

June 5th 2015

RECEIVED
2015 JUN 16 AM 10:41
P.A.P.U.C.
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

To Secretary

Pa. Public Utility Commission

P.O Box 3265

Harrisburg PA 17105

C-2014-2444967

My name is Rashida Pickett and I am filing an exception for the decision made in the Rashida Pickett v. Philadelphia Gas Works hearing. It is true that three payment agreements have been defaulted with PGW. It is also true that it was not intentional and completely devastating for me to default on all of my bills. PGW is my most expensive bill and this is the reason why I was not able to keep up with the bill after the recession in 2005-2008, at this time I was removed from full time to part time for three years. In 2011 when I was diagnosed with an a ventricular malfunction in the right side of my brain and was hospitalized for 6 weeks and put on light duty working only two days a week. Lastly and most troubling when I was terminated from my job that I sacrificed thirteen years of my life working for. I am eligible for a payment arrangement with PGW. The one and only issue is the massive down payment that is being asked for in the amount of \$2000 to get on the CRP program again. All of the reasons that I defaulted on the previous CRP payments were all through travesties that I could not control, they were not deliberate, and they were all out of my control. I did not ask for a head bleed, I did not ask to be taken from 80 hours per pay to only 32 hours per pay, and I surely did not know after all this that I would be terminated from my job.

I am working and I am able to make payments every month, on time as I have been doing all year. I am not behind, I have a positive payment history with PGW, the only issue is the down payment. I never asked for a reduction in a down payment before this. When I went to court in January of 2015 to dispute the massive down payment my bill was in arrears of \$3000. Now even with me paying since the court date and 6 months before the court date my arrears are over \$5000. My heater has been broken since December of 2014. I only use hot water as a PGW resource. I don't understand how my arrears are so high. This is another issue. My gas usage isn't that of someone who uses the heat because as mentioned before the heater has been broken and out of use for many months and I'm certain that PGW has record of this.

I am asking simply for a payment arrangement/agreement without the large down payment to begin the agreement/arrangement. I am not stealing gas; I am not a criminal, though this decision is extremely

harsh for a single mother with medical issues who is attempting to continue to do the right thing. I am on payment agreements with PECO, PWD, my mortgage and my second mortgage, a HEMAP loan that I had to take out in order to keep my home when I was forced to file for bankruptcy in 2006. I have come a long way and it has been an extremely bumpy road. I am employed and determined to continue to pay my bills to keep my children off of the streets. All that I am requesting is for the massive down payment to be either reduced significantly and to be put on a payment agreement for the arrears amicably and fairly. I am sorry and embarrassed that I am in this horrible financial bind. I don't wish to be a burden on anyone, I just want to continue to pay my PGW bill on time, I just cannot afford the down payment. The arrears are still going to be there. I can pay my bill and pay on the arrears monthly. They can place a lien on my home for the arrears, anything but to ask me for a down payment that I do not have. I have no money saved, there is no one that I can borrow the money from. Please find it in your heart to understand my situation. I do wish that I had the funds to satisfy these arrears, but I do not.

Sincerely,,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rashida Pickett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rashida Pickett

1236 Atwood Road
Phila PA 19151



7

NEEDS
POSTAGE

To Secretary
Pa. Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg PA 17105

49