Quarterly Update to UCARE Report

January – March 2022

Introduction

The quarterly update to the annual UCARE presents data on customer service performance for jurisdictional utilities in the electric, gas, water and telecommunications industries. The update provides a snapshot of overall BCS activity including the volume of consumer complaints, PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests) and FCRs (First Contact Resolutions FKA Inquiries). Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation. Industry specific tables show the volume of activity for the major utilities within the electric, gas, water, municipal water, municipal sewer and telecommunications industries. The quarterly update contains current information that can be reviewed by utility management, consumers, Commission staff and other interested parties. The Commission will continue to produce the annual UCARE report which will present more detailed findings regarding utility performance.

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BCS Activity

Total Volume of Consumer Complaints, PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests) and FCRs (First Contact Resolutions) by Industry

Industry		Complaints Ts*)	PARs (FCRs	
	Residential	Commercial**	Residential	Commercial**	All Classes
Electric	1,494	135	1,758	34	1,195
Gas	507	57	755	27	558
Water	342	28	330	2	330
Telecommunications	254	24	6	0	215
Other***	4	0	0	0	532
Total	2,601	244	2,849	63	2,830

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}Please note, commercial customer contacts are excluded from the analyses that appear later in this report, as BCS' regulatory authority has largely been confined to residential accounts.

^{***}Sewer and steam heat complaints are designated as "other" in this table.

Major Electric Distribution Companies

Consumer Complaint, PAR (Payment Arrangement Request) and FCR (First Contact Resolution) Statistics for Major Companies

		Residential Consumer Complaints (NFIs*)			Residential PARs (NFIs*)			FCRs (Residential & Commercial)		
	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change		
Duquesne	97	100	3%	69	99	43%	75	66	-12%	
Met-Ed	97	143	47%	103	163	58%	58	94	62%	
PECO	255	345	35%	341	300	-12%	260	225	-13%	
Penelec	88	109	24%	110	157	43%	56	109	95%	
Penn Power	23	31	35%	25	45	80%	20	34	70%	
PPL	116	183	58%	547	769	41%	187	287	53%	
West Penn	115	137	19%	132	153	16%	81	113	40%	
Total	791	1,048	32%	1,327	1,686	27%	737	928	26%	

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

Major Electric Distribution Companies

Percent of Justified Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

Company	Consumer C	omplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)			
Company	Number Received	Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**	Number Received	Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		
Duquesne	100	2%	99	0%		
Met-Ed	143	8%	163	0%		
PECO	345	8%	300	2%		
Penelec	109	12%	157	5%		
Penn Power	31	0%	45	0%		
PPL	183	2%	769	0%		
West Penn	137	5%	153	0%		
Total	1,048		1,686			
Average		6%		1%		

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The ratio of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests found justified to the number of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests that BCS evaluated as of 04/08/2022.

Major Electric Distribution Companies

Response Time to Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

	Average Time in Days						
Company	Consumer Con	nplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)				
	2021	2022**	2021	2022**			
Duquesne	11.3	8.7	8.9	2.0			
Met-Ed	11.6	14.6	5.1	5.0			
PECO	18.2	15.7	11.0	5.4			
Penelec	11.0	14.9	6.2	6.0			
Penn Power	10.1	13.5	8.4	5.2			
PPL	20.7	22.3	6.5	3.5			
West Penn	12.0 14.7		6.9	5.2			
Major Electric	14.9	15.5	7.7	4.3			

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The 2022 statistics are based on preliminary data on response time from the Consumer Services Information System as of 04/08/2022.

Major Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Consumer Complaint, PAR (Payment Arrangement Request) and FCR (First Contact Resolution) Statistics for Major Companies

Company	Residential Consumer Complaints (NFIs*)		Residential PARs (NFIs*)			FCRs (Residential & Commercial)			
	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change
Columbia	32	61	91%	20	74	270%	19	78	311%
National Fuel	15	12	-20%	29	28	-3%	7	9	29%
Peoples	57	51	-11%	40	61	53%	22	32	45%
Philadelphia Gas Works	150	191	27%	323	270	-16%	71	181	155%
UGI Gas	68	107	57%	128	317	148%	55	156	184%
Total	322	422	31%	540	750	39%	174	456	162%

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

Major Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Percent of Justified Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

Company	Consumer Con	omplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)			
Company	Number Received	Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		
Columbia	61	3%	74	0%		
National Fuel	12	0%	28	0%		
Peoples	51	3%	61	0%		
Philadelphia Gas Works	191	30%	270	25%		
UGI Gas	107	13%	317	5%		
Total	422	422				
Average		17%		15%		

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The ratio of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests found justified to the number of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests that BCS evaluated as of 04/08/2022.

Major Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Response Time to Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

	Average Time in Days						
Company	Consumer Cor	mplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)				
	2021	2022**	2021	2022**			
Columbia	9.9	8.6	10.0	1.3			
National Fuel	14.5	10.6	8.3	4.6			
Peoples	4.6	3.1	1.2	1.6			
Philadelphia Gas Works	19.5	10.3	15.2	4.5			
UGI Gas	8.4 7.0		3.3	2.9			
Major Gas	13.3	8.2	10.8	3.3			

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The 2022 statistics are based on preliminary data on response time from the Consumer Services Information System as of 04/08/2022.

Major Water Utilities

Consumer Complaint, PAR (Payment Arrangement Request) and FCR (First Contact Resolution) Statistics for Major Companies

Company	Residential Consumer Complaints (NFIs*)			Residential PARs (NFIs*)			FCRs (Residential & Commercial)		
,	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change
Aqua PA	59	95	61%	7	53	657%	30	47	57%
PA American	156	183	17%	182	248	36%	146	138	-5%
Other Class A	9	22	144%	7	13	86%	7	15	114%
Total	224	300	34%	196	314	60%	183	200	9%

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

Major Water Utilities

Percent of Justified Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

Company	Consumer Co	omplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)			
Company	Number Received	mber Received Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		
Aqua PA	95	25%	53	18%		
PA American	183	29%	248	7%		
Other Class A	22	14%	13	0%		
Total	300		314			
Average		26%		8%		

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The ratio of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests found justified to the number of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests that BCS evaluated as of 04/08/2022.

Major Water Utilities

Response Time to Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

	Average Time in Days						
Company	Consumer Com	plaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)				
	2021	2021 2022** 2021					
Aqua PA	16.1	3.4	15.0	1.8			
PA American	12.8	13.5	9.4	6.5			
Other Class A	23.3	13.0	9.3	13.0			
Major Water	14.1	10.1	9.6	5.9			

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

**The 2022 statistics are based on preliminary data on response time from the Consumer Services Information System as of 04/08/2022.

Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities

Consumer Complaint, PAR (Payment Arrangement Request) and FCR (First Contact Resolution) Statistics for Major Companies

Company		Residential Consumer Complaints (NFIs*)			Residential PARs (NFIs*)			FCRs (Residential & Commercial)		
, ,	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	
PWSA-Water**	56	34	-39%	5	8	60%	13	20	54%	
PWSA-Sewer**	7	5	-29%	0	4	n/a	1	3	200%	
Total	63	39	-38%	5	12	140%	14	23	64%	

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}PWSA informal complaint data is designated as PWSA-Water or PWSA-Sewer based upon the nature of the complaint.

Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities

Response Time to Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

Company	Average Time in Days						
	Consumer Com	plaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)				
	2021	2022**	2021	2022**			
PWSA-Water***	7.6	9.2	6.0	9.4			
PWSA-Sewer***	8.7	7.4	7.4 0.0				
Major Water	7.7	9.0	6.0	7.8			

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The 2022 statistics are based on preliminary data on response time from the Consumer Services Information System as of 04/08/2022.

^{***}PWSA informal complaint data is designated as PWSA-Water or PWSA-Sewer based upon the nature of the complaint.

Major Local Telecommunications Companies

Consumer Complaint, PAR (Payment Arrangement Request) and FCR (First Contact Resolution) Statistics for Major Companies

Company	Residential Consumer Complaints (NFIs*)		Residential PARs (NFIs*)			FCRs (Residential & Commercial)			
	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change	2021	2022	Percent Change
CenturyLink	19	28	47%	0	0	0%	4	9	125%
Frontier Commonwealth	16	19	19%	0	1	n/a	5	5	0%
Verizon North	16	5	-69%	0	0	0%	3	4	33%
Verizon PA	203	148	-27%	3	3	0%	87	76	-13%
Windstream	20	20	0%	0	1	n/a	7	5	-29%
Total	274	220	-20%	3	5	67%	106	99	-7%

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

Major Local Telecommunications Companies

Percent of Justified Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

Company	Consumer Co	omplaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)			
	Number Received	Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**	Number Received	Percent Justified (Closed & Evaluated)**		
CenturyLink	28	40%	0	0%		
Frontier Commonwealth	19	43%	1	0%		
Verizon North	5	50%	0	0%		
Verizon PA	148	53%	3	0%		
Windstream	20	33%	1	0%		
Total	220		5			
Average		48%		0%		

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The ratio of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests found justified to the number of consumer complaints or payment agreement requests that BCS evaluated as of 04/08/2022.

Major Local Telecommunications Companies

Response Time to Residential Consumer Complaints/PARs (Payment Arrangement Requests)

	Average Time in Days						
Company	Consumer Com	plaints (NFIs*)	PARs (NFIs*)				
	2021	2022**	2021	2022**			
CenturyLink	25.5	24.3	0.0	0.0			
Frontier Commonwealth	7.4	11.6	0.0	8.0			
Verizon North	14.2	19.7	0.0	0.0			
Verizon PA	13.2	14.1	3.3	9.7			
Windstream	13.6	15.5	0.0	19.0			
Major Telecommunications	25.5	24.3	3.3	11.2			

^{*}Consumer complaints and PARs are classified as NFIs (Need Further Investigation) because they are cases that require further investigation.

^{**}The 2022 statistics are based on preliminary data on response time from the Consumer Services Information System as of 04/08/2022.

Compliance

Snapshot of Residential Verified Infraction Statistics by Industry* Informal Complaints Opened January through March 2022

ELECTRIC	Duquesne	Met-Ed	PECO	Penelec	Penn Power	enn Power PPL		West Penn	
Chapter 56	10	12	32	17	2	12		13	
Title 66 and Other	0	1	1	1	0	0		0	
Total	10	13	33	18	2	2 12		13	
GAS	Columbia	Nat	tional Fuel	Peoples		delphia Gas Works UGI Gas		JGI Gas	
Chapter 56	3		0	2	8	3 3		30	
Title 66 and Other	0		0	0	0 1			0	
Total	3		0	2	10)2		30	
WATER	Aqua PA			PA American		Other Class A			
Chapter 56		28		61			2		
Title 66 and Other		0		3		0			
Total		28		64		2			
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	CenturyLin		rontier monwealth	Verizon North	n Verizo	on PA	Wi	ndstream	
Chapter 30	2		0	0	7			1	
Chapter 63	30		11	0	16	160		13	
Chapter 64	0		0	1	1	.1		0	
Title 66 and Other	1		0	0	1	.0		1	
Total	33		11	1	18	8		15	

^{*}Infraction data on this page is subject to change if the utility disputes infraction(s) or BCS staff discovers additional infraction(s). Final infraction statistics will appear in the annual UCARE report.

Glossary of Terms

Consumer Complaint – Complaint to BCS involving billing, service, rates and other issues not related to requests for payment terms.

First Contact Resolution (FCR) — Consumer contact to BCS that require no follow-up investigation beyond the initial contact.

Infraction – A misapplication or infringement of a Commission regulation, particularly the standards and billing practices for residential utility service.

Major Electric Distribution Companies – Electric distribution companies with more than 100,000 residential customers.

Major Local Telecommunications Companies – Local telecommunications companies with more than 50,000 residential customers.

Major Natural Gas Distribution Companies – Natural gas distribution companies with more than 100,000 residential customers.

Major Water Utilities – Non-municipal water utilities with annual revenues of \$1,000,000 or more for three years in a row are classified as "Class A." The tables in this report present individual statistics for the two largest Class A water companies, PAWC and Aqua, and for the "Other Class A" companies as a whole. The "Other Class A" water companies are Audubon Water, Columbia Water, Newtown Artesian Water, SUEZ Water Bethel, SUEZ Water PA, and York Water Company.

Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities – Pittsburgh Water & Sewer (PWSA), a municipal utility, came under the Commission's regulatory authority effective 04/01/18. PWSA informal complaint data is designated as PWSA-Water or PWSA-Sewer based upon the nature of the complaint. Since PWSA's transition to PUC regulation is ongoing, as described in the annual UCARE report, it is premature for BCS to report data regarding justified consumer complaints/PARs or infractions.

Payment Arrangement Request (PAR) – Consumer request for payment plans in the following situations: suspension/termination of service is pending, service is suspended/terminated and in need of restoration, or the customer wants to retire an arrearage.

Justified Consumer Complaint – A consumer complaint where, prior to BCS intervention, the company did not comply with Commission Orders, policies, regulations, reports, Secretarial Letters, tariffs or guidelines when the consumer brought the complaint to the company's attention. The justified consumer complaint rate equals the number of justified consumer complaints for each 1,000 residential customers.

Justified PAR – A Payment Arrangement Request where, prior to BCS intervention, the company did not comply with Commission regulations, reports, Secretarial Letters, tariffs or guidelines. The justified payment arrangement request rate equals the number of justified payment arrangement requests for each 1,000 residential customers.

Response Time – The time span in days from the date BCS first contacts the utility regarding a consumer complaint or PAR, to the date on which the utility provides BCS with its report.