

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

**Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission, *et al.* v. Wellsboro
Electric Company**

**Public Meeting April 16, 2020
3008208-OSA
Docket Nos. R-2019-3008208, *et al.***

**POLLING SHEET NO. 15 – Rate of Return: Cost of Common Equity – Management
Effectiveness Adjustment**

MOTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID W. SWEET

Before the Commission for consideration are the exceptions and reply exceptions to the Recommended Decision of Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) Steven K. Haas and Benjamin J. Myers regarding Wellsboro Electric Company's (Wellsboro) request to increase its annual jurisdictional distribution operating revenues. Wellsboro included in its filing a request for a 25-basis-point adjustment to the cost of common equity for management effectiveness.

The ALJs noted that Section 523(a) of the Public Utility code requires consideration of efficiency, effectiveness and adequacy of service in determining just and reasonable rates.¹ The ALJs acknowledged the record evidence and found, among other things, that Wellsboro "operated in a very efficient and effective manner and provides very good customer service."² Accordingly, the ALJs recommended adopting the 25-point request.

I recognize the evidence presented by Wellsboro regarding, among other things, its positive customer metrics (e.g., low complaints), its reliability metrics and its increased rollout of technological improvements (e.g., Smarthub). In considering the record evidence and the arguments before us in both the testimony and in exceptions and reply exceptions, I believe that a management effectiveness adjustment is warranted, but that a five-point adjustment is more appropriate, aligns with other management effectiveness adjustments approved by this Commission³ and better serves the public interest.

THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT:

1. Regarding Number 15 of the Polling Sheets, Rate of Return: Cost of Common Equity – Management Effectiveness Adjustment, Wellsboro Electric Company be awarded a management effectiveness adjustment of five (5) basis points.
2. The Office of Special Assistants include this directive in its Opinion and Order to be prepared for this docket.

Date: April 16, 2020



David W. Sweet, Vice Chairman

¹ 66 Pa.C.S. § 523(a).

² Recommended Decision at 79.

³ The Commission similarly approved a five-point management effectiveness adjustment to UGI Utilities, Inc. – Electric Division's requested cost of common equity in its 2018 rate case. *See* Docket Nos. R-2017-2640058, *et al.*