

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Re: Letter Of Notification Of PPL Electric :  
Utilities Corporation, Filed Pursuant To 52 :  
Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G, With : Docket No. A-2010-\_\_\_\_\_  
Respect To The Schoeneck #1 and #2 :  
138/69 kV Transmission Tap Line In :  
Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh :  
County, Pennsylvania :

---

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION**

---

TO THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (“PPL Electric”), hereby files, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §57.72(d), this Letter of Notification to request that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) approve the siting and construction of the Schoeneck #1 and #2 138/69 kV Transmission Tap Line, which will be approximately 1700 feet in length and will connect the existing Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap with the proposed Schoeneck 69-12 kV Substation in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. In support thereof, PPL Electric states as follows:

**I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

1. This Letter of Notification is filed by PPL Electric, which has a principal address at Two North Ninth Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101. It is a public utility that provides electric distribution, transmission, and provider of last resort services in Pennsylvania subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission.

2. PPL Electric's attorneys are:

David B. MacGregor (Pa. Bar I.D. #28804)  
Post & Schell, P.C.  
Four Penn Center  
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808  
Voice: 215.587.1197  
Fax: 215.320.4879  
E-mail: dmacgregor@postschell.com

John H. Isom (Pa. Bar I.D. #16569)  
Christopher T. Wright (Pa. Bar I.D. # 203412)  
Post & Schell, P.C.  
17 North Second Street  
12th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601  
Voice: 717.612.6032  
Fax: 717.731.1985  
E-mail: jisom@postschell.com  
E-mail: cwright@postschell.com

Paul E. Russell (Pa. Bar I.D. #21643)  
Associate General Counsel  
PPL Services Corporation  
Two North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101  
Voice: 610.774.4254  
Fax: 610.774.6726  
E-mail: perussell@pplweb.com

PPL Electric's attorneys are authorized to receive all notices and communications regarding this Letter of Notification.

3. PPL Electric furnishes electric service to approximately 1.4 million customers throughout its certificated service territory, which includes all or portions of twenty-nine counties and encompasses approximately 10,000 square miles in eastern and central Pennsylvania.

4. PPL Electric owns approximately 5,000 miles of transmission lines operating at 69,000 volts or higher, approximately 330 substations with a capacity of 10,000 KVA<sup>1</sup> or more, and approximately 43,000 miles of distribution lines operating at less than 69,000 volts.

5. This Letter of Notification includes the following accompanying exhibits and appendices:

- Exhibit A – Necessity Statement.
- Exhibit B – Engineering Description.
- Exhibit C – Environmental Assessment.
- Appendix A – PPL Electric Design Criteria and Safety Practices.
- Appendix B – PPL Electric Field Management Program at PPL Electric.
- Appendix C – List of Property Owners Within the Proposed Right-of-Way.
- Appendix D – List of Involved Governmental Agencies, Municipalities, and Other Public Entities.

6. PPL Electric proposes to construct the Schoeneck #1 & #2 138/69 kV Tap Line (“Schoeneck Tap”), which will be approximately 1700 feet in length and will connect the existing Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap with the proposed Schoeneck 69-12 kV Substation (“Schoeneck Substation”) in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. The proposed facilities are required to improve reliability of service, meet increasing load due to residential growth in the vicinity of Lower Macungie Township, and meet increased demand at the Lower Macungie Industrial Park.

7. Due to the small size of the tap line and the presence of other transmission facilities in the area, it is anticipated that the Schoeneck Tap will have minimal impacts on the area. The estimated cost of the Schoeneck Tap is approximately \$412,400. The required in-

---

<sup>1</sup> Kilovolt Ampere.

service date is May 2010. Due to difficulties in finding a suitable site for the substation, the required in-service date for this project will not be met. Project construction will begin as soon as possible after Commission approval to minimize the potential exposure of unplanned interruptions of electrical service.

## **II. PROJECT SUMMARY**

8. The Schoeneck Tap will be located entirely in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County. An aerial plot plan is provided at the end of Exhibit B to this Letter of Notification. The plot plan depicts the location of the existing and proposed facilities.

9. The proposed Schoeneck Tap will be approximately 1700 feet in length. It will connect the existing Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap with the proposed Schoeneck Substation. The purposes of the Schoeneck Tap, together with the proposed Schoeneck Substation, are to provide an additional source of supply to serve the projected load increases in the Lower Macungie Township area due to residential growth, to serve the increased demand at Lower Macungie Industrial Park, and to improve the reliability and operational flexibility of the distribution facilities in the area. The Schoeneck Tap and Schoeneck Substation are needed because the present distribution facilities that supply PPL Electric's customers in that area are approaching their maximum capability and are projected to exceed the normal planning guidelines based on PPL Electric's Reliability Principles and Practices Manual ("RP&P") in 2010. The Schoeneck Tap and the proposed Schoeneck Substation will relieve loading on the existing distribution facilities and improve reliability and operational flexibility in the area.

10. Presently, PPL Electric's customers in the Lower Macungie Township area are served from the Trexlertown 69-12 kV Substation, via the Trexlertown 47-3 12 kV distribution line, and the Macungie 69-12 kV Substation, via the Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line.

11. Due to the increasing demand for electricity, the existing Trexlertown 69-12 kV Substation is approaching the maximum capability of its transformers. No additional transfers are available in the area due to heavy loading on the surrounding lines. When load on the existing transformers exceeds planning criteria, reinforcement is required to ensure that customers will not experience an extended outage in the event of a transformer failure. The proposed Schoeneck Substation will create a new tie with the Trexlertown Substation to provide additional transfer capability in an emergency.

12. Additionally, the Trexlertown 47-3 12 kV line is projected to exceed its normal planning guidelines in 2010. The normal and emergency ratings of the 336 kcmil<sup>2</sup> aluminum conductor steel reinforced (“ACSR”) of the Trexlertown 47-3 12 kV distribution line are 10 and 12 MVA, respectively. The line, however, reached a peak load 10 MVA during summer 2009, and the peak load on the distribution line forecasted for the summer of 2010 is 10.1 MVA.

13. Further, the Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line is projected to exceed the normal planning guidelines set forth in PPL Electric’s RP&P. The normal and emergency ratings of the 477 kcmil ACSR of the Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line are 11 and 13 MVA, respectively. The peak load on the distribution line forecasted for the winter of 2010 is 12 MVA. Continued operation of the Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line outside the RP&P guidelines may lead to lower reliability for customer, in the event of an outage.

14. Although there is some capability for growth at the Macungie Substation, load is projected to reach its maximum capability in 2015, when additional system reinforcements would be required. Further, the Schoeneck Substation is the least cost alternative to solve the

---

<sup>2</sup> Thousand circular Mils.

area's long term reliability issues. The proposed Schoeneck Substation will relieve the Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line.

15. To alleviate these problems, PPL Electric plans to construct the new Schoeneck Substation and connecting distribution lines in the Lower Macungie Township area. PPL Electric plans to construct and install new 12 kV distribution facilities that will be supplied by the Schoeneck Substation to serve the increasing customer load due to residential growth in the vicinity, and meet increased demand at Lower Macungie Industrial Park. These new distribution facilities will have the ability to connect with the existing Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line. The Schoeneck Substation and new 12 kV facilities will reduce peak loading on the existing Macungie 27-4 12 kV distribution line by 5.5 MVA, and transfer load from the existing Trexlertown 69-12 kV Substation. Further, the proposed reinforcement will improve reliability and operational flexibility in the area.

16. The Schoeneck Substation will be supplied from the existing Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap. The Schoeneck Tap proposed herein will connect the Schoeneck Substation with the Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap. The Schoeneck Tap will be a double-circuit 138/69 kV transmission tap line that will extend 1700 feet from the existing Victaulic 138/69 kV Tap to the proposed Schoeneck Substation.

17. The Schoeneck Tap will be designed and constructed to operate as a double-circuit 138 kV line, although it will initially operate as a single-circuit 69 kV tap line until future load increases make it appropriate for the installation of the second circuit and for the system to be operated at 138 kV.

18. The Schoeneck Tap will require five steel monopoles that will be approximately 90 feet in height and will be secured with anchor guys. Each circuit will consist of three power

conductors and one overhead ground wire. The power conductors will be 556.6 KCMIL, 24/7 strand ACSR. The overhead ground wire will be 3/8-inch steel and will provide lightning protection for the proposed Tap Line.

19. The Schoeneck Tap will be designed to comply with, and will generally surpass, the applicable minimum standards in the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

20. The total estimated cost to design and construct the proposed project is \$2.7 million, which includes the estimated \$412,400 cost for the proposed Schoeneck Tap and the estimated \$2.3 million cost for the Schoeneck Substation and distribution lines.

21. The required in-service date is May 2010. Due to difficulties in finding a suitable site for the substation, however, the required in-service date for this project will not be met. Project construction will begin as soon as practicable after Commission approval to minimize the potential exposure to unplanned interruptions of electrical service.

22. The proposed Schoeneck Tap and Schoeneck Substation will be located in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County.

23. Because the proposed Schoeneck Tap will be only 1700 feet in length and will be installed in the vicinity of existing transmission and distribution facilities, as depicted in an aerial plot plan at the end of Exhibit B to this Letter of Notification, it is anticipated that the Schoeneck Tap will have minimal impacts on the area. The properties surrounding the proposed Schoeneck Tap presently host a new, partially occupied distribution center and a retailer. Due to the industrial and commercial development in the area, the proposed Schoeneck Tap will have little environmental or visual impacts.

24. Accompanying this Letter of Notification is a separately bound volume containing Exhibits A – C and Appendices A – D, which provide additional information about the

Schoeneck Tap. This Letter of Notification and accompanying Exhibits and Appendices, which are incorporated herein by reference, contain all the information required by 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(4).

### **III. LETTER OF NOTIFICATION**

25. PPL Electric is proceeding by means of a Letter of Notification, instead of a full Application, pursuant to the Commission's regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d). The Schoeneck Tap qualifies for use of a Letter of Notification because it will be less than two miles in length.

26. The Necessity Statement for the Schoeneck Tap is provided as Exhibit "A" in the Exhibits and Appendices accompanying this Letter of Notification. As explained in greater detail therein, the purposes of the Schoeneck Tap are to serve the projected load increases in the Lower Macungie Township area due to residential growth, to serve the increased demand at Lower Macungie Industrial Park, and to improve the reliability and operational flexibility of the distribution facilities in the vicinity of Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County.

27. In determining the need for the Schoeneck Tap, PPL Electric considered one functional alternative. An alternative to the proposed Schoeneck Substation and Schoeneck Tap would have involved increasing the transformer capacity at PPL Electric's existing Trexlertown 69-12 kV Substation and construction of two new lines and terminals; one at the Trexlertown 69-12 kV Substation and one at Macungie 69-12 kV Substation. At an estimated cost of \$3.0 million, this functional alternative would be more expensive to implement. PPL Electric rejected this functional alternative because the preferred alternative provides sufficient additional capacity, reliability, and operational flexibility all at a lower cost.

28. The proposed Schoeneck Tap will not create any unreasonable risk of danger to the public health or safety. The Schoeneck Tap will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that meets or surpasses all applicable NESC minimum standards and all applicable legal requirements. Descriptions of NESC standards, PPL Electric's design criteria, and PPL Electric's safety practices are provided in Appendix A hereto.

29. The Engineering Description of the Schoeneck Tap is provided in Exhibit "B" to this Letter of Notification.

30. The proposed Schoeneck Substation will be located entirely on property owned in fee by PPL Electric. The proposed Schoeneck Tap requires rights-of-way from three property owners, who are identified in Appendix "C." The Aerial Exhibit at the end of Exhibit "C" shows existing property lines and current ownership along the right-of-way. To date, agreements have been reached with two of the three relevant property owners. PPL Electric will continue to negotiate with the remaining property owner and anticipates reaching an agreement in the near future. If PPL Electric is unable to secure a right-of-way agreement from the remaining property owner, PPL Electric will file an application, pursuant to 15 Pa.C.S. § 1511(c), seeking a finding by the Commission that the services to be furnished through the exercise the power of eminent domain is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.

31. Visual impacts of Schoeneck Tap and Schoeneck Substation are expected to be minimal and incremental based on the facts that the Schoeneck Tap will be only 1,700 feet in length, that the facilities will be in the vicinity of existing transmission facilities, and that there is substantial industrial and commercial development in the area.

32. No communication towers, pipelines, or other utilities will be affected by the proposed Schoeneck Tap. The nearest airport is approximately 6.4 miles from the proposed

Schoeneck Tap. PPL Electric will contact the PennDOT Bureau of Aviation and the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure that the proposed Schoeneck Tap will not be a hazard to flight operations.

33. The proposed Schoeneck Tap was reviewed with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). The PHMC has determined that, based upon their survey files which include both archaeological sites and standing structures, there are no National Register eligible or listed historic or archaeological properties in the area of this proposed project and therefore, no further archaeological investigations are required (File No. ER 2009-1026-077-A).

34. The proposed Schoeneck Tap will not affect any unique geological, scenic, or natural areas. No national natural landmarks, parks, recreational facilities, or natural areas are located near the project area.

35. The Schoeneck Tap will not cross any wetlands or other aquatic resources. PPL Electric will acquire any required soil erosion and sedimentation control permits and comply with all conditions imposed in conjunction with the issuance of such permits.

36. Minimal tree clearing is required for the proposed Schoeneck Tap. To the extent that any tree clearing or vegetation management is subsequently required, PPL Electric will apply its "Specification for Initial Clearing and Control of Vegetation on or Adjacent to Electric Line Right-of-Way Through Use of Herbicides, Mechanical and Hand Clearing Techniques" to mitigate any impacts.

37. PPL Electric has consulted with state and federal agencies to obtain information regarding endangered and threatened species in close proximity to the Schoeneck Tap. Both the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service noted the potential presence of the bog turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, state endangered, federally listed

threatened) in the area of the proposed project. PPL Electric has retained the services of recognized wetland and bog turtle experts to investigate further. However, because the bog turtle inhabits wetlands and because there are no wetlands or other aquatic resources in or near the project area, it is unlikely that bog turtles exist in the project area. PPL Electric will file the proper reports to clear this conflict with both agencies prior to the start of construction.

38. The Schoeneck Tap was reviewed with representatives of Lower Macungie Township and Lehigh County. The Township and the County have no objection to the Schoeneck Tap or Schoeneck Substation.

39. Appendix D accompanying this Letter of Notification contains a list of the involved governmental agencies, municipalities and other public entities. Copies of this Letter of Notification are being served on the agencies listed in Appendix D in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(3).

40. Appendix B in the Exhibits and Appendices accompanying this Letter of Notification explains PPL Electric's standards for Magnetic Field Management.

41. As soon as practicable after the filing of this Letter of Notification and the assignment by the Commission of a docket number, PPL Electric will publish notice of the filing in newspapers of general circulation in the area of the proposed Schoeneck Tap. Such notice will contain: (a) the date this Letter of Notification was filed with the Commission; (b) a brief description of the Schoeneck Tap and its location; (c) locations where the complete Letter of Notification may be reviewed by the public; and (d) an instruction that the interested parties should contact, within 15 days, James J. McNulty, Secretary, at the Commission's Harrisburg address.

42. This Letter of Notification is filed on the date set forth below. As provided in 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(5), the Commission will review and, by order, approve or disapprove this Letter of Notification. If the Commission approves this Letter of Notification, the proposed Schoeneck Tap will be constructed as proposed herein without the formal application process set forth at 52 Pa. Code §§ 57.71, *et seq.*

#### **IV. RELATED PROCEEDINGS**

43. Contemporaneously with this Letter of Notification, PPL Electric is filing with the Commission a Petition for a finding that a building to shelter control equipment at the proposed Schoeneck 69-12 kV Substation in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public, and therefore, exempt from any local zoning ordinance (“Zoning Petition”). The Schoeneck Tap will be connected to and supply the proposed Schoeneck Substation, including the control equipment building that is the subject of the Zoning Petition. Issues related to the Zoning Petition are interrelated with this Letter of Notification.

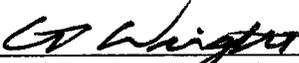
44. PPL Electric has been unable to acquire all of the rights-of-way necessary for the proposed Schoeneck Tap through negotiations with the relevant property owners. To date, PPL Electric has negotiated agreements with two of the three relevant property owners. PPL Electric will continue to negotiate with the remaining property owner and anticipates reaching an agreement in the near future. If PPL Electric is unable to secure a right-of-way from the remaining property owner, PPL Electric will file an application, pursuant to 15 Pa. C.S. § 1511(c), for a finding by the Commission that service to be furnished through the exercise of the power of eminent domain is reasonably necessary or proper for the service, accommodation, convenience, or safety of the public.

V. **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission approve the siting and construction of the Schoeneck 115 kV Tap Line in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, that is explained above and in the Exhibits and Appendices hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Russell (ID # 21643)  
Associate General Counsel  
PPL Services Corporation  
Office of General Counsel  
Two North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18106  
Phone: 610-774-4254  
Fax: 610-774-6726  
E-mail: perussell@pplweb.com

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David B. MacGregor (ID # 28804)  
Post & Schell, P.C.  
Four Penn Center  
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808  
Phone: 215-587-1197  
Fax: 215-320-4879  
E-mail: dmacgregor@postschell.com

Of Counsel:  
  
Post & Schell, P.C.

John H. Isom (ID # 16569)  
Christopher T. Wright (ID # 203412)  
Post & Schell, P.C.  
17 North Second Street  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601  
Phone: 717-731-1970  
Fax: 717-731-1985  
E-mail: jisom@postschell.com  
E-mail: cwright@postschell.com

Date: February 25, 2010

*Attorneys for PPL Electric Utilities Corporation*

## VERIFICATION

:

I, David G. DeCampli, being the President of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect that PPL Electric Utilities Corporation to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: 2/25/2010

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David G. DeCampli

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Letter of Notification has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum  
Commission  
Bureau for Historic Preservation  
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second  
Floor  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053  
Attn: Mr. Douglas C. McLearen, Chief

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Attn: The Honorable Allen D. Biehler, P.E.,  
Secretary

Department of Environmental Protection  
P.O. Box 2063  
Market Street State Office Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063  
Attn: Office of Field Operations

Lehigh County  
17 South 7th Street  
Allentown, PA 18101  
Attn: The Honorable Donald T.  
Cunningham, Jr., Executive

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission  
961 Marcon Blvd., Suite 310  
Allentown, PA 18103  
Attn: Mr. Michael N. Kaiser, AICP,  
Executive Director

Lower Macungie Township  
3450 Brookside Road  
Macungie, PA 18062-1427  
Attn: Mr. Bruce Fosselman, Manager

Lower Macungie Township Planning  
Commission  
3450 Brookside Road  
Macungie, PA 18062-1427  
Attn: Mr. Maury Robert, Chair

Headlands Realty Corporation  
C/O AMB Property Corporation  
Mr. Bo Farkas Vice President, Investments  
One Meadowlands Plaza Suite 100  
East Rutherford, NJ 07073

Mr. Alexander G. Tamerler  
5300 Crackersport Road  
Allentown, PA 18104

Ms. Althea M. Walbert  
P. O. Box 33  
Alburtis, PA 18011

Date: February 25, 2010

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher T. Wright