STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER PAMELA A. WITMER

Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) for consideration and disposition is the Act 129 Phase III Implementation Order. The Order tentatively sets new energy efficiency and demand response targets to be achieved by electric distribution companies (EDCs) over a five-year time period. These programs, when cost-effectively run, provide numerous benefits to all customers.

Throughout Phase II and Phase III, I have been a staunch advocate for removing obstacles that prevent EDCs from including deeper, more comprehensive measures in their Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Programs. Today’s action with respect to comprehensive measures directly aligns with this goal. By mandating the inclusion of at least two comprehensive programs, while not limiting the definition of “comprehensive,” we are creating an environment that fosters the inclusion of more comprehensive measures in EE&C Programs. Therefore, I support this Order.

Finally, I commend the work of Commission staff and the stakeholders to date, and look forward to reviewing EDCs’ Programs that include comprehensive measures when they are submitted.

DATE: June 11, 2015

Pamela A. Witmer, Commissioner