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July 12, 2012

Public Utilities Commission
Attention: Secretary
P.O.Box 3265
Harrisburg, Pa. 17105-3265

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Reference: Docket No. L-2009-2107155

With the development of remote gas and electric meter reading devices, there is not a need to make visible in front of homes especially historic homes, the rusty pipes and rusty meters or industrial-looking configurations associated with keeping track of how much of a gas or electricity a building uses.

Such abuse and uglifying of private property lowers the property values in a neighborhood greatly and prevents the user of the property and the neighbors and tourists from enjoying the beauty of the front of the property. Lowering the values of neighborhoods lowers the assessments and the tax income upon which our cities depend.

Require that the Public Utilities remove currently placed utility meters in front yards and do not allow further movement from inside to outside of the existing utility meters. In addition, the utilities should be required to remove their meters in the fronts of private property and put them inside buildings since the technology has become available. There is no current need for a meter to be located in front of a building and ruin the street appeal of the building and lower the neighborhood's property values.



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P.S. I am speaking for the views held by many members of local groups: Preservation Pittsburgh, Allegheny City Society, Allegheny West Historic District, Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, Northside Leadership Conference of Neighborhoods, Troy Hill Citizens.

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