

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

Public Meeting held April 4, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Ralph V. Yanora
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission
v.
Duquesne Light Company

Docket Number:
R-2024-3046523

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 20, 2024, Duquesne Light Company (Duquesne Light), Utility Code 110150, filed Supplement No. 71 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 25 to become effective May 20, 2024, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce a general increase in electric distribution rates of approximately \$133 million. Due to the proposed base rate increase including \$32 million of revenues currently recovered under surcharges, the increase to customers over current charges is \$101 million (15.9%). As proposed, the total bill for an average residential customer using 600 kWh is increasing from \$130.67 to \$139.19/month (6.52%). On March 22, 2024, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a Formal Complaint.

Duquesne Light stated that the requested increase in its base rates is necessary due to a significant cost increase in many areas, including increased investment in facilities to maintain high levels of service and reliability, increased investment in information technology, and increased operation and maintenance expenses to maintain safe and reliable service.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until December 20, 2024, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date.

Investigation and analysis of this proposed tariff filing and the supporting data indicate that the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations may be unlawful, unjust, unreasonable, and contrary to the public interest. It also appears that consideration should be given to the reasonableness of Duquesne Light's existing rates, rules, and regulations; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an investigation on Commission motion be, and hereby is, instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules, and regulations contained in the proposed Supplement No. 71 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 25.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 71 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 25 is suspended by operation of law until December 20, 2024, unless otherwise directed by Order of the Commission.

3. That pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §53.71 tariff supplements shall be filed with the Commission and posted at the company to announce that the aforementioned Original Tariff is suspended until the date stated in the Commission Order. Attached is a sample

copy of a suspension supplement which shall be filed in triplicate or, if applicable, e-filed with the Commission within 10 days following the Order entry date.

4. That this investigation shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the Duquesne Light Company's existing rates, rules, and regulations.

5. That the case be assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for the prompt scheduling of such hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a Recommended Decision.

6. That a copy of this Order shall be served upon Duquesne Light Company, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and any persons who have filed Formal Complaints against the proposed tariff supplement.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: April 4, 2024

ORDER ENTERED: April 4, 2024

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. _____ to

Pa. P.U.C. No. _____

(COMPANY'S NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

The application of rates proposed in Supplement No. _____ to Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective _____ (and voluntarily postponed to become effective _____, is hereby suspended until _____, at Docket No. _____). Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.

Issued:

Issued in compliance with

Title 66 PA C.S.