:
15
16 ANNA M. CORRADO ROWE
17 Senior Analyst
18 DAVID JONAS
19 Internal Auditor/Financial Analyst
20
21 PRESENT ON BEHALF OF PGW:
22
23 JOSEPH F. GOLDEN, JR.
24 Executive Vice President and Chief
25 Financial Officer
26
27 GREGORY B. STUNDER, ESQ.
28 Vice President, Regulatory and Legislative
29 Affairs
30
31 WILLIAM J. GALLAGHER
32 Vice President, Budget and Strategic
33 Development
34
35 CRAIG W. BERRY, ESQ.
36 Senior Attorney
37 STEPHEN SCHUMMER
38 Manager, Budget Reporting
39

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1 PRESENT ON BEHALF OF PGW: (Continued)
2
3 MANH TAN
4 Budget Analyst, Finance
5 IMAN HILL
6 Budget Analyst, Finance
7
8 MARY LYNN O'BOYLE
9 Administrative Assistant
10
11 PRESENT ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE:
12
13 MICHAEL A. BLEIWEIS
14
15 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:
16
17 PETER WINSLOW
18 MITCHELL CHANIN
19 MEENAL RAVAL
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1 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Good morning,
2 everybody. Thank you for joining us for
3 this public hearing on the FY 2021 Operating
4 Budget and Forecast.
5 I'm Gemela McClendon, the Executive
6 Director of the Philadelphia Gas Commission.
7 On this call virtually on behalf of the Gas
8 Commission is Hearing Examiner Erin Lai,
9 Hearing Examiner Heidi Wushinske, Senior
10 Analyst Anna Rowe, and Internal Auditor
11 David Jonas.
12 Will the parties please formally
13 introduce themselves on the record, starting
14 with PGW?
15 MR. DASENT: Good morning,
16 Ms. McClendon. Andre Dasent for PGW.
17 MR. GALLAGHER: William Gallagher,
18 PGW.
19 MR. SCHUMMER: Stephen Schummer, PGW.
20 MR. GOLDEN: Joseph Golden, PGW.
21 MR. STUNDER: Gregory Stunder, PGW.
22 MS. O'BOYLE: Mary Lynn O'Boyle, PGW.
23 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
24 And now for the Public Advocate?

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1 MR. BALLENGER: Good morning,
2 Ms. McClendon and Hearing Examiners. This
3 is Robert Ballenger from Community Legal
4 Services for the Public Advocate.
5 MR. BLEIWEIS: Michael Bleiweis,
6 consultant to the Public Advocate.
7 MS. SCOTT: Kintéshia Scott, attorney
8 with Community Legal Services for the Public
9 Advocate.
10 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Please
11 make sure that you speak up. I heard you
12 guys okay, but because Sue is taking the
13 transcript down, make sure that you're
14 speaking up so that your voice definitely
15 carries over.
16 Before we get started, Sue, do you
17 want to swear in all who will be testifying
18 on behalf of the parties?
19 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, I will.
20 Prior to the swearing in I will read an
21 introduction with regard to remote swearing
22 and ask only counsel to the parties to agree
23 to the stipulation, I guess I would call it.
24 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Thank

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1 you.

2 THE COURT REPORTER: The attorneys

3 participating in this deposition acknowledge

4 that I am not physically present in the

5 deposition room and that I will be reporting

6 this deposition remotely.

7 They further acknowledge that, in

8 lieu of an oath administered in person, I

9 will administer the oath remotely.

10 The parties and their counsel consent

11 to this arrangement and waive any objections

12 to this manner of reporting. Please

13 indicate your agreement by stating your name

14 and your agreement on the record.

15 MR. DASENT: Andre Dasent for PGW.

16 We agree to the stipulation.

17 MR. BALLENGER: Thank you, Sue. Rob

18 Ballenger on behalf of the Public Advocate.

19 We also agree to the stipulation.

20 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

21 - - -

22 (Mr. Golden, Mr. Gallagher,

23 Mr. Schummer, Mr. Stunder, Mr. Bleiweis,

24 Ms. Raval, Mr. Winslow, and Mr. Chanin were

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1 remotely sworn by agreement of the parties

2 and counsel.)

3 - - -

4 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you,

5 all.

6 The first part of our agenda is PGW's

7 Regulatory & Legislative Affairs. The

8 witness on behalf of PGW is Mr. Greg

9 Stunder.

10 Andre and Greg, you may proceed.

11 MR. DASENT: Thank you.

12 Greg, we need to respond on the

13 record to Mr. Bleiweis' testimony concerning

14 the sufficiency of support for your

15 consultant services budget.

16 He has made two statements or has two

17 parts to his position. One concerns the

18 consulting services budget. The second

19 concerns any direct benefits that are gained

20 by ratepayers from expenditures on lobbying

21 services.

22 I want to address the consulting

23 services budget first. Can you explain or

24 offer additional support for your consulting

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1 services budget? It's roughly \$297,000.

2 MR. STUNDER: Good morning. Thank

3 you for this opportunity to testify.

4 With respect to the consulting

5 services, a study is planned to assess total

6 system costs related to the electrification

7 of natural gas and usage in Philadelphia.

8 As the Gas Commission is aware,

9 certain groups have advocated that PGW and

10 the City transition away from natural gas.

11 This study is needed to quantify the costs

12 associated with the advocated changes.

13 The framework for the electrification

14 study is not yet finalized. Discussions

15 with industry experts will help us finalize

16 the issues to be addressed.

17 For example, further discussions with

18 some natural gas distribution companies may

19 help us focus on the most important issues

20 impacting our customers, like the capital

21 costs to consumers; for example, switching

22 to electric appliances and upgrading

23 electrical systems; the increased

24 electricity costs to consumers; the capital

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1 costs of additional electric generation; the

2 capital costs of additional electric

3 transmission; the capital costs of

4 additional electric distribution; the cost

5 of abandoning a natural gas distribution

6 system.

7 PGW may also wish to address other

8 issues. Examples of these include: What

9 are the alternatives to electrification?

10 What are the challenges to electrification?

11 Where are the carbon reduction levels

12 associated with electrification? Our

13 transportation sector changes and electric

14 grid changes also important with respect to

15 carbon reduction efforts?

16 There are many other issues as well

17 to prioritize for examination in this study.

18 PGW has a general idea about the cost of

19 this project, but we have not drafted the

20 RFP yet. Please note that the budgeted

21 amount is a not-to-exceed amount.

22 We would like to prioritize all

23 pertinent issues related to electrification

24 as it impacts our customers and pursue the

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1 most important issues within our resource
 2 limitations, which is the authorized budget.
 3 PGW is always presented with a
 4 problem in budgeting for consulting
 5 expenditures. We have a scope in mind, but
 6 it will not be finalized until we get the
 7 RFP process underway or we get the RFP
 8 drafted.
 9 We will prioritize the issues to be
 10 examined based on this process and ask the
 11 interested respondents to sharpen their
 12 pencils once the project is more clear and
 13 focused. Our goal is to negotiate an amount
 14 lower than the budget. PGW's interaction
 15 with RFP respondents help us to accomplish
 16 this.
 17 I have shared our best thinking at
 18 the moment. Please realize, however, that
 19 at the end of the day PGW wants these
 20 expenditures to be as cost-effective as
 21 possible.
 22 That's just with respect to the
 23 consulting services, and then I just wanted
 24 to move on to the lobbying.

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1 As I've testified in prior years, PGW
 2 has a tremendous outreach related to LIHEAP
 3 funding and other things that benefit PGW
 4 customers, and I'll have some numbers on
 5 LIHEAP in a minute.
 6 Some of the other things that we're
 7 working on legislatively is we can recently
 8 anticipate Pennsylvania seeking a gross
 9 receipts tax again because of the expected
 10 budget deficits.
 11 As you may recall from past
 12 testimony, a potential gross receipts tax
 13 could add 30, 40 million dollars a year to
 14 PGW's customers bills. There's also some
 15 Customer Choice legislation that's coming to
 16 the fore that will also result in customers
 17 paying more.
 18 Back to LIHEAP, the benefits of
 19 LIHEAP are substantial and we spend a
 20 substantial amount of resources advocating
 21 for LIHEAP funding. There were 61,000
 22 unique LIHEAP and CRISIS grants in 2019 and
 23 they totaled \$21 million.
 24 The 2019 Pennsylvania LIHEAP funding

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1 for the whole State for all utilities was
 2 \$206 million. And something additional that
 3 we lobbied for was Cares Act LIHEAP funding,
 4 which an additional \$35 million came to
 5 Pennsylvania.
 6 That concludes my testimony.
 7 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Mr. Ballenger,
 8 does the Advocate have any questions for
 9 Mr. Stunder?
 10 MR. BALLENGER: Thank you,
 11 Ms. McClendon.
 12 What I would like to do first is give
 13 Mike an opportunity to sort of frame his
 14 testimony a little bit more clearly because
 15 I think it's not exactly the same as it has
 16 been. So I will let Mike speak to that.
 17 And, Mike, just starting with the
 18 lobbying expenses, is there a difference in
 19 the proposal you're making this year?
 20 MR. BLEIWEIS: I'll be right with
 21 you.
 22 MR. BALLENGER: Okay.
 23 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: I'm sorry,
 24 Mike, to interrupt you.

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1 While you take this break, I just
 2 wanted to note that assigned counsel from
 3 the Law Department for the Gas Commission
 4 has joined in on the call, Linda Medley. I
 5 just wanted to make sure that she was
 6 identified as being on this call for
 7 purposes of the record.
 8 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
 9 MR. BALLENGER: You may proceed,
 10 Mike.
 11 MR. BLEIWEIS: Okay. Thank you.
 12 Regarding whether there's a
 13 difference in my proposal this year, while I
 14 have made similar proposals in the past, my
 15 recommendation this year is based in part on
 16 the fact that PGW is currently in front of
 17 the PUC, Pennsylvania Public Utility
 18 Commission, requesting a rate increase. In
 19 that proceeding PGW is also requesting that
 20 the Commission establish higher rates and
 21 charges using the cash flow method of
 22 ratemaking that applies to PGW.
 23 MR. BALLENGER: And, Mike, just to be
 24 clear, when you used the word "Commission,"

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1 you meant the PUC would establish those
 2 higher rates; right?
 3 MR. BLEIWEIS: Yes, the Pennsylvania
 4 Public Utility Commission.
 5 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you for
 6 making that clarification, Mr. Ballenger.
 7 MR. BALLENGER: For the benefit of
 8 all in the audience today.
 9 Can you please help us understand,
 10 why is the cash flow method of ratemaking
 11 important here?
 12 MR. BLEIWEIS: Yes. Let me first say
 13 that with investor-owned public utilities,
 14 the PUC uses what can be described as a rate
 15 base rate of return method. However, for
 16 PGW the PUC adopted a policy statement some
 17 years ago that applied to PGW and, as it
 18 turns out, one other utility and basically
 19 provides that the PGW revenue requirement --
 20 that is, the amount it should seek to
 21 recover from customer rates -- is basically
 22 the sum of operating expenses, debt service,
 23 and a margin sufficient for PGW to attract
 24 capital on reasonable terms.

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1 The reason that this is important and
 2 should be considered is that the PUC has
 3 consistently denied PGW's proposals over the
 4 years, as well as those of other utilities,
 5 to recover lobbying expenses as operating
 6 expenses as a portion of the rate case
 7 request.
 8 MR. BALLENGER: And just so we're
 9 clear, are you aware of whether PGW has
 10 proposed lobbying expenses as an operating
 11 expense in the current rate proceeding?
 12 MR. BLEIWEIS: Yes, it has.
 13 MR. BALLENGER: And has any other
 14 party objected to that?
 15 MR. BLEIWEIS: Yes. The OCA, Office
 16 of Consumer Advocate, has submitted
 17 testimony stating that the lobbying expense
 18 should not be an allowable operating expense
 19 in the current PGW rate case. This means
 20 that, if approved, PGW's rates would be set
 21 at a lower level than proposed by the
 22 Company.
 23 MR. BALLENGER: And do you believe
 24 that OCA's position is likely to prevail?

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1 MR. BLEIWEIS: Oh, yes, I do. The
 2 PUC has consistently ruled in PGW rate cases
 3 as well as many others that the lobbying
 4 expense is not an acceptable expense for
 5 ratemaking purposes and so therefore I
 6 thoroughly expect that OCA will win on that
 7 issue in this proceeding also.
 8 MR. BALLENGER: So, Mr. Bleiweis, can
 9 you --
 10 MR. DASENT: If you would let me
 11 interrupt for a moment.
 12 Speculation of the witness is
 13 inappropriate. Note my objection.
 14 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Gentlemen,
 15 let's try not to talk over each other.
 16 MR. DASENT: I didn't know how to
 17 object in this new hearing.
 18 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Right.
 19 MR. DASENT: But speculation isn't
 20 something that we find appropriate here.
 21 MR. BALLENGER: The question was
 22 whether, based on prior rate cases in which
 23 Mr. Bleiweis is also very well-versed, the
 24 PUC is likely to maintain the position which

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1 it has historically held. I don't think
 2 that's speculation, just to answer the
 3 objection.
 4 MR. STUNDER: Well, let me speak to
 5 the prior rate cases.
 6 MR. BALLENGER: I'm actually not
 7 quite finished with Mr. Bleiweis and I do
 8 have a couple of questions for you,
 9 Mr. Stunder. But if I could just have a few
 10 more minutes, please.
 11 MR. STUNDER: Sure.
 12 MR. BALLENGER: So, Mr. Bleiweis, can
 13 you explain why that's important, what the
 14 PUC may do in establishing revenue
 15 requirements, and how that could impact upon
 16 the operating budget?
 17 MR. BLEIWEIS: Sure. If the PUC
 18 approves rates which specifically address
 19 operating expenses for fiscal 2021 excluding
 20 lobbying expenses, then the Gas Commission's
 21 approval of those expenditures would allow
 22 PGW to utilize customer payments that were
 23 intended for other purposes, and I believe I
 24 speak to that in my testimony.

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1 But these expenditures would direct
 2 them toward a purpose that the PUC has
 3 specifically found to be unreasonable. So
 4 what it means is that PGW would either have
 5 to cut back other approved operating
 6 expenses, pay less in debt, or end up with
 7 less margin and appear less attractive to
 8 investors.
 9 MR. BALLENGER: And, Mr. Bleiweis,
 10 just for the benefit of all concerned, has
 11 the Gas Commission agreed with you on this
 12 position in the past?
 13 MR. BLEIWEIS: No. But I don't think
 14 we've been in quite this circumstance in the
 15 past in the sense that we're seeing that
 16 PGW's request for higher rates and charges
 17 are being heavily scrutinized in the current
 18 rate case largely because or partially
 19 because of the pandemic and uncertainty of
 20 PGW's expenditures in the near term given
 21 the challenges.
 22 I would like to add one more thing,
 23 and that is there's a reference in my
 24 testimony on Page 22 where I state that from

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1 a ratemaking point of view, and as a utility
 2 financial analyst who has participated in
 3 many base rate cases, including the most
 4 recent PGW rate cases and also the current
 5 one -- and I think this next statement is
 6 what I think I really want the PGC
 7 to consider -- that lobbying is universally
 8 considered to be a below-the-line
 9 discretionary expenditure.
 10 And that's basically what the PUC has
 11 said many times over the past, that I
 12 understand what Mr. Stunder is saying and
 13 what he believes, that the effect of these
 14 expenditures may have, but they're still
 15 considered -- and I agree that these are --
 16 discretionary expenditures. By
 17 "below-the-line" it is meant that the
 18 expenditures are not recoverable for
 19 ratemaking purposes.
 20 MR. BALLENGER: Thank you,
 21 Mr. Bleiweis.
 22 So, Mr. Stunder, I just had a couple
 23 of quick questions for you, and then I'm
 24 sure Mr. Dasent will help you tee up any

Page 20

1 response you have.
 2 First, I just wanted to make sure, do
 3 you agree with Mike's explanation of the
 4 cash flow method of ratemaking?
 5 MR. STUNDER: I agree that PGW has a
 6 cash flow ratemaking methodology. There is
 7 a policy statement on it so I think the
 8 policy statement speaks as to what that is.
 9 MR. BALLENGER: And if the Gas
 10 Commission approves the lobbying expense but
 11 it's excluded from the revenue requirements
 12 established by the PUC, would you still make
 13 those expenditures?
 14 MR. STUNDER: The case is still under
 15 litigation and one thing I'd like to ask at
 16 this moment, which is key to answering your
 17 question, is I would like a citation from
 18 Mr. Bleiweis about right now in a PGW rate
 19 case where the PUC has ruled that.
 20 MR. BALLENGER: We can provide that.
 21 MR. STUNDER: Well, I think that's
 22 imperative, because PGW has settled its more
 23 recent rate cases. So Mr. Bleiweis
 24 testified to a standard that's applied or

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1 case law that's applied to investor-owned
 2 utilities.
 3 MR. BLEIWEIS: May I interrupt here
 4 for a second, Rob and Greg?
 5 If you look under Footnote 4 on Page
 6 22 of my testimony, I provide a cite that I
 7 believe is relevant to what you're asking.
 8 MR. STUNDER: To a PGW rate case?
 9 MR. BLEIWEIS: Yes.
 10 MR. STUNDER: Okay.
 11 MR. BLEIWEIS: PA PUC versus
 12 Philadelphia Gas Works.
 13 MR. STUNDER: And what year was that?
 14 MR. BLEIWEIS: I can just read it:
 15 PA PUC versus Philadelphia Gas Works, Docket
 16 No. R-0061931. I believe that's around
 17 2007.
 18 MR. STUNDER: Okay.
 19 MR. BALLENGER: And the Commission
 20 specifically addressed it as well in the
 21 2001 rate proceeding, which would be Docket
 22 No. R-00006042.
 23 THE COURT REPORTER: Gemela, you're
 24 muted.

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1 MR. BALLENGER: You can reference
 2 Page 63 of that decision is where the
 3 discussion starts on lobbying expenses.
 4 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Can you please
 5 repeat the docket number slowly?
 6 MR. BALLENGER: Sure. Okay. It's
 7 R-00006042 and it's from a public meeting on
 8 September 21st, 2001, in the matter of PUC
 9 versus PGW and the discussion of lobbying
 10 expense begins on Page 63 of that Order.
 11 MR. DASENT: I should probably state
 12 now, we usually brief this issue and I
 13 suppose we will again, as to the applicable
 14 legal standard for a budget proceeding
 15 versus a PUC proceeding.
 16 MR. BALLENGER: Thank you. That's
 17 really all I had on that issue. If we could
 18 turn to the consulting costs --
 19 THE COURT REPORTER: Gemela, you're
 20 muted.
 21 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Oh, I unmuted
 22 myself and then muted myself all over again.
 23 Two things before you get started,
 24 Mr. Ballenger.

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1 With regard to offering objections,
 2 if you and Mr. Dasent would use the chat
 3 function, that way I can see and I'll
 4 acknowledge you. When you hear something
 5 that you feel needs to be objected to, use
 6 the chat function, let me know, and I will
 7 then acknowledge you so that you can offer
 8 your objection.
 9 I did have one question. And, again,
 10 this is something that's probably better
 11 briefed, but I did want to get the question
 12 out there.
 13 As Mr. Bleiweis has noted, in the
 14 past the Commission -- the Gas Commission;
 15 not the PUC -- has not agreed with the
 16 Public Advocate's position on these issues.
 17 What distinction are you making this
 18 time around -- and, again, this is something
 19 that probably is better briefed than
 20 answered right here, but it is an issue that
 21 I think we would like to see addressed --
 22 what's different this time around from the
 23 prior instances when this issue has come up
 24 where the Gas Commission has not agreed with

Page 24

1 the Public Advocate's position?
 2 As I said, I think this might be
 3 something better briefed than necessarily
 4 answered here, but if you do have a brief
 5 answer to it, you can go ahead and offer it
 6 at this point.
 7 MR. BALLENGER: Mr. Bleiweis, I don't
 8 know if you heard the question.
 9 My guess is that's largely what we've
 10 just sort of gone over, which is the nexus
 11 with the rate case. But I'll ask
 12 Mr. Bleiweis to confirm or explain.
 13 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: And I
 14 understand that. Let me be clear, though.
 15 This isn't the first time -- and owing to
 16 the fact that I haven't reached three years
 17 with the Gas Commission yet, so perhaps this
 18 is something that you guys acknowledge --
 19 but there have been rate cases over the
 20 prior years, as you noted, 2007, 2001; and
 21 having not looked back at what the Gas
 22 Commission has decided on those related
 23 operating budgets, in those years where
 24 there's been a rate case and there's been

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1 operating budget review, I am assuming --
 2 and correct me if I'm wrong -- that the
 3 Commission has rejected your position on
 4 these lobbying expenses when there's been a
 5 concurrent showing. And, again, correct me
 6 if I'm wrong.
 7 If that is indeed the case, what's
 8 the distinction now from those prior rate
 9 case years?
 10 MR. BLEIWEIS: Well, as I said
 11 before, you know, part of the reason is the
 12 uncertainty of expenditures during the
 13 budget year because of the COVID pandemic.
 14 That's part of it. I'm sure Rob will brief
 15 that.
 16 Another reason is that there's such a
 17 large increase in the budgeted request for
 18 the consulting services. We're talking
 19 about a \$297,000 increase. And, as I state
 20 in my testimony, we have asked Mr. Stunder
 21 on several occasions to provide us a
 22 breakdown of that \$297,000.
 23 Now -- excuse me, I'm losing my
 24 voice -- I understand that the RFP has not

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1 gone out yet and probably will not go out
 2 for a while. But certainly there must be
 3 some breakdown that the Company can provide
 4 to support its position.
 5 As of this point in time -- and,
 6 again, even with multiple requests for a
 7 provision of this breakdown -- we haven't
 8 received it yet. So that's another reason
 9 that we think that our request today is
 10 different than those in the past.
 11 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Thank
 12 you for responding to that.
 13 MR. BLEIWEIS: No problem.
 14 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Mr. Ballenger,
 15 you had some additional questions?
 16 MR. BALLENGER: Actually, I think I
 17 might have covered the ground that I was
 18 going to cover through cross with
 19 Mr. Stunder, so I think we're just going to
 20 have to brief these issues at this point.
 21 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 22 MR. DASENT: We agree with
 23 Mr. Ballenger that these issues are
 24 appropriately briefed. We have offered our

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1 response to PA-OB-40 and today an
 2 explanation of what we have to share with
 3 the Commission in terms of where we are on
 4 consulting services expenses and what's the
 5 purpose of the study that's to be
 6 undertaken.
 7 Based upon the RFP process, we can
 8 keep the Commission in the loop once we have
 9 drafted an RFP and give you more refinement
 10 as to what we're doing. But as Mr. Stunder
 11 has explained, part of the refinement is
 12 based upon our interaction with the industry
 13 experts that are available and wish to
 14 assist us in this regard.
 15 Taking all of this together, we are
 16 giving you what we have now. We are
 17 committed to giving you additional
 18 information as we learn it.
 19 The cost of the study is a
 20 not-to-exceed amount, so we are trying to
 21 basically give you the most cost-effective
 22 result by interacting with experts and sort
 23 of telling you right now, here's the purpose
 24 of the study.

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1 But if we find the parameters change
 2 after interacting with the industry experts,
 3 we obviously will conform to the authorized
 4 amount that the PGC gives us, and those are
 5 the boundaries we are operating within.
 6 But it's like a chicken-and-egg
 7 thing: We need to do this. We need to do
 8 it in the budget year. We are telling you
 9 we are planning to do it, we are giving you
 10 the reasons for doing it, but the number is
 11 a result of a negotiation.
 12 The upshot of all of this is as we
 13 know more, we can share it, and the cost of
 14 it has to be within certain parameters and
 15 our goal is to find a result lower than the
 16 not-to-exceed amount. And if it can be
 17 significantly lower than Greg has told you,
 18 that's what we want.
 19 So we will brief the issue and we
 20 will also brief the applicable precedent and
 21 the legal parameters within which this
 22 Commission operates. It's not a PUC-driven
 23 process.
 24 Mr. Bleiweis has repeatedly told us

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1 about the PUC and direct benefit and the
 2 reason we shouldn't sustain expenditures or
 3 approve expenditures for lobbying expenses.
 4 Over the past 15 years -- I'm trying
 5 to count them now, but I think it's about 15
 6 now, Mike -- they have rejected this
 7 proposal, and during the course of that time
 8 there have been rate cases and we will point
 9 all that out to you in our brief.
 10 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 11 HEARING EXAMINER WUSHINSKE:
 12 Mr. Dasent, can you hear me?
 13 MR. DASENT: Yes.
 14 HEARING EXAMINER WUSHINSKE: This is
 15 Heidi Wushinske from the Gas Commission.
 16 In your brief could PGW also mention,
 17 I'm curious about what you feel the impact
 18 would be to PGW if this money is not
 19 approved and you cannot do this study.
 20 That's referring to the consulting.
 21 MR. DASENT: Sure.
 22 HEARING EXAMINER WUSHINSKE: Thank
 23 you.
 24 MR. DASENT: Yes.

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1 Is there anything more for
 2 Mr. Stunder at this point?
 3 MR. BALLENGER: I have nothing else.
 4 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: If there is
 5 nothing else from the Commission, we do have
 6 a comment from Mr. Winslow.
 7 I am going to remind members of the
 8 public that, again, this is a formal
 9 proceeding. Please, we will come back to
 10 your question once the formal portion of
 11 this is finished. You can pose your
 12 questions then. But please hold them until
 13 after.
 14 Also, I would respectfully request
 15 that any questions be limited to the actual
 16 operating budget itself.
 17 I am going to allow you to pose your
 18 question, Mr. Winslow, at the end. I'm not
 19 sure that it is directly pertinent to what
 20 we are talking about today, which ultimately
 21 is the dollars and cents. You are asking a
 22 process question regarding this project.
 23 We're concerned today with the dollars and
 24 cents.

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1 I am going to go ahead and allow that
 2 question to be addressed, again, after we're
 3 done with the formal part of the proceeding.
 4 So please hold those until then. But please
 5 try to keep your questions related to the
 6 budget itself.
 7 MR. BALLENGER: If I may, I believe
 8 the question is directed to Mr. Stunder or
 9 probably directed to Mr. Stunder. So I just
 10 would want to make sure that he remains
 11 available after the remaining discussion on
 12 the record.
 13 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: If, for
 14 whatever reason, he can't respond during
 15 this proceeding, we will make sure that the
 16 questions posed by the public are responded
 17 to after the fact. We will collect email
 18 addresses if necessary and send those out
 19 and acknowledge them as a part of the formal
 20 record.
 21 MR. BALLENGER: Thank you. Just
 22 seeing Mr. Winslow's question, I mean, as
 23 the Public Advocate and since he is asking
 24 about public involvement, I think it would

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1 be really helpful to get a response on the
 2 record if possible.
 3 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 4 Mr. Stunder, do you see Mr. Winslow's
 5 question?
 6 But, again, going forward, please,
 7 let's keep the questions related directly to
 8 the budget itself and let's have them
 9 towards the end. Any questions that can't
 10 be answered by either PGW or the Advocate
 11 during this formal proceeding will be
 12 answered and we will make sure that members
 13 of the public receive those answers and that
 14 it is incorporated in the public record.
 15 I think what we'll do is those
 16 answers will be sent out. More than likely,
 17 I'm thinking, once we receive them from PGW,
 18 I will take on the responsibility of having
 19 the Gas Commission make sure these answers
 20 get to the members of the public. And we
 21 will make those formal Gas Commission
 22 exhibits to the record so that this is
 23 handled. But we really do have to try to
 24 keep this under control.

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1 MR. DASENT: Ms. McClendon -- I want
 2 to say if Your Honor pleases, I'm sorry, but
 3 I think it's appropriate actually -- I think
 4 the process question is one that a lawyer or
 5 someone on our staff can answer, quite
 6 frankly, in terms of involvement of the
 7 public. It's really a function of this
 8 hearing, for example, this process, the
 9 budget process itself, that people have an
 10 insight into what we're doing.
 11 A competitive process for the bidder
 12 would not involve outside participants and I
 13 don't believe in this particular situation
 14 that you would find anything more than the
 15 information that we're sharing with you
 16 today, the information you'll get also in
 17 briefing in response to the participants'
 18 questions and positions; and, in addition to
 19 that, we will share information along the
 20 way with you with respect to an update on
 21 the process as we go along.
 22 But any written response we can
 23 certainly provide in terms of process with
 24 or without Mr. Stunder in the room.

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1 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 2 MR. DASENT: I also realize that
 3 Mr. Stunder is involved in the rate
 4 proceedings we are talking about and has a
 5 limited time with us this morning. So I'm
 6 trying to sort of get the process question
 7 through. If you will permit, I would
 8 provide a written response and I will direct
 9 it to Mr. Stunder to give me something for
 10 the record that will be responsive.
 11 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you.
 12 So, Mr. Winslow, your questions will
 13 be addressed in writing after today's
 14 proceeding.
 15 Okay. Our next topic for today is
 16 the stipulated adjustments from both PGW and
 17 the Public Advocate.
 18 PGW, do you want to start or do you
 19 want to defer to the Public Advocate?
 20 MR. DASENT: Well, they are certainly
 21 shared in a sense because Mr. Bleiweis was
 22 very helpful in developing these.
 23 If I might refer to the "Summary of
 24 Budget Adjustments Acceptable to PGW" that I

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1 circulated earlier and the description of
 2 the adjustment is in the left column,
 3 "Insurance - Environmental Coverage" is one
 4 adjustment and it's really for conditional
 5 expenses as opposed to an adjustment of the
 6 expenses, and it's in the amount of \$50,000.
 7 That's mentioned by Mr. Bleiweis in Public
 8 Advocate Statement No. 1 at Pages 23 to 25.
 9 It also is addressed in our supplemental
 10 filing, which is marked on the Exhibits List
 11 and it's at Page 132.
 12 In addition to that, there's an
 13 "Insurance - Builder's Risk" in the amount
 14 of \$199,000 and we agree to the treatment of
 15 this expense as well as a conditional
 16 expenditure. This is also addressed in
 17 PGW's supplemental filing at Page 132 and
 18 the Public Advocate's Statement No. 1 at
 19 Pages 25 to 26.
 20 These are noncontroversial. We
 21 generally in every budget proceeding at
 22 least in the last three or four years have
 23 agreed to these particular adjustments.
 24 Unique to this particular proceeding

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1 are adjustments to expenses and as to legal
 2 expenses, which you see about the third row
 3 down, there's a \$428,000 reduction in legal
 4 expenses. That's addressed in OB-ID-1,
 5 that's the response that Raquel Guzmán, our
 6 general counsel, provided; and Public
 7 Advocate Statement 1 at Pages 26 and 27 also
 8 addresses this adjustment.
 9 Finally, there's a PFMC planned
 10 expenditure for purchased services expense.
 11 In the past we have addressed this by
 12 stipulation also and it's a \$548,000
 13 reduction in spending. It's addressed at
 14 PA-OB-38 in terms of its amount and
 15 derivation and the adjustment is also
 16 addressed in the Public Advocate Statement
 17 No. 1 at Pages 14 through 17.
 18 That's the roster of adjustments for
 19 this year and with those adjustments,
 20 basically we have, I think, reduced our
 21 discussion in the brief to Mr. Stunder's
 22 issues concerning lobbying and consulting
 23 expenses.
 24 That's all I have.

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1 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: And,
 2 Mr. Ballenger, just to formally confirm
 3 during this proceeding, those are agreed
 4 upon by the Public Advocate; correct?
 5 MR. BALLENGER: That's correct.
 6 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. If
 7 there are no --
 8 MR. BLEIWEIS: This is Mike. Can I
 9 just add one more thing that Mr. Gallagher
 10 and I have talked about and which he has
 11 made an agreement to?
 12 That is, in my testimony I speak to
 13 that I would like to see a breakdown of IS
 14 expenses by project in the budget exams in
 15 the future, and I believe that Mr. Gallagher
 16 has agreed to do that as well.
 17 MR. GALLAGHER: That is correct.
 18 When we file the fiscal 2022 budget, we will
 19 provide that information.
 20 MR. BLEIWEIS: Thank you.
 21 MR. BALLENGER: Thanks for catching
 22 that, Mike.
 23 And thank you, Mr. Gallagher.
 24 MR. GALLAGHER: Yeah, thanks, Mike.

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1 MR. BLEIWEIS: No problem.
 2 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: I don't have a
 3 copy of the list that PGW circulated in
 4 front of me at this point so I'm assuming,
 5 because Mr. Bleiweis raised the issue, that
 6 that one does not appear. And I know you
 7 typically do it by budget adjustment and
 8 this wouldn't be a budget adjustment
 9 stipulation.
 10 MR. BLEIWEIS: I do mention it in my
 11 testimony.
 12 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Right. No.
 13 That's understood.
 14 MR. BLEIWEIS: I mean, obviously it's
 15 not an expense adjustment; but it's just a
 16 procedural, if you want to call it,
 17 adjustment.
 18 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: No. Agreed.
 19 I'm just trying to figure out -- and,
 20 please, Erin and Heidi, Ms. Lai and
 21 Ms. Wushinske, please weigh in on this -- do
 22 you think that we should have something
 23 beyond just Mr. Bleiweis' testimony to
 24 document that that is, in fact, included as

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1 a stipulation?
 2 HEARING EXAMINER WUSHINSKE: I think
 3 so, so we have a record of it going forward.
 4 I think that would make the clearest record.
 5 MR. DASENT: We will include it in
 6 our response to TR-1. I am presuming that's
 7 coming.
 8 MR. BALLENGER: That was going to be
 9 my suggestion, too.
 10 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Perfect.
 11 Okay.
 12 Then the next topic that we have is
 13 actually reviewing the Exhibits List. I
 14 know that there were some hiccups this
 15 morning with sending that out. I believe
 16 that Mr. Ballenger and everybody, the
 17 parties to the proceeding, have received a
 18 copy of the Exhibits List at this point.
 19 PGW, will you address whether or not
 20 this accurately reflects your exhibits and
 21 if you have any additions to make to it?
 22 MR. DASENT: Yes, I believe it does.
 23 I see now the supplemental filing is also
 24 included in our list of exhibits, so I think

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1 that would be fine as it is now. And I
 2 don't recall, quite frankly, if you put the
 3 TRs at the end, but that would be the only
 4 other thing.
 5 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Right.
 6 MR. DASENT: In terms of citations
 7 when writing the brief, also the ID session
 8 transcripts, we'll just refer to them by the
 9 date of the transcript and the page number.
 10 I think that worked fine last time. I don't
 11 believe they have to be marked as an
 12 exhibit. That's the only other thing I can
 13 think of.
 14 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 15 MR. BALLENGER: I mean, I'm not sure
 16 whether they need to be an exhibit. I think
 17 they need to be clearly part of the record.
 18 So I kind of defer to the Hearing Examiners
 19 as to how to ensure that is done in this
 20 case.
 21 MR. DASENT: Right. And I also
 22 looked at this in terms of briefing and in
 23 terms of what the attachments to the
 24 transcript might be referred to as. It's a

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1 little bit of a challenge, but I think we
 2 can work through it.
 3 ASST. HEARING EXAMINER LAI: I think,
 4 to be safe, you can include the transcripts
 5 of the ID sessions. I can incorporate them
 6 into the Exhibits List post-hearing. And
 7 then that way when you need to cite to them
 8 for your brief, it will make it a little bit
 9 cleaner.
 10 MR. DASENT: Okay. Thank you.
 11 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 12 And, Mr. Ballenger, you're good with
 13 everything, correct, just to confirm?
 14 MR. BALLENGER: Good with everything
 15 on the Exhibits List? Yes.
 16 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Yes.
 17 Okay. So then finally we have any
 18 housekeeping or cleanup matters. Is there
 19 anything outstanding?
 20 We know that we have to do the TRs.
 21 I think that we will hold those until after
 22 the public has had their opportunity to
 23 comment.
 24 Are there any other housekeeping

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1 issues that we need to address before we
 2 move on to the public comment portion?
 3 MR. DASENT: I think the schedule is
 4 pretty clear. I'd have to go back and make
 5 sure I have the right date for the briefing.
 6 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: The briefs are
 7 due July 8th.
 8 MR. DASENT: And I'm assuming
 9 electronic filing will do it given the
 10 pandemic.
 11 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Electronic
 12 filing is fine.
 13 MR. DASENT: Which actually works
 14 with our new protocols.
 15 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Electronic,
 16 definitely.
 17 MR. DASENT: Thank you.
 18 MR. BALLENGER: I was wondering maybe
 19 since, you know, Bill and others are there
 20 in the boardroom, whether we can just get --
 21 I don't know -- a minute update on sort of
 22 how things are going, you know, on PGW's end
 23 in light of the challenges that we're all
 24 kind of facing.

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1 I saw the May financial report came
 2 out and it looked like there were some
 3 variations from what we're accustomed to and
 4 I just wondered whether you might just give
 5 me a little update.
 6 MR. DASENT: I don't know if Bill or
 7 Joe are prepared to do that for purposes of
 8 today.
 9 MR. GOLDEN: That's correct, Andre.
 10 MR. BALLENGER: Okay. So that's a
 11 no.
 12 MR. DASENT: We don't have an update.
 13 We have told you the uncertainties
 14 previously and we are in a situation where
 15 we don't have anything further to offer
 16 based on the information in front of us.
 17 Thank you for asking, though.
 18 MR. BALLENGER: No. It's just
 19 because I care.
 20 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Well,
 21 if there is nothing else, then we will move
 22 on to the public portion of this.
 23 To the members of the public, as is
 24 standard with PGC proceedings that some of

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1 you have already participated in, we will
 2 give you three minutes in which you can
 3 offer your public comment.
 4 Again, please try to keep them on the
 5 topic of the operating budget. Questions
 6 that fall outside of the FY '21 operating
 7 budget are not appropriate for this forum.
 8 Those are things that are probably
 9 best addressed at the Commission meeting,
 10 which at this point, barring anything
 11 unforeseen coming up -- and the way that
 12 2020 has been going, there's always the
 13 possibility that something unforeseen could
 14 happen, but -- the Commission meeting in
 15 August is scheduled for August 11th. It
 16 will, in all likelihood, be virtual.
 17 Questions that fall outside of the
 18 purview of this FY '21 operating budget can
 19 be addressed to the Commission either at
 20 that point or you can submit an email to
 21 myself and we will see if it's something
 22 that we can answer.
 23 But I respectfully am asking that any
 24 questions posed today be on the topic of the

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1 fiscal year '21 operating budget.
 2 Mr. Winslow, because you did submit
 3 your question and you agreed that you were
 4 okay with having your questions answered by
 5 writing, did you have anything else that you
 6 wanted to offer?
 7 MR. WINSLOW: No, thank you. I
 8 appreciate that and I'm happy to receive the
 9 information offline.
 10 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you very
 11 much.
 12 Mr. Chanin, you submitted a question.
 13 MR. CHANIN: Yes.
 14 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Well, let me
 15 see.
 16 Yes, you have a comment and a
 17 question. Again, more than likely questions
 18 will be answered in writing after this
 19 proceeding. But you can go ahead and
 20 proceed with offering it and your comment.
 21 And, again, we are going to give three
 22 minutes for that. So you may begin now.
 23 MR. CHANIN: Great. Thank you very
 24 much for the opportunity to comment. I hope

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1 the things that I say will fit within the
 2 framework of the budget hearing. If not, I
 3 apologize, but I will try to keep it
 4 pertinent.
 5 This is the first that I have heard
 6 about this proposal for PGW to spend
 7 ratepayer money on a study about
 8 electrification and, to be frank, as I
 9 listened to the description of the goals of
 10 that study, I was very skeptical.
 11 It appeared to me that the City of
 12 Philadelphia is commissioning a study about
 13 diversification of PGW's business in light
 14 of a need to transition off of fossil fuels
 15 and I believe that study will address
 16 opportunities for electrification of space
 17 heating and other options for replacing
 18 natural gas as a source of heating buildings
 19 throughout the City. If I'm remembering
 20 correctly, that's about a \$200,000
 21 grant-funded study.
 22 When I heard the questions that were
 23 outlined or the objectives for this study,
 24 to be blunt, it sounded to me like PGW was

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1 looking to provide contrary argument in
 2 response to what the City of Philadelphia
 3 was going to be studying, and my --
 4 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: One minute and
 5 a half.
 6 MR. CHANIN: Okay. The City of
 7 Philadelphia already is looking at
 8 electrification through its study along with
 9 a variety of other options for the future of
 10 PGW.
 11 If the purpose of this study
 12 duplicates that study, then I think that is
 13 a misuse of ratepayer funding. So I really
 14 hope the Gas Commission will thoroughly
 15 examine that.
 16 If the study is designed to poke
 17 holes in what the City of Philadelphia is
 18 doing and to defend PGW's existing business
 19 model, then in my opinion that's an even
 20 worse use of ratepayer funding, and I hope
 21 that the Gas Commission will deny PGW
 22 funding to carry out that activity.
 23 I would like to see PGW participate
 24 as fully as possible in the study process

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1 that the City of Philadelphia is carrying
 2 out.
 3 I just had two other questions that I
 4 think would need to be answered at a
 5 different time.
 6 But as I read through the budget
 7 myself, I was wondering how much more money
 8 PGW is going to be spending to subsidize
 9 low-income customers through the CRP program
 10 in light of the new PUC ruling that's being
 11 implemented this year and I'm wondering
 12 whether or how in the future there are
 13 opportunities to increase investment in
 14 energy efficiency retrofitting that would
 15 then offset and limit PGW's expenditures for
 16 subsidies for, you know, inefficient homes
 17 of ratepayers who are on the CRP program,
 18 and I hope that that information could be
 19 provided to the public.
 20 In addition, I understand --
 21 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Mr. Chanin,
 22 I'm sorry; your time at this point is up.
 23 MR. CHANIN: Okay.
 24 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Your further

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1 question, again, related to the budget, can
 2 you submit that via the chat?
 3 MR. CHANIN: I can do that, yes.
 4 Thank you.
 5 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you.
 6 Ms. Raval, I believe that you wanted
 7 to offer comments?
 8 MS. RAVAL: Yes. Hi.
 9 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Again, as with
 10 Mr. Chanin, you do have three minutes.
 11 MS. RAVAL: Yep.
 12 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Let me
 13 formally start you. You can begin now.
 14 MS. RAVAL: Sure. Thank you. My
 15 name is Meenal Raval. I'm a Philadelphia
 16 resident and I thank you, Ms. McClendon, for
 17 sharing the operating budget with me.
 18 I read through the entire document
 19 and see that the total revenue has increased
 20 and I saw no reference to climate action.
 21 That's just a quick observation.
 22 My question is that reconnection
 23 charges bring in \$2.5 million of revenue,
 24 but the additional income projected, how

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1 does PGW plan to be more equitable and
 2 reduce or even do away with reconnection
 3 charges for low-income ratepayers? That was
 4 one question. If someone wants to answer
 5 that, I can pause.
 6 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Again, I think
 7 questions -- I am going to pause you just
 8 because I'm taking some of your time --
 9 again, questions are going to have to be
 10 responded to in writing.
 11 MS. RAVAL: Okay.
 12 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: So you may
 13 resume.
 14 MS. RAVAL: Okay. We had a City
 15 Council hearing about PGW shifting course
 16 back in April of 2019 and I expected to see
 17 some of that and, again, as Mitch mentioned,
 18 this is the first time I'm hearing about
 19 Mr. Stunder doing a study.
 20 We are your customers, the 50,000
 21 ratepayers, and 80% of your income. Why not
 22 listen to us?
 23 So who in PGW management can we work
 24 with on this? We are asking for a

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1 participatory study. We have access to
 2 industry experts, not just the gas industry
 3 but others that want the transition. So is
 4 it Mr. Stunder that we need to work with?
 5 That's my second question.
 6 And, lastly, I listened in to and
 7 wrote about the rate hike hearing. I have a
 8 blog post I can share with you that's very
 9 easy to read. But most of the public oppose
 10 the rate hike proposal.
 11 What wasn't clear in that is if that
 12 was approved, it would increase PGW revenue
 13 by \$70 million. It's not clear how PGW
 14 plans to spend this revenue. So I'm asking
 15 for clarification on that. That's the third
 16 question.
 17 My fourth question is I see that this
 18 meeting is recorded. Where can we find this
 19 recording after today?
 20 And my last point is a clerical
 21 suggestion. This document that I was given
 22 by Mr. Dasent yesterday is not searchable.
 23 It seems that you have printed and scanned
 24 the various documents. No one prints 216

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1 pages anymore and sits down with a
 2 highlighter. If the spreadsheets were saved
 3 as a pdf, we could search and highlight the
 4 documents and find sections of interest
 5 again. So that's a suggestion from a
 6 clerical point.
 7 Thank you.
 8 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Thank
 9 you.
 10 With regard to your question related
 11 to the rate hike, again, the Gas Commission,
 12 we do not participate in the PUC proceeding;
 13 and so those sorts of questions, I am not
 14 sure that that's anything that we can
 15 actually answer on your behalf simply
 16 because we have oversight over the budget,
 17 not over the actual rate case itself.
 18 With regard to the recording, we are
 19 going to attempt to post this on the
 20 website. These Zoom recordings are rather
 21 large files.
 22 My hope is that I can get this over
 23 to our IT professional and he is able to
 24 upload it to the website. But that is

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1 obviously pending technical issues. But we
 2 are going to do our best. But these are
 3 rather large files that wind up being
 4 rendered. So we are going to make an
 5 effort.
 6 That being said, the transcript will
 7 be posted as well after this meeting. So
 8 even if the recording is not visible, the
 9 transcript itself will be there.
 10 Are there any comments from members
 11 of the public?
 12 - - -
 13 (No response.)
 14 - - -
 15 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 16 MR. DASENT: If not, Ms. McClendon,
 17 if we can have access to the chat, reminding
 18 us to jot down all the questions in detail,
 19 I would like to make sure we have those; and
 20 I don't believe Sue will necessarily capture
 21 those in her transcript.
 22 THE COURT REPORTER: That's correct.
 23 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Let me see.
 24 That's not a problem at all. At the

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1 end of this meeting you guys can exit out of
 2 it. I will not close it. I will turn my
 3 camera off and I will not close it. Because
 4 this is all new technology, I'm trying to
 5 figure out if there is a way for me to
 6 actually save and hold, you know, the
 7 comments. I think that they do get captured
 8 as part of the recording, but I'm not
 9 certain. Again, this is all new technology.
 10 Yes, Mr. Raval?
 11 MS. RAVAL: You can click on the
 12 three dots at the bottom of the chat and
 13 save the chat.
 14 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Thank you.
 15 Okay. So the chat will be saved.
 16 If there are no further questions
 17 from members of the public who are on the
 18 call who have not already spoken, we will
 19 get to the final wrap-up of things.
 20 So, Mr. Dasent or Mr. Ballenger, were
 21 you about to say something?
 22 MR. BALLENGER: Yes. I'm sorry.
 23 Thank you. I just had a followup.
 24 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Can you speak

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1 up a little bit?
 2 MR. BALLENGER: I'm sorry. I had a
 3 followup. You know, traditionally after
 4 Mr. Bleiweis' testimony is filed, we have a
 5 conversation with PGW and Mr. Dasent, and
 6 one of the things that came up there, I want
 7 to make sure that we sort of close the loop
 8 on the labor adjustment. The labor expense
 9 adjustment has never been quantified.
 10 So I don't believe there's actually a
 11 number attached to the proposed half a
 12 percent increase in base wages, which
 13 Mr. Grant explained to us during the ID
 14 session. But I just wonder if we might just
 15 take that as a transcript request so that
 16 it's clear what the actual budget impact is
 17 since we have no number to assign to that.
 18 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.
 19 MR. DASENT: I think Mr. Gallagher
 20 wants to treat that as a budget deviation
 21 and it will be captured in that place. But
 22 he can correct me if I'm wrong.
 23 MR. GALLAGHER: That is correct. The
 24 magnitude, I think Steve knows that.

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1 MR. SCHUMMER: It's between 400 and
 2 500 thousand dollars.
 3 MR. GALLAGHER: And we would treat it
 4 as a deviation and keep the budget as it is.
 5 That would just be a deviation like other
 6 things that we are going to be anticipating
 7 happening in the fiscal 2021 fiscal year.
 8 MR. BALLENGER: I'm hoping Sue was
 9 able to hear that better than I was.
 10 THE COURT REPORTER: I believe I was.
 11 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Are you
 12 okay with that or do you want to have
 13 Mr. Gallagher repeat it?
 14 MR. BALLENGER: I think that's
 15 probably okay. I'll ask Mr. Bleiweis if he
 16 agrees.
 17 THE COURT REPORTER: You're muted,
 18 Mike.
 19 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: You're muted,
 20 Mike.
 21 MR. BLEIWEIS: Sorry.
 22 I have no problem with that. That's
 23 fine.
 24 MR. BALLENGER: Okay. Thank you.

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1 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: So do you
 2 still think the TR request is necessary or
 3 are you okay with what they just responded?
 4 MR. BALLENGER: I think we've gotten
 5 sufficient clarity on the record today and
 6 that was my hope or goal anyway.
 7 Could I also just ask -- I mean, we
 8 do have our closing transcript request --
 9 will PGW's responses to the questions of
 10 members of the public be submitted along the
 11 same timeline as I think we usually have
 12 seven days for transcript responses?
 13 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: I think that
 14 that's fair enough.
 15 PGW, are you okay with that?
 16 MR. DASENT: I believe that will be
 17 fine.
 18 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. Thank
 19 you.
 20 So then because we had two transcript
 21 requests in the capital budget, this next
 22 transcript request will be TR-3. Right now
 23 it is reading as follows: Provide a
 24 schedule setting forth all adjustments to

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---|
| Page 58 | <p>1 the proposed FY '21 operating budget which</p> <p>2 you believe are supported by the record at</p> <p>3 this point, including a brief narrative</p> <p>4 describing each and referencing the record</p> <p>5 support for it.</p> <p>6 MR. DASENT: That's fine.</p> <p>7 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.</p> <p>8 MR. BALLENGER: That works for the</p> <p>9 Public Advocate. Thank you.</p> <p>10 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Are there any</p> <p>11 other transcript requests or housekeeping</p> <p>12 issues from the Public Advocate or thoughts</p> <p>13 for another TR other than the one you</p> <p>14 initially suggested and withdrew?</p> <p>15 MR. BALLENGER: No. Thank you,</p> <p>16 Ms. McClendon. We're okay.</p> <p>17 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay.</p> <p>18 PGW, any additional housekeeping</p> <p>19 issues?</p> <p>20 MR. DASENT: No. But I will reach</p> <p>21 out to the Commission Staff concerning the</p> <p>22 questions just to make sure my notes and</p> <p>23 recollections track the questions that were</p> <p>24 cited.</p> | Page 60 | <p>1 all for your participation today. Try to</p> <p>2 stay cool and have a good day and safe week.</p> <p>3 Thank you.</p> <p>4 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.</p> <p>5 MR. DASENT: Thank you.</p> <p>6 - - -</p> <p>7 (Whereupon the hearing adjourned at</p> <p>8 12:11 p.m.)</p> <p>9 - - -</p> <p>10 Reported By: Susan Marie Migatz, RMR, CRR</p> <p>11 - - -</p> |
| Page 59 | <p>1 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: I have saved</p> <p>2 the chat and I will circulate that to both</p> <p>3 the Advocate and to PGW after this. Okay?</p> <p>4 MR. DASENT: Thank you.</p> <p>5 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: If there is</p> <p>6 nothing else, then this concludes the public</p> <p>7 hearing for the FY '21 operating budget. As</p> <p>8 per the schedule, briefs from the parties</p> <p>9 are due on July 8th.</p> <p>10 TR-3 as well as responses to the</p> <p>11 questions posed by members of the public</p> <p>12 will be due within seven days of this, which</p> <p>13 is -- give me one moment, please --</p> <p>14 July 1st.</p> <p>15 That draws this public hearing to a</p> <p>16 close. As I said, I saved the chats.</p> <p>17 So you will be okay, Andre, with</p> <p>18 that; correct?</p> <p>19 MR. DASENT: Yes.</p> <p>20 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: Okay. So then</p> <p>21 I'm just going to go ahead and close out the</p> <p>22 meeting for everyone.</p> <p>23 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.</p> <p>24 EXEC. DIR. McCLENDON: I thank you</p> | Page 61 | <p>1 - - -</p> <p>2 INDEX OF TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS</p> <p>3 - - -</p> <p>4 TR-3 Page 57 Line 22</p> <p>5 - - -</p> |

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