**Notice**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Department of Labor & Industry Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Petition for a Proposed Pilot for Distribution of TRS Wireless Equipment to People with Disabilities in Pennsylvania; Docket No. P-2015-2484229**

On May 25, 2015, at Docket No. P-2015-2484229, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry’s (L&I), Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), filed a Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) Petition (TRS Petition) and related information with the Public Utility Commission (Commission) seeking Commission approval to conduct a two-year pilot project supported by the TRS Fund (TRS Pilot).

The TRS Pilot is a two-year pilot project that is designed to test the availability and use of wireless devices by a limited number of eligible Pennsylvanians with disabilities. The related wireless devices will be supported from and distributed through the existing Telecom­munication Device Distribution Program (TDDP).[[1]](#footnote-1) The proposed TRS Pilot will be implemented through the Institute of Disabilities at Temple University (Temple University) in its current capacity as Administrator of the TDDP on behalf of the OVR-L&I.

The pilot project will provide for the recruitment and selection of 60 eligible participants over a two year period, the distribution of selected wireless devices equipped with appropriate applications and software, and monitoring, measurement, and evaluation of the use of these wireless devices. The pilot project will include appropriate outreach, training, survey and personal interview evaluation activities as well as the remote system software updating for the distributed wireless devices by an equipment administrator. The Wireless Expansion Initiative proposal and Petition seeks appropriate funding from the TRS Fund for the relevant costs of the pilot project including the costs of the wireless device equipment distribution and the costs for managing the overall project through its two-year duration.

Interested persons may file comments on the proposed OVR pilot within ten (10) calendar days of the publication of this notice. Comments must reference Docket No. P-2015-2484229 and may be filed either electronically through the Commission's e-File System[[2]](#footnote-2) or by mail addressed to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Attention: Secretary, P. O. Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265. Handwritten comments will be accepted by mail. The filing of comments via routine e-mail is not permitted.

Where possible, an electronic copy of any filing should also be sent to the Mr. Eric Jeschke at ejeschke@pa.gov and Ms. Louise Fink Smith at finksmith@pa.gov. The contact person for this Petition is Ms. Kathryn G. Sophy, Deputy Chief Counsel, Law Bureau, (717) 783-2810.

ROSEMARY CHIAVETTA

Secretary

1. *See generally* 35 Pa. S. § 6701.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *See* <http://www.puc.state.pa.us/efiling/default.aspx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)