**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Joint Petition for Consolidation of Proceedings :

and Approval of Energy Efficiency and : Docket No. M-2015-2514767

Conservation Plans Phase III of Metropolitan : Docket No. M-2015-2514768

Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric : Docket No. M-2015-2514769

Company, Pennsylvania Power Company and : Docket No. M-2015-2514772

West Penn Power Company :

**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

 On December 29, 2015, Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company and West Penn Power Company (collectively “the Companies”) filed a Petition for a Protective Order that would govern how certain information provided by a party in this proceeding was to be treated. Upon due consideration of the Petition for Protective Order, there being no objection, it is granted as follows.

1. The information subject to this Order shall be as set forth in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Terms of Protection attached hereto as Exhibit A.
2. The information that is identified in Paragraph 1 above shall be subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in the Terms of Protection attached hereto as Exhibit A.
3. Proprietary Information shall be made available only as permitted by this Order and only for the purposes set forth in Exhibit A.
4. Proprietary Information shall be made available to the Commission and its Staff for use in this proceeding and for all internal Commission analyses, studies or investigations related to the same. For purposes of filing, to the extent that Proprietary Information is placed in the Commission’s report folders, testimony folders or other document folders, such information shall be separately bound, conspicuously marked, and accompanied by a copy of this Order. The Proprietary Information shall be considered and treated as “confidential proprietary information, as defined in the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Act, 65 P.S. § 67.101 *et seq.* Public inspection of the Proprietary Information shall be permitted only in accordance with this Protective Order.

 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Companies’ Petition for Protective Order is hereby granted consistent with the provisions set forth above and in Exhibit A attached hereto.

Date: January 7, 2016 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Elizabeth H. Barnes

 Administrative Law Judge

Exhibit A

TERMS OF PROTECTION

1. The information subject to the Protective Order is all correspondence, documents, data, information, studies, methodologies and other materials, in whatever form produced, stored or contained, including computerized memory, magnetic, electronic or optical media, furnished in this proceeding that the Providing party believe to be of a proprietary or confidential nature and are so designated by being stamped “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material. Such materials are referred to herein as “Proprietary Information.” When a statement or exhibit is identified for the record, the portions thereof that constitute Proprietary Information shall be designated as such for the record.
2. For purposes of the Protective Order, there are two categories of Proprietary Information: “CONFIDENTIAL” and “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material. The Providing Party may designate as “CONFIDENTIAL” those materials that are customarily treated by the Providing Party as sensitive or proprietary, that are not available to the public, and that, if generally disclosed, would subject the Providing Party to the risk of competitive disadvantage or other business injury. The Providing Party may designate as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” those materials that are of such a commercially sensitive nature, relative to the business interests of parties to this proceeding, or of such a private or personal nature, that the Providing Party is able to justify a heightened level of confidential protection with respect to those materials. The Providing Party shall endeavor to limit the information designated as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protective material.
3. Subject to the other terms as set forth herein, Proprietary Information shall be provided to counsel for the Receiving Party who meets the criteria of a “Reviewing Representative” as set forth below. Such counsel shall use or disclose the Proprietary Information only for purposes of preparing or presenting evidence, testimony, cross-examination, argument, or settlement discussions in this proceeding. To the extent required for participation in this proceeding, such counsel may allow others to have access to Proprietary Information only in accordance with the conditions and limitations set forth herein..
4. Nothing in this Agreement precludes the use of Proprietary Information produced in this proceeding and made part of the record by Commission and its Staff consistent with any subsequently entered Protective Order.
5. Information deemed “CONFIDENTIAL” shall be provided to a “Reviewing Representative.” For purposes of “CONFIDENTIAL” Proprietary Information, a “Reviewing Representative” is a person who has signed a Non-Disclosure Certificate and is:
	1. An attorney who has formally entered an appearance in this proceeding on behalf of the Receiving Party;
	2. An attorney, paralegal, or other employee associated for purposes of this case with an attorney described in subparagraph (i) above;
	3. An expert or an employee of an expert retained by the Receiving Party for the purpose of advising the Receiving Party or testifying in this proceeding on behalf of the Receiving Party; or
	4. Employees or other representatives of the Receiving Party who have significant responsibility for developing or presenting the Receiving Party’s positions in this docket.
6. Information deemed “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material shall be provided to a Reviewing Representative, provided, however that a Reviewing Representative, for purposes of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material, is limited to a person who has signed a Non-Disclosure Certificate and is:
	1. An attorney who has formally entered an appearance in this proceeding on behalf of the Receiving Party;
	2. An attorney, paralegal, or other employee associated for purposes of this case with an attorney described in subparagraph (i) above;
	3. An outside expert or an employee of an outside expert retained by the Receiving Party for the purpose of advising the Receiving Party or testifying in this proceeding on behalf of the Receiving Party; or
	4. A person designated as a Reviewing Representative for purposes of HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL protected material pursuant to paragraph 11.
7. Reviewing Representatives qualified to receive “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material may discuss HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL protected material with their client or with the entity with which they are employed or associated, but may not share with, or permit the client or entity to review or have access to, the HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL protected material. Counsel for the Office of Consumer Advocate may share Proprietary Information with the Consumer Advocate without obtaining a Non-Disclosure Certificate from the Consumer Advocate, provided however, that the Consumer Advocate otherwise abides by the terms of this Agreement and any subsequently entered Protective Order. Similarly, counsel for the Office of Small Business Advocate may share Proprietary Information with the Small Business Advocate without obtaining a Non-Disclosure Certificate from the Small Business Advocate, provided however, that the Small Business Advocate otherwise abides by the terms of this Agreement and any subsequently entered Protective Order.
8. Proprietary Information shall be treated by the parties and by the Reviewing Representative in accordance with the terms set forth herein, which are hereby expressly incorporated into the certificate that must be executed pursuant to Paragraph 12(a). Proprietary Information shall be used as necessary, for the conduct of this proceeding and for no other purpose. Proprietary Information shall not be disclosed in any manner to any person except a Reviewing Representative who is engaged in the conduct of this proceeding and who needs to know the information in order to carry out that person’s responsibilities in this proceeding.
9. Reviewing Representatives may not use anything contained in any Proprietary Information obtained through this proceeding to give the Receiving Party or any competitor of the Providing Party a commercial advantage. In the event that the Receiving Party wishes to designate as a Reviewing Representative a person not described in paragraph 6(i) through (iii) above, the Receiving Party must first seek agreement to do so from the Providing Party. If an agreement is reached, the designated individual shall be a Reviewing Representative pursuant to Paragraph 6(iv) above with respect to those materials. If no agreement is reached the Receiving Party shall submit the disputed designation to the presiding Administrative Law Judge for resolution.
10. (a) A Reviewing Representative shall not be permitted to inspect, participate in discussions regarding, or otherwise be permitted access to Proprietary Information unless that Reviewing Representative has first executed a Non-Disclosure Certificate in the form provided in Appendix A, provided, however, that if an attorney or expert qualified as a Reviewing Representative has executed such a certificate, the paralegals, secretarial and clerical personnel under the attorney’s instruction, supervision or control need not do so. A copy of each executed Non-Disclosure Certificate shall be provided to the Providing Party prior to disclosure of any Proprietary Information to that Reviewing Representative.

(b) Attorneys and outside experts qualified as Reviewing Representatives are responsible for ensuring that persons under their supervision or control comply with the terms of the Protective Order.

1. The Providing Party shall designate data or documents as constituting or containing Proprietary Information by stamping the documents “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” protected material. Where only part of data compilations or multi-page documents constitutes or contains Proprietary Information, the Providing Party, insofar as reasonably practicable within discovery and other time constraints imposed in this proceeding, shall designate only the specific data or pages of documents which constitute or contain Proprietary Information.
2. The Receiving Party will consider and treat the Proprietary Information as within the definition of “confidential proprietary information” in Section 102 of the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law of 2008, 65 P.S. § 67.102 and subject to the exemptions from disclosure provided in the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Act (65 P.S. § 67.101 et seq.) until such information is found by a tribunal with jurisdiction to be not confidential or subject to one or more exemptions.
3. Any public reference to Proprietary Information by the Receiving Party or its Reviewing Representative shall be to the title or exhibit reference in sufficient detail to permit persons with access to the Proprietary Information to understand fully the reference and not more. The Proprietary Information shall remain a part of the record, to the extent admitted, for all purposes of administrative or judicial review.
4. The part(s) of any record of this proceeding containing Proprietary Information, including but not limited to all exhibits (including discovery responses made part of the record), writings, testimony, cross examination, and argument, and including reference thereto as mentioned in paragraph 15 above, shall be sealed for all purposes, including administrative and judicial review, unless such Proprietary Information is released from the restrictions of this Stipulated Protective Agreement, either through the agreement of the Providing and Receiving Parties, or pursuant to an order of the Commission.
5. The Receiving Party shall retain the right to question or challenge the confidential or proprietary nature of Proprietary Information and to question or challenge the admissibility of Proprietary Information. If the Receiving Party challenges the designation of a document or information as proprietary, the Providing Party retains the burden of demonstrating that the designation is appropriate.
6. The Providing Party shall retain the right to object to the production of Proprietary Information on any proper ground, to refuse to produce Proprietary Information pending the adjudication of the objection, and to seek additional measures of protection of Proprietary Information beyond those provided herein.
7. Within 30 days after a Commission final order is entered in the above-captioned proceedings, or in the event of appeals, within thirty days after appeals are finally decided, the Receiving Party, upon request, shall either destroy or return to the Providing Party all copies of all documents and other materials not entered into the record, including notes, which contain any Proprietary Information. In the event that the Receiving Party elects to destroy all copies of documents and other materials containing Proprietary Information instead of returning the copies of documents and other materials containing Proprietary Information to the Providing Party, upon request, the Receiving Party shall certify in writing to the Providing Party that the Proprietary Information has been destroyed.

APPENDIX A

**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Joint Petition for Consolidation of Proceedings and Approval of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans - Phase III of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company and West Penn Power Company** | :::::::: | **Docket No. M-2015-2514767Docket No. M-2015-2514768Docket No. M-2015-2514769Docket No. M-2015-2514772** |

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The undersigned is the expert, counsel, employee, member or officer of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the Retaining Party). The undersigned has read and understands the Protective Order issued in the above-captioned proceeding, which deals with the treatment of Proprietary Information. The undersigned agrees to be bound by, and comply with, the terms and conditions of said Order. The undersigned agrees that any Proprietary Information shall be used or disclosed only for purposes of preparation for, and conduct of the above-captioned proceeding, or any administrative or judicial review thereof, and shall not be disclosed or used for purposes of business or competition.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Employer

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**PETITION OF:**

**M-2015-2514767 – METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY**

**M-2015-2514768 – PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY**

**M-2015-2514769 – PENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANY**

**M-2015-2514772 – WEST PENN POWER COMPANY - FOR APPROVAL OF ITS ACT  129 PHASE III ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PLAN.**

***Revised 1/8/16***

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