PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al. v. Wellsboro Electric Company Public Meeting held April 16, 2020 3008208-OSA Docket No. R-2019-3008208

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE

Polling Issue No. 18

Before the Public Utility Commission (Commission) for consideration and disposition is the Recommended Decision issued on February 28, 2020, and Exceptions thereto, in the matter regarding Wellsboro Electric Company's (Wellsboro or the Company) proposed tariff supplement.

Wellsboro seeks to include a demand based (i.e. capacity based) component within its customer charge. For residential customers, the proposed charge would be comprised of \$11.92 in fixed customer costs and \$1.48 in demand related costs. Pursuant to the Commission's Policy Statement regarding alternative rates, Wellsboro states that its proposal here more closely aligns rates with costs and that it may serve as a step toward future rate designs promoting efficiency resource utilization by customers.¹

While there is no rate design panacea to achieve cost causation and efficient utilization goals, I believe this proposal represents reasonable progress in the right direction. This is particularly the case given the ever-changing landscape of the electricity sector. As customer usage profiles evolve and distributed resource numbers grow it is incumbent that regulators consider new rate designs to foster efficient resource utilization. To that end, I wish to voice my support for Wellsboro's proposal.

<u>April 16, 2020</u>

Date

Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman

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¹ Fixed Utility Distribution Rates Policy Statement, Final Policy Statement Order, Docket No. M-2015-2518883, Order entered July 18, 2019.