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|  | **PENNSYLVANIA**  **PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  **Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265** |  |
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|  | Public Meeting held October 27, 2016 |
| Commissioners Present: |  |

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| Gladys M. Brown, Chairman | |
| Andrew G. Place, Vice Chairman  John F. Coleman, Jr.  Robert F. Powelson  David W. Sweet | |
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| Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company’s Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Web Portal Implementation Plan | M-2009-2092655 |

# FINAL ORDER

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) is the filing of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company’s (collectively, FE) Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Web Portal Implementation Plan (FE Implementation Plan). Based on the recommendations provided in the Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s (EDEWG) *Pennsylvania Web Portal Working Group Technical Implementation Standards*[[1]](#footnote-1) regarding the previously approved EDEWG standards for the development of electric distribution company[[2]](#footnote-2) (EDC) web portals, we hereby approve the FE Implementation Plan. Furthermore, the Commission approves the recovery of the costs for these web portals through the FE Smart Meter Technologies Riders. Additionally, we order FE to provide smart meter data in conformance to its Commission-approved smart meter deployment plan.

**BACKGROUND**

In our *Smart Meter Procurement and Installation Final Order,* at Docket No. M-2009-2092655 (Order entered December 6, 2012) (hereinafter Dec. 2012 Final Order), we directed EDEWG to convene a Web Portal Working Group (WPWG) to develop standardized solutions for third-party[[3]](#footnote-3) acquisition of a customer’s historical interval usage (HIU) and billing quality interval use (BQIU) data via an EDC-provided, secure web portal.[[4]](#footnote-4) The Dec. 2012 Final Order required EDEWG to complete its development standards for the HIU solution by March 1, 2014, with the completion of its development standards for the BQIU solution by March 1, 2015. The Order only required the completion of the standards by these dates.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The EDEWG Leadership (Leadership) filed on February 4, 2014, a request that the Commission modify the scope of the proposal so that both the HIU and BQIU standards could be filed no later than March 1, 2015.[[6]](#footnote-6) Leadership asserted that many of the utilized processes, data and technology elements common to both required standards would be more efficiently synergized in generating these standards. This request was granted via a Secretarial Letter dated April 17, 2014, at the aforementioned docket.

On February 17, 2015, Leadership filed the EDEWG *Pennsylvania Web Portal Working Group Solution Framework* (Solution Framework or Framework), which outlined the standards for a secure web portal solution that would permit third parties, such as electric generation suppliers (EGSs) and conservation service providers (CSPs), to acquire both HIU and BQIU data within 48 hours of daily meter reads.

In the Framework, Leadership provided an overall request-response portal framework, which considered three basic options:

1. **Single User - Single Request (SU-SR).** A user-based platform allowing for an authorized user to manually log into the portal, request, and receive data for one individual account at a time via the portal’s user interface. The results could be rendered within the web portal interface itself or exported to the user in a predefined file format.
2. **Single User - Multiple Requests (SU-MR).** Similar to SU-SR, except that the authorized user logging into the portal may submit and receive data for more than one account number as part of a single request.
3. **System-to-System (StS)** – Initially conceived as a platform allowing an authorized user’s information technology (IT) systems to communicate directly with the web portal system of the EDC without requiring a user to manually log into the web portal itself and leverage the user interface. For instance, this could involve the use of File Transfer Protocol, aka “FTP,” or web services to transmit and satisfy requests.[[7]](#footnote-7)

After discussion, Leadership (and the WPWG) recommended to use the SU-MR structure as the minimum required standard on which the deliverables should focus. Additionally, Leadership acknowledged that there was no consensus reached on the StS, and requested Commission guidance on this functionality. [[8]](#footnote-8) Leadership determined that the SU-SR was insufficient, and did not recommend its approval.

In our *Submission of the Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Solution Framework for Historical Interval Usage and Billing Quality Interval Use* Tentative Order*,* at Docket No. M-2009-2092655 (Order entered April 23, 2015) (hereinafter the Tentative Order), we proposed that the EDCs implement the SU-MR option within eight months of the entry date of a Final Order in the proceeding and to implement a mandatory StS functionality within 12 months of the date of the Final Order. Furthermore, the Statement of Commissioner James H. Cawley was placed into the record, asking market participants to provide responses to six specific questions posed to them. Comments were due within 30 days of the entry date of the Tentative Order.

In our *Submission of the Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Solution Framework for Historical Interval Usage and Billing Quality Interval Use* Final Order*,* at Docket No. M-2009-2092655 (Order entered September 3, 2015) (hereinafter the Sept. 2015 Final Order), we directed those EDCs with smart meter requirements to implement, within twelve months of the entry date of the Final Order, the SU-MR option outlined in the Framework and, within fourteen months of the entry date of the Final Order, the StS functionality outlined in the Framework. We also directed EDEWG to reconvene the WPWG, with mandatory EDC participation, in order to develop (but not implement) standards for a uniform StS functionality. The WPWG was required to submit to the Commission, for its review and approval, its recommendations within six months of the entry date of the Sept. 2015 Final Order. The Commission would then provide further direction to the EDCs regarding the implementation of the StS functionality, as well as the potential recovery of costs.

Leadership filed the EDEWG *Pennsylvania Web Portal Working Group Technical Implementation Standard(s),* at Docket No. M-2009-2092655 (this was an updated version of the Solution Framework, but hereinafter the Implementation Standards) on April 7, 2016, and it was docketed by the Commission on April 12, 2016. EDEWG requested that the Commission approve the Implementation Standards, and the WPWG recommended that the StS Rolling 10 Day solution be implemented either before or during the implementation of the StS HIU solution.

In our *Submission of the Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Solution Framework for Historical Interval Usage and Billing Quality Interval Use* Final Order*,* at Docket No. M-2009-2092655 (Order entered June 30, 2016) (hereinafter the June 2016 Final Order), we determined that third party access to the web portals would follow Section 1.1 of the Implementation Standards.[[9]](#footnote-9) Furthermore, we approved of the Implementation Standards, as submitted, and directed those EDCs with smart meter requirements to implement the Single User – Multiple Requests, System-to-System Rolling 10 Day and System-to-System Historical Interval Usage solutions no later than November 3, 2016.[[10]](#footnote-10) We also ordered that those EDCs with smart meter requirements submit implementation plans containing cost estimates and a requested recovery mechanism within 30 days from the date of the June 2016 Final Order.[[11]](#footnote-11)

**DISCUSSION**

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

On August 1, 2016, FE filed its Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Web Portal Implementation Plan (FE Implementation Plan). The FE Implementation Plan outlines the changes FE will undertake to ensure it meets the functionality and other requirements of the June 2016 Final Order. No party filed comments or objections to FE’s plan and the matter is now ripe for disposition.

FE claims in its Implementation Plan that all requirements related to each of the SU-MR, StS Rolling 10 Day, and StS HIU solutions require functionality that does not currently exist. FE offers that it currently uses a password protected secure supplier portal to store eligible customer lists, sync lists, interval files, and provide access to the EDC Customer Account Number Lookup Mechanism. Furthermore, FE states that it plans to integrate the SU-MR and StS Rolling 10 Day solutions into this existing portal. FE states that all functionality (SU-MR, StS Rolling 10 Day, and StS HIU) required by the Commission-approved Implementation Standards will become available by November 3, 2016. FE Implementation Plan at 2 and 3.

FE states that the SU-MR solution will allow EGSs to view all mandated customer attributes, as well as summary level usage via an online view. Additionally, FE asserts that the SU-MR will support an EGS export of a CSV file which will include the customer attributes and summary level data, along with the last twelve months of interval data. *Id.*

FE maintains that the StS Rolling 10 Day solution will allow EGSs to retrieve daily files that contain customer interval data within its supplier portal. These files will be published daily, with the oldest file being removed and the new file added to maintain a rolling 10 days of customer data at any given time.Multiple files for each day could be available based on the size of each file and the intervals by which customers’ usage are measured. FE affirms that the StS HIU solution will allow EGSs to use a Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) address to retrieve customer data, consisting of both customer attributes and interval usage, via an XML format. FE Implementation Plan at 2-4.

FE indicates in its Implementation Plan that its SU-MR, StS Rolling 10 day, and StS HIU solutions will be fully functional by November 3, 2016, but the relevant interval data from smart meters will not be available for some additional time. *S*mart meter deployment will adhere to FE’s Commission-approved smart meter deployment plan and estimates 165,000 meters will be certified by the end of the first quarter of 2017 and 500,000 additional meters deployed throughout 2016. FE will offer the data approximately three months after it becomes available, and that it expects 98.5% of smart meter installations will be complete by mid-2019. FE Implementation Plan at 4 and 5.

FE states that it intends to host webinars to discuss its implementation of the Solution Framework that are intended to provide EGSs with details regarding the implementation timeline, instructions for initial setup, and an explanation of what they should expect to receive.All information relevant to the portal will be inserted into its user guide. FE Implementation Plan at 2.

The Commission has reviewed the FE Implementation Plan and determined that it fulfills the requirements set forth in the June 2016 Final Order. Additionally, the FE Implementation Plan conforms to the framework set forth in the Implementation Standard approved in the June 2016 Final Order. We therefore approve the FE Implementation Plan. Furthermore, the Commission acknowledges the limited availability of data until smart meters are fully deployed, per FE’s Commission-approved smart meter deployment plan.

**COST RECOVERY**

As required by the June 2016 Final Order, FE submitted that the total capitalized cost for this implementation is anticipated to be approximately $200,000, and that it anticipates operating and maintenance expenses of approximately $7,500 annually. FE requests that it be authorized to recover these costs through its Smart Meter Technologies Riders. FE Implementation Planat 6. The Commission approves FE’s request to recover these costs through its Smart Meter Technologies Riders.

**CONCLUSION**

Upon full consideration of all matters of record, we hereby approve the FE Implementation Plan. Furthermore, the Commission approves the recovery of these costs through the FE Smart Meter Technologies Riders.

**THEREFORE,**

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company’s *Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Web Portal Implementation Plan* is hereby approved.

2. That Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company shall provide smart meter data in conformance to its Commission-approved smart meter deployment plan.

3. That Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company may jointly collect costs for the implementation of its Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s Web Portal Working Group’s Web Portal through its Smart Meter Technologies Riders.

4. That this Final Order shall be served on all Electric Distribution Companies, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate and all parties at Docket No. M-2009-2092655.

5. That a copy of this Final Order shall be posted on the Commission’s website at the Electronic Data Exchange Working Group’s web page - <http://www.puc.pa.gov/utility_industry/electricity/edewg_files_for_downloading.aspx>.

6. That the Commission’s Office of Competitive Market Oversight shall provide an electronic copy of this Final Order to the Committee Handling Activities for Retail Growth in Electricity (CHARGE).

**** **BY THE COMMISSION,**

Rosemary Chiavetta

Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: October 27, 2016

ORDER ENTERED: October 27, 2016

1. *See Pennsylvania Web Portal Working Group Technical Implementation Standards*, submitted by EDEWG, at Docket No. M-2009-2092655, received April 12, 2016 (hereinafter Implementation Standards). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. These proposals apply only to those EDCs with smart meter technology requirements as outlined at 66 Pa. C.S. § 2807(f). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Third parties could include electric generation suppliers and customer-authorized third party entities. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. *See* Dec. 2012 Final Order at 13-14. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. *Id.* at 14. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. *See* Letter from EDEWG, submitted February 4, 2014, at Docket No. M-2009-2092655. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. *See* Solution Framework at 2-3. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. *Id.* at cover letter. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. *See Implementation Standards* at 5-6 (StS Rolling 10 Day and SU-MR) and at 6-7 (StS HIU). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. *June 2016 Final Order* at 14. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. *Id.* at 13. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)