

17 North Second Street 12th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601 717-731-1970 Main 717-731-1985 Main Fax www.postschell.com

Devin Ryan

dryan@postschell.com 717-612-6052 Direct 717-731-1985 Direct Fax File #: 140056

January 23, 2017

#### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor North P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Re: Petition of NRG Energy, Inc. for Implementation of Electric Generation Supplier Consolidated Billing - Docket No. P-2016-2579249

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing is the Petition to Intervene of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation in the above-referenced proceeding. Copies will be provided as indicated on the Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

Devin Ryan

DTR/jl Enclosures

cc: Certificate of Service

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

#### VIA E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL:

Karen O. Moury, Esquire Sarah C. Stoner, Esquire Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC 213 Market Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

John R. Evans Small Business Advocate Office of Small Business Advocate 300 North Second Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17101

Tanya J. McCloskey, Esquire Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street Forum Place, 5th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Richard Kanaskie, Esquire Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor West PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Date: January 23, 2017

Devin T. Ryan

## BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of NRG Energy, Inc. for

Implementation of Electric Generation

Docket No. P-2016-2579249

Supplier Consolidated Billing

:

# PETITION TO INTERVENE OF PPL ELECTRIC UTILITIES CORPORATION

#### TO PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.41 and 5.73, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation ("PPL Electric" or the "Company"), by and through its attorneys, hereby files this Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding initiated by NRG Energy, Inc.'s ("NRG") Petition for Implementation of Electric Generation Supplier Consolidated Billing ("Petition"). NRG's Petition seeks to implement supplier consolidated billing ("SCB") in Pennsylvania and, if granted, would substantially affect PPL Electric's interests, operations, and customers.

In support thereof, PPL Electric avers as follows:

#### I. BACKGROUND

1. The name and business address for PPL Electric are:

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18101

2. The names and addresses of PPL Electric's attorneys are:

Kimberly A. Klock (ID # 89716) Amy E. Hirakis (ID # 310094) PPL Services Corporation Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18101 Phone: 610-774-5696 Fax: 610-774-6726

E-mail: kklock@pplweb.com

aehirakis@pplweb.com

David B. MacGregor (ID # 28804)
Post & Schell, P.C.
Four Penn Center
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808

Phone: 215-587-1197

E-mail: dmacgregor@postschell.com

Devin T. Ryan (ID # 316602) Post & Schell, P.C. 17 North Second Street 12th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601

Phone: 717-612-6052

E-mail: dryan@postschell.com

PPL Electric's attorneys are authorized to accept service on behalf of PPL Electric in this proceeding.

- 3. PPL Electric is a public utility that provides electric distribution and provider of last resort services in Pennsylvania subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission. PPL Electric furnishes electric distribution, transmission, and provider of last resort electric supply services to approximately 1.4 million customers throughout its certificated service territory, which includes all or portions of 29 counties and encompasses approximately 10,000 square miles in eastern and central Pennsylvania.
- 4. On December 8, 2016, NRG filed its Petition in the above-captioned proceeding, requesting that the Commission implement SCB pursuant to the procedures and requirements outlined in the Petition.
- 5. Concurrent with this filing, PPL Electric is filing its Answer to and Comments on NRG's Petition.

## II. STANDARDS FOR INTERVENTION

- 6. The Commission's regulations at 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.71-5.76 establish the standards and requirements for a party to intervene in an action before the Commission. Section 5.72 sets forth the eligibility requirements for a party to intervene and provides, in pertinent part, as follows:
  - (a) Persons. A petition to intervene may be filed by a person claiming a right to intervene or an interest of such nature that intervention is necessary or appropriate to the administration of the statute under which the proceeding is brought. The right or interest may be one of the following:
  - (1) A right conferred by statute of the United States or of the Commonwealth.
  - (2) An interest which may be directly affected and which is not adequately represented by existing participants, and as to which the petitioner may be bound by the action of the Commission in the proceeding.
  - (3) Another interest of such nature that participation of the petitioner may be in the public interest.

52 Pa. Code § 5.72. The eligibility requirements for an interested party to intervene in an action before the Commission is less strict and easier to satisfy than the common law standard for intervention. See Application of Metropolitan Edison Co. for Approval to Construct an Electric Generating Unit Fueled by Natural Gas, Docket No. A-110300, 1994 Pa. PUC LEXIS 52 (Order Entered Feb. 25, 1994) (citing William Penn Parking Garage, Inc. v. City of Pittsburgh, 464 Pa. 168, 346 A.2d 269 (1975)).

## III. GROUNDS FOR INTERVENTION

7. PPL Electric has a substantial and direct interest in participating in the above-captioned proceeding.

- 8. NRG has requested that the Commission issue an order, consistent with NRG's Petition, implementing SCB in Pennsylvania. (See Petition ¶¶ 15, 71-73) If the Commission grants NRG's Petition, PPL Electric will be bound and directly affected by the Commission's Order. As a result, the Company would have to expend substantial resources to implement SCB in its service territory, which includes upgrading or adapting the Company's customer billing system to accommodate SCB, training Company personnel, participating in the SCB Stakeholder Work Group proposed by NRG, revising any Company-administered programs (such as the Standard Offer Program) that are affected by NRG's Petition, seeking tariff waivers as necessary to implement SCB, and developing and filing a compliance plan by January 31, 2018.
- 9. Moreover, under NRG's proposal, participating EGSs would replace PPL Electric as the entity primarily entrusted with billing, customer service, and collections. (*See* Petition ¶¶ 27-29, 37) Further, the Company would no longer have authority to determine whether to terminate electric service to a customer, as that duty would be overtaken by the participating EGS. (*See* Petition ¶ 30)
- 10. In addition, as explained in PPL Electric's Comments, the costs of implementing SCB were not stranded costs that have been previously recovered by EDCs, as alleged by NRG. (See PPL Comments, pp. 23-24) Thus, PPL Electric would have to incur those costs and pass them on to its electric distribution customers, thereby affecting the Company's rates.
- 11. PPL Electric submits that no other party can or will adequately protect its interest in this proceeding.
- 12. PPL Electric further submits that no party will be prejudiced by the Company's participation in this proceeding.

13. For these reasons, PPL Electric's interests may be directly and immediately affected by the Commission's disposition of NRG's Petition. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 5.72 of the Commission's regulations, 52 Pa. Code § 5.72, PPL Electric should be permitted to intervene in this proceeding.

## IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

WHEREFORE, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission grant this Petition to Intervene and allow PPL Electric Utilities Corporation to participate in the above-captioned matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Klock (ID # 89716) Amy E. Hirakis (ID # 310094) PPL Services Corporation Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18101

Phone: 610-774-5696 Fax: 610-774-6726

E-mail: kklock@pplweb.com aehirakis@pplweb.com

David B. MacGregor (ID # 28804)

Post & Schell, P.C. Four Penn Center 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808

Phone: 215-587-1197 Fax: 215-320-4879

E-mail: dmacgregor@postschell.com

Devin Ryan (ID # 316602) Post & Schell, P.C. 17 North Second Street, 12th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601

Phone: 717-731-1970 Fax: 717-731-1985

E-mail: dryan@postschell.com

Date: January 23, 2017 Attorneys for PPL Electric Utilities Corporation

## VERIFICATION

I, Deborah L. Keiser, being the Manager — Billing Operations, at PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect PPL Electric Utilities Corporation 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.

Deborah L. Keiser

Date: <u>January 23, 2017</u>

الأ...