**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission :

 :

 v. : R-2017-2595853

 :

Pennsylvania-American Water Company :

 :

 :

The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer :

Advocate :

 v. : C-2017-2603058

 :

Pennsylvania-American Water Company :

 :

 :

The Pennsylvania Office of Small :

Business Advocate :

 :

 v. : C-2017-2603512

 :

Pennsylvania-American Water Company :

**ORDER**

 On July 13, 2017, the Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) filed a Petition to Intervene in these proceedings.

 By e-mail received on July 20, 2017, counsel for CEO advised the presiding officers that he had received no objections to the intervention based on his inquiry of the active parties.

 However, on July 20, 2017, the presiding officers also received the Answer of Pennsylvania-American Water Company (PAWC) to the Petition to Intervene. That Answer was filed with the Secretary of the Commission the same day. That Answer is a “qualified” non-objection as was stated in an e-mail sent on July 20, 2017, from Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Buckley to counsel for PAWC, copied to all active parties and CEO.

 Late on July 20, 2017, the presiding officers received an e-mail from counsel for PAWC addressing the intent of PAWC in filing the Answer. This was followed by an e-mail from counsel for CEO addressing, among other matters, the scope of CEO’s proposed participation.

 Having considered these filings, we are concerned that having been apprised that there were no objections to the Petition to Intervene, we received what we consider a very qualified “non objection,” from PAWC. The fact that this matter required clarifying e-mails from both counsel speaks for itself. We have other concerns that will be addressed in the Order ultimately determining whether the Petition to Intervene filed by CEO will be granted.

 The Commission’s regulation at 52 Pa. Code § 5.66(a) states:

A party may file an answer to a petition to intervene within 20 days of service, and in default thereof, may be deemed to have waived objection to the granting of the petition. Answers shall be served upon all other parties.

 The CEO Petition having been served on July 13, 2017, Answers are due by August 1, 2017. This Order requires that Answers to the CEO Petition to Intervene be filed by no later than August 1, 2017. As stated in Section 5.66, filing no Answer will be deemed as a waiver of objections. There will be no ruling on the CEO Petition until the active parties file Answers or waive objection by not filing. Any E-filing of a party’s Answer may be e-mailed to the judges with the Answer attached in Word format.

Date: July 21, 2017 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Dennis J. Buckley

 Administrative Law Judge

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

 Benjamin J. Myers

 Administrative Law Judge

**R-2017-2595853 – Pennsylvania Public Utiltiy Commission v Pennsylvania American Water Company**

***Revised 6/30/17***

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