

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1325 G STREET, N.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005**

ORDER

July 16, 2025

**FORMAL CASE NO. 1180, IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY FOR THE AUTHORITY TO INCREASE
EXISTING RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS SERVICE, Order No. 22463**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. By this Order, the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (“Commission”) addresses witness unavailability filings from the Parties in this proceeding and reschedules the evidentiary hearing to August 14, 2025.¹ The revised procedural schedule is included as Attachment A.

II. BACKGROUND

2. On August 5, 2024, Washington Gas Light Company (“WGL”) filed an Application requesting authority to increase existing rates and charges for gas service in the District of Columbia (“District”).² The requested rates are designed to collect approximately \$257.2 million in total revenue, representing a \$45.6 million increase in weather-normalized annual revenue. This includes the transfer of \$11.7 million in costs associated with natural gas system upgrades previously approved by the Commission (PROJECT*pipes*). The net increase in new revenues is \$33.9 million, reflecting an approximate 11.9% increase over current rates.

3. In Order No. 22446, the Commission determined that an evidentiary hearing should be convened to resolve material issues of fact in dispute for nine issues. In that Order, the Commission scheduled the evidentiary hearing for August 5, 2025.³ On June 26, 2025, WGL filed a Notice to inform us that a certain witness would be unavailable on that date. The Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington (“AOBA”) filed a Response to this Notice, and the Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia (“OPC”) filed a motion to reschedule the evidentiary hearing on July 1, 2025.

¹ See *Formal Case No. 1180, In the Matter of the Application of Washington Gas Light Company for Authority to Increase Existing Rates and Charges for Gas Service* (“*Formal Case No. 1180*”), Notice of Witness Unavailability, filed June 26, 2025; *Formal Case No. 1180*, Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington Response to WGL’s Notice of Unavailability of Witness Baryenbruch, filed July 1, 2025; *Formal Case No. 1180*, Office of the People’s Counsel for the District of Columbia’s Motion to Reschedule Evidentiary Hearing Due to Witnesses Unavailability, filed July 1, 2025.

² *Formal Case No. 1180*, Application to Increase Existing Rates (“Application”), filed August 5, 2024.

³ *Formal Case No. 1180*, Order No. 22446, rel. June 24, 2025 (“Order No. 22446”).

III. DISCUSSION

4. In its Notice, WGL represents that one of its witnesses, Patrick Baryenbruch, is unavailable on August 5, 2025, due to overseas travel. He is available starting August 11, 2025. If Witness Baryenbruch is not needed for cross-examination, then WGL requests that the Commission excuse him.⁴

5. In its Response, AOBA indicates that it may have questions for Witness Baryenbruch. AOBA is willing to meet with the parties to discuss alternative dates for Witness Baryenbruch to appear at a hearing.⁵

6. In its Motion, OPC represents that two of its witnesses, Bion Ostrander and Brian Andrews, are unavailable on August 5, 2025. OPC represents that they are available on August 14, 2025, and request that the Commission reschedule the evidentiary hearing to that date or a later date.⁶ OPC represents that the testimony of Witnesses Ostrander and Andrews is relevant to the material issues of fact in dispute identified in Order No. 22446. OPC indicates that AOBA and the District of Columbia Government do not oppose OPC's request.⁷

IV. DECISION

7. The Commission finds that all three witnesses who are unavailable on August 5, 2025, WGL Witness Baryenbruch, OPC Witness Ostrander, and OPC Witness Andrews, are essential to the evidentiary hearing since their testimony is relevant to the material issues of fact in dispute identified in Order No. 22446. Thus, a new date for the evidentiary hearing is needed. The Commission scheduled a meeting on July 9, 2025, with the parties to discuss alternative dates to hold the hearing.⁸ The parties agreed that August 14, 2025, is acceptable to the witnesses identified as necessary for the evidentiary hearing. Thus, the Commission reschedules the evidentiary hearing to August 14, 2025. The Commission will begin the hearing at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission hearing room.

8. Due to the change in the date for the evidentiary hearing, the Commission revises the procedural schedule included in Order No. 22446. Motions to correct the transcript will now be due August 27, 2025, while post-hearing briefs will be due September 4, 2024. The revised procedural schedule is included as Attachment A.

⁴ WGL Notice at 1. The Commission notes that the Notice is unpaginated.

⁵ AOBA Response at 1.

⁶ OPC Motion at 1. The Commission notes that the Motion is unpaginated.

⁷ OPC Motion at 2-3.

⁸ *Formal Case No. 1180*, Email Communications from Lara Walt, Senior Attorney Advisor, to *Formal Case No. 1180* Parties, filed July 16, 2025.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

9. The Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia's Motion to Reschedule Evidentiary Hearing Due to Witnesses Unavailability is **GRANTED**;

10. The evidentiary hearing in this proceeding is **RESCHEDULED** to August 14, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m.;

11. Parties shall file motions to correct the transcript from the evidentiary hearing by August 27, 2025;

12. Post-hearing briefs shall be filed by September 4, 2025; and

13. The procedural schedule is **AMENDED** as provided in Attachment A.

A TRUE COPY:

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brinda Westbrook-Sedgwick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHIEF CLERK:

**BRINDA WESTBROOK-SEDGWICK
COMMISSION SECRETARY**

Attachment A

1.	Order Adopting Procedural Schedule Issued	October 16, 2024
2.	WGL Supplemental Testimony and Workpapers (if necessary)	November 4, 2024
3.	Deadline for Data Requests to WGL Regarding Application, Direct and Supplemental Testimony	November 12, 2024
4.	WGL Responses to Data Requests	December 3, 2024
5.	Deadline to Submit Follow-Up Data Requests	December 10, 2024
6.	Responses to Follow-Up Data Requests	December 17, 2024
7.	Direct Testimony and Exhibits of OPC and Intervenors	January 24, 2025
8.	Deadline for Data Requests Regarding OPC and Intervenors Testimony	February 7, 2025
9.	Order on Issues of Material Fact Issued	February 19, 2025
10.	All Responses to Data Requests Regarding Intervenor Testimony	February 21, 2025
11.	Deadline for Follow-Up Data Requests on OPC and Intervenor Testimony	February 28, 2025
12.	Responses to Follow-Up Data Requests Regarding OPC and Intervenor Testimony	March 7, 2025
13.	Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits	March 25, 2025
14.	Settlement and Stipulation Conference	April 3, 2025
15.	Deadline to Submit Data Requests Relative to Rebuttal Testimony	April 8, 2025
16.	Parties Report on Settlement and Stipulation Conference	April 10, 2025
17.	Responses to Data Requests Relating to Rebuttal Testimony	April 21, 2025
18.	Surrebuttal Testimony and Exhibits	May 2, 2025
19.	Rejoinder Testimony and Exhibits	May 19, 2025
20.	Issues List	May 23, 2025
21.	Pre-Hearing Filing	July 29, 2025
22.	Evidentiary Hearings	August 14, 2025
23.	Community Hearings	April 2025
24.	Motions to Correct the Transcript	August 27, 2025
25.	All Post-Hearing Briefs (One Brief)	September 4, 2025

COMMISSION ACTION

FORMAL CASE NO. 1180, IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY FOR THE AUTHORITY TO INCREASE EXISTING RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS SERVICE,

Date 7/16/25 Formal Case Nos. 1180 Tariff No. _____ Order No. 22463

	Approve Initial & Date	Disapprove Initial & Date	Abstain Initial & Date
Chairman Emile Thompson	<u>ET/JP 7/16/25</u>	_____	_____
Commissioner Richard A. Beverly	<u>RB/JP 7/16/25</u>	_____	_____
Commissioner Ted Trabue	<u>TT/JP 7/16/25</u>	_____	_____

Certification of Action

Jamond D. Perry
General/Deputy General Counsel

Lara Walt
OGC Counsel/Staff