PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation's	**Public Meeting April 6, 2017**
Universal Service and Energy	**2554787-BCS**
Conservation Plan for 2017-2019	**Docket No. M-2016-2554787**

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER DAVID W. SWEET

Before the Commission is the proposed Tentative Order for PPL Electric Utilities Corporation's (PPL or Company) Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan (USECP or Plan) for 2017-2019, as reviewed by the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS) and Law Bureau.

My remarks today are a general observation of PPL's Proposed Plan and a request that PPL address certain specific issues in its response to the Tentative Order.

PPL's 2017-2019 USECP contains four major components that help low-income customers maintain utility service, such as OnTrack (*i.e.*, PPL's Customer Assistance Program), the Winter Relief Assistance Program (*i.e.*, PPL's Low-Income Usage Reduction Program), Operation Help (*i.e.*, PPL's Hardship Fund), and the Customer Assistance and Referral Evaluation Services Program (CARES).

While I commend PPL for modifying certain aspects of their proposed USECP, the Order raises some serious concerns regarding OnTrack enrollments, costs and subsequent benefits. Therefore, in their filing of supplemental information as directed in the Tentative Order, I specifically request that PPL address the concerns raised by BCS, particularly regarding the Company's OnTrack calculation methods, the determination of a customer's ability to pay and how, if at all, energy burden levels of low-income customers are accounted for in these calculations. I also ask that the impact of any programmatic changes that target this issue be included. Finally, I ask that PPL explain what factors are driving the increasing costs of the OnTrack program and what, if any, policies are in place to ensure low-income customers are enrolled in OnTrack before significant debt is accrued.

Date: April 6, 2017

_____
Commissioner David W. Sweet

1