

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison :
Company, Pennsylvania Electric :
Company, and Pennsylvania Power : Docket No. M-2009-2123950
Company for Approval of Smart Meter :
Technology Procurement and Installation :
Plan :**

**PETITION TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY
ORGANIZATIONS FOR REFORM NOW (“ACORN”)**

TO THE HONORABLE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

The Pennsylvania Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, by and through their counsel, the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, hereby Petitions to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to the provisions of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“PUC” or “Commission”), 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.71-5.74, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. The Petitioners are represented by the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project. Attorneys receiving service of all documents in this proceeding are:

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2. On August 14, 2009, pursuant to the requirements of Act 129, Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, and Pennsylvania Power Company (“First Energy” or “companies”) filed with the Commission a joint petition seeking approval of the companies’ Smart Meter Technology Procurement and Installation Plans. *Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, and Pennsylvania Power Company for Approval of Smart Meter Technology Procurement and Installation Plan*, Docket No. M-2009-2123950 (Filed August 14, 2009) (“Joint Petition”).

3. The Joint Petition outlines the companies’ plan to coordinate work across their service territories to achieve cost efficiencies and a consistent approach to procure and install smart meter technology. Joint Petition at 4. The companies have entered into a contract with Black & Veatch Corporation to help develop their Smart Meter Technology Procurement and Installation Plan (“Plan”). Id. The companies anticipate a 15-year full scale deployment of smart metering technology across the companies’ service territories. Id. at 5. The companies will use the first 24 months of the 30-month grace period to create a business plan which will result in the submission of a complete deployment plan to the Commission. Id. During this initial period of 24 months, the companies will assess their needs, select vendors, train personnel, purchase, test, and install the

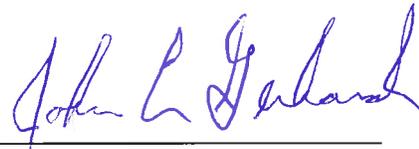
technology. Joint Petition at 5. At the end of the assessment period, the companies will submit a full, detailed deployment plan for the Commission's approval. Id.

4. The Petitioner, Pennsylvania ACORN, is a not-for-profit chapter of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now ("ACORN"), an advocacy and membership organization whose mission is to advocate on behalf of low and lower income persons on numerous consumer issues, including access to and the affordability of public utility service.
5. Many ACORN constituents reside within the companies' service territories and receive electric distribution service from the companies. The companies' proposed Smart Meter Plan will have direct, immediate, substantial, and distinct effects upon the interests of ACORN constituents.
6. Given the novelty of Smart Metering technologies and practices, there are significant questions remaining unanswered regarding the impact Smart Networks, Smart Metering, and dynamic pricing will have on low income customers. What is the real cost of procuring and implementing a smart meter system, and how will these costs fall on low income customers? How will low income customers access, take advantage of, and benefit from the data made available through smart meters and networks? What will be the impact of real time pricing and time of use rates upon low income customers? Will smart metering herald new types of service that have adverse impacts upon low income

customers? Each of these questions requires full investigation and consideration in this proceeding.

7. The grounds for ACORN's petition to intervene are to ensure that its interests and those of its constituents are represented in this proceeding, particularly those issues raised in Paragraph 6 supra. Since the interests of our constituents are not adequately represented at the present time but our constituents will be bound by the Commission's decision, ACORN seeks to intervene in this proceeding.
8. WHEREFORE, ACORN respectfully requests the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:
 - a. Grant this Petition to Intervene and
 - b. Make such other orders as are just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted by:



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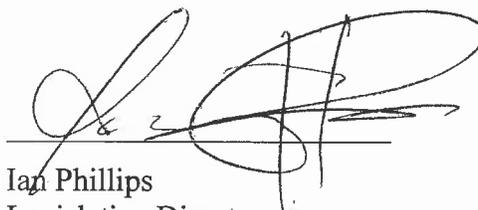
Counsel for ACORN

Dated: September 25, 2009

VERIFICATION

I, Ian Phillips, hereby state that the facts above set forth in the Petition to Intervene are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Dated: September 14, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'I' followed by a cursive 'P' and 'H'. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Ian Phillips
Legislative Director
Pennsylvania ACORN
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