

**FRANK BURNS, MEMBER**  
72ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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**COMMITTEES**

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April 13, 2026

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**RE: Docket No. R-2026-3060855**

Dear Commissioner DeFrank:

**I write today to express my opposition to the proposed rate hikes filed by Peoples Natural Gas Company on March 27, 2026.** The requested rate increases would mean customers will pay an additional \$163.2 million per year for their natural gas. This amounts to 13-percent increases for the average residential customer and a nearly 16-percent increase for commercial customers.

Peoples Natural Gas serves some 700,000 homes and businesses across 18 counties, including Cambria County. These rate hikes would unfairly burden residents who can least afford to pay it. In my district, many residents are older and on fixed incomes, or struggle generally to make ends meet. Even before surging inflation rates and tariffs hiked the price of everyday goods, Johnstown was labeled the poorest small city in Pennsylvania. My constituents simply cannot bear a rate increase on top of all the other rising costs.

I strongly oppose the Peoples Natural Gas rate increase request and urge the Commission to reject the proposal. Thank you for your consideration, and if you have any questions regarding my position, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Burns".

Frank Burns  
State Representative  
72<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District