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February 20, 2018

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Re: Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Subchapter G, for Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230 kV Transmission Line Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania; Docket No. A-2017-2640200**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Pursuant to the Notice published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on January 20, 2018, enclosed for filing is the Petition to Intervene of Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC and West Penn Power Company in the above-referenced proceeding.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Teresa K. Harrold

Enclosures

c: Certificate of Service

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Subchapter G, for Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230 kV Transmission Line Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania** : : : : : **Docket No. A-2017-2640200**

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**JOINT PETITION TO INTERVENE OF MID-ATLANTIC INTERSTATE TRANSMISSION, LLC AND WEST PENN POWER COMPANY**

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Pursuant to Section 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.72–5.74, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC (“MAIT”) and West Penn Power Company (“West Penn”) (jointly, “FirstEnergy Companies”) hereby file this Joint Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding. In support of this Joint Petition, the FirstEnergy Companies state as follows:

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. On December 27, 2017, Transource Pennsylvania, LLC (“Transource”) filed an Application Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Subchapter G, for Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230 kV Transmission Line Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania (“Application”) at the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“PUC” or “Commission”).

2. Notice was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on January 20, 2018, directing that formal protests and petitions to intervene be filed with the Commission on or before February 20, 2018.

3. MAIT is a certificated public utility providing interstate electric transmission service in Pennsylvania.

4. West Penn is a certificated public utility providing electric distribution service to customers in western Pennsylvania.

5. As proposed, the FirstEnergy Companies do not take a position with regard to the Application. As the Commission proceeding progresses, however, other intervenors may propose changes to the Application that could impact the FirstEnergy Companies. Accordingly, the FirstEnergy Companies file this Joint Petition to Intervene in the above-referenced proceeding consistent with the Commission's regulations at 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.72–5.74.

## **II. ELIGIBILITY TO INTERVENE**

6. The Commission's regulation at 52 Pa. Code § 5.72 permits a petition to intervene to 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." 52 Pa. Code § 5.72(a).

7. A party is eligible to intervene under this section where it can demonstrate "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." 52 Pa. Code § 5.72(a)(2).

8. The Commonwealth Court held that intervention is proper where a party's interest in the proceeding is "substantial, immediate, and direct." *George v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n*, 735 A.2d 1282, 1286 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1999); *see also Re: Equitable Gas Co.*, 76 Pa. P.U.C. 23 (Opinion and Order dated Jan. 16, 1992).

9. Through this Application, Transource is seeking approval from the Commission to construct a 230 kV transmission line in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Application, p. 1. Transource is proposing to construct this line as part of its implementation of Baseline Upgrade Numbers b2743 and b2752, which are market efficiency projects previously approved by PJM Interconnection, LLC (“PJM”). *Id.* at 9. Transource refers to its work on this project as the Independence Energy Connection Project (“Independence Project”), which it has further subdivided into east and west transmission line projects. *Id.* As part of the Independence Project, Transource is tasked with constructing new lines and substations in Pennsylvania and Maryland. *Id.* at 1-2. Under Baseline Upgrade Numbers b2743 and b2752, other utilities are also responsible for completing additional work and upgrades to support the Independence Project.

10. The Application that began the instant proceeding addresses the siting issues associated with the Independence West Project.<sup>1</sup> The Independence West Project proposes the location and construction of a 230 kV line approximately 24.4 miles in length between the Maryland border and the proposed Rice substation. *Id.* at 2.

11. Under Baseline Upgrade Numbers b2743 and b2752, MAIT will be required to construct a line between the Conemaugh-Hunterstown 500 kV transmission line and the proposed Rice substation. Changes to the Independence West Project could impact the proposed route of this future MAIT transmission line and ongoing operations of MAIT.

12. The Independence West Project also could impact West Penn’s operations and facilities. Specifically, the Independence West Project, and any changes to the project resulting from the ultimate outcome of this proceeding, may affect the operation of several transmission

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<sup>1</sup> A separate application was filed at Docket Number A-2017-2640195 to address the siting issues associated with the Independence East Project.

lines in West Penn's service territory. In addition, each of the alternative routes proposed for the Independence West Project would have a different impact on West Penn's facilities.

13. Accordingly, the FirstEnergy Companies have an interest in this proceeding that is substantial, immediate, and direct, and which may not be adequately represented by other participants in this proceeding. The review and disposition of the Application could impact the scope of MAIT's work associated with the connection between the Conemaugh-Hunterstown 500 kV transmission line and the proposed Rice substation. Similarly, the proposed location of the Independence West Project may impact West Penn's operations and facilities. As such, any modifications made to the Independence West Project during this proceeding will directly impact the future work of the FirstEnergy Companies. To the extent parties to this proceeding, and ultimately the Commission, agree to changes to the Independence West Project impacting, among other things, the location of or need for the proposed transmission line, the FirstEnergy Companies' operations could likewise be impacted. No other party may adequately represent the FirstEnergy Companies' interests in this proceeding as no other party is responsible for the operations and facilities of the FirstEnergy Companies. Therefore, the FirstEnergy Companies are uniquely impacted by the developments and outcome of this proceeding.

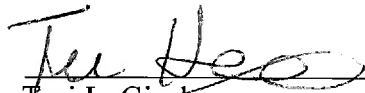
14. As proposed, the FirstEnergy Companies do not take a position with regard to the Application. As the Commission proceeding progresses, however, other intervenors may propose changes to the Independence West Project that would impact the scope of the FirstEnergy Companies' work and operations. To the extent changes are proposed, the FirstEnergy Companies are seeking party status in order to monitor the proposed changes and modify their future operations and facilities accordingly.

15. For these reasons, the FirstEnergy Companies' Joint Petition to Intervene should be granted.

**III. CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC and West Penn Power Company respectfully requests that the Commission grant their Joint Petition to Intervene.

Dated: February 20, 2018

  
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