

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265

**Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission Law Bureau Prosecutory
Staff v. UGI Utilities, Inc.**

**Public Meeting – March 26, 2009
2056656-OSA
Docket No. M-2008-2056656**

STATEMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN TYRONE J. CHRISTY

Before the Commission for final disposition is the Joint Settlement Agreement (Settlement) filed on August 4, 2008, by UGI Utilities, Inc. (UGI or the Company) and the Commission's Law Bureau Prosecutory Staff (Prosecutory Staff). The Settlement, among other things, provides for a civil penalty of \$15,000.¹

At the Public Meeting held January 15, 2009, the Commission adopted an Opinion and Order seeking comments from interested parties regarding this Settlement. At that time I issued a separate Statement requesting comments on the concept of applying the \$15,000 civil penalty to UGI's Operation Share hardship fund. This additional funding would have helped approximately 50 low income customers maintain their service, assuming an average grant of about \$300.

I am disappointed that no comments were filed on this issue. Providing additional assistance to low-income customers is an important consideration, particularly during these tough economic times during which many individuals are being forced to choose between paying for utility service and paying for other essentials for their families.

DATE

TYRONE J. CHRISTY, VICE CHAIRMAN

¹ In addition, the Settlement requires that UGI prepare a comprehensive training manual and set of procedures for its Revenue Protection Unit; retrain all Revenue Protection employees using the new training manual and procedures; and cease and desist from committing any further violations of gas safety regulations.