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File #: 2507/140066

May 31, 2011

BY HAND

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor North  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**RE: Letter Of Notification Of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, Filed Pursuant To 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G, With Respect To The Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line in Palmyra Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania  
Docket No. A-2011-**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed, for filing, are an original and six (6) copies of the Letter of Notification of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, together with seven (7) copies of the accompanying attachments which are contained in a separately-bound volume in the above-referenced proceeding. Also enclosed is a CD containing copies of the attachments.

As indicated on the certificate of service, copies of the Letter of Notification and accompanying exhibits and appendices are being served by certified mail, return receipt requested upon the property owners and the involved governmental agencies and municipalities. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at the address or telephone numbers provided above.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica R. Rogers

JRR/jl

Enclosures

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PA PUC  
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

**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-2011-\_\_\_\_\_  
Respect To The Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap :  
Line in Palmyra Township, Pike County, :  
Pennsylvania :

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**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION**

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SECRETARY'S BUREAU

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 Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line from the existing Blooming Grove – Jackson 138/69 kV Transmission Line to the proposed Ledgedale 69-12 kV Substation. The project will require approximately 200 feet of new 138/69 kV transmission line to be constructed in Palmyra Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania. In support thereof, PPL Electric states as follows:

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This Letter of Notification is filed by PPL Electric, 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 address is:

Two North Ninth Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101

3. PPL Electric's attorneys are:

David B. MacGregor (Pa. Bar I.D. # 8804)  
Post & Schell, P.C.  
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John H. Isom (Pa. Bar I.D. # 16569)  
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PPL Electric's attorneys are authorized to receive all notices and communications regarding this Letter of Notification.

4. 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. PPL Electric is a "public utility" and an "electric distribution company" as

defined in Sections 102 and 2803 of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Code, 66 Pa. C.S. §§ 102, 2803.

5. PPL Electric owns approximately 5,000 miles of transmission lines operating at 69 kV<sup>1</sup> or higher, approximately 330 substations with a capacity of 10 MVA (megavolt amperes) or more, and approximately 43,000 miles of distribution lines operating at less than 69 kV.

6. This Letter of Notification includes the following accompanying attachments:

- Attachment 1 Necessity Statement.
- Attachment 2 Engineering Description.
- Attachment 3 Environmental Assessment.
- Attachment 4 PPL Electric Design Criteria and Safety Practices.
- Attachment 5 PPL Electric Field Management Program.
- Attachment 6 List of Owners of Property within the Right-of-Way.
- Attachment 7 List of Involved Governmental Agencies, Municipalities, and Other Public Entities.

## II. PROJECT SUMMARY

7. PPL Electric is proposing to use the Blooming Grove – Jackson 138/69 kV Transmission Line as the power source for the new Ledgedale 69-12 kV Substation.<sup>2</sup> In order to accomplish this result, it will be necessary to construct a transmission line connecting the Blooming Grove – Jackson 138/69 Transmission Line with the Ledgedale 69-12 kV Substation. The proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line will fulfill that function.

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<sup>1</sup> KV stands for kilovolts.

<sup>2</sup> A 69-12 kV Substation is the smallest substation currently being constructed as part of PPL Electric's system. Although control equipment, which must be protected from the elements in order to function properly, will be installed at the substation, due to the small size of the substation, the control equipment will be housed in cabinets. That is, there will be no "building" at the substation. Therefore, PPL Electric will not be filing any petition, pursuant to 53 P.S. § 10618, for findings that would exempt a substation building from local zoning requirements with regard to this project.

8. The proposed Ledgesdale 138/69 kV Tap Line will be located in Palmyra Township, Pike County. It will be approximately 200 feet in length. The Ledgesdale 138/69 kV Tap Line will be located in part on land that will be owned by PPL Electric in fee and in part on land subject to a PPL Electric transmission line right-of-way and easement. An aerial exhibit showing the location of the proposed facilities is provided at the end of Attachment 2.

9. Due to the transmission facilities already existing in the area and the limited size of this Tap Line, PPL Electric anticipates that the incremental impacts of the Tap Line will be minimal.

10. The purpose of the proposed construction is to improve the reliability of service in a portion of Pike County. Presently, the area of concern is served from the Newfoundland 69 - 12 kV Substation and the Tafton 69 - 12 kV Substation via each substation's associated 12 kV distribution lines: the Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2, and Tafton 80-1 lines. Presently, these 12 kV distribution lines serve a total of over 7,500 customers in the Palmyra Township area.

11. This project is one of five projects to improve the reliability in the greater Lake Wallenpaupack region of PPL Electric's service territory. It will specifically address three separate problems. First, the Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2, and Tafton 80-1 distribution lines currently exceed PPL Electric's Reliability Principles and Practices Guidelines ("RP&P") for customer count per feeder. The RP&P provides that no more than 1,300 customers should be served from a 12 kV circuit. Presently, these three circuits serve approximately 2,600, 3,000, and 1,780 customers, respectively. This Project will reduce the

customer count per feeder and move the distribution lines towards compliance with the RP&P.<sup>3</sup> Once this project is implemented, these lines will serve approximately 1,960, 1,800 and 450 customers, respectively, which will improve the current customer counts per feeder. Other additional projects are planned for the future that will lower these customer counts even further.

The new 12 kV distribution lines will serve part of the load currently being supplied by the Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2, and Tafton 80-1 distribution lines. The new facilities will also reduce high customer counts on the existing Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2, and Tafton 80-1 distribution lines. The new Ledgesdale Substation will serve 3,170 customers and 9.2 MVA of load. Once this project is complete, the new Ledgesdale 1, Ledgesdale 2, and Ledgesdale 3 12 kV distribution lines will serve approximately 1,130, 840, and 1,200 customers, respectively.

12. Second, as a result of the large number of customers experiencing multiple outages per year, the Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2, and Tafton 80-1 lines have been among the worst performing circuits on the PPL Electric system. This low level of performance is due to the long length of the circuits, the wooded nature of the area, and the high number of customers per circuit. Each of the three 12 kV distribution lines that will be supplied by the Ledgesdale 69-12 kV Substation will be interconnected with the Newfoundland 83-1, Newfoundland 83-2 or Tafton 80-1 line. Part of each of these existing lines will become a part of a new Ledgesdale 12 kV distribution line. The existing lines will be separated from the new lines by switches that will normally be open. The switches can be closed to restore service in the event of an outage or to permit maintenance to be performed.

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<sup>3</sup> Other projects are planned which will bring the distribution lines of concern here into compliance with the RP&P. PPL Electric will seek Commission approval on any additional projects where appropriate, in accordance with the Commissions rules and regulations.

13. An alternative to building the new substation and transmission line would be to build two new 12 kV distribution lines and terminals from the Newfoundland Substation and one new 12 kV distribution line and terminal from the Tafton Substation. This alternative would require the new 12 kV distribution lines to follow the same line route as the existing lines for about 3 miles. This does not improve reliability due to the fact that two distribution circuits installed on the same poles are susceptible to the same potential outages. Upgrades to the Newfoundland and Tafton Substations would also be necessary to accommodate the additional lines and terminals.

14. PPL Electric rejected this alternative because the preferred alternative described above provides additional reliability and operating flexibility. In addition, it is a better long-term plan for the entire area.

15. The total estimated cost of the complete project is approximately \$1.9 million, which includes: \$725,000 for the new substation; \$399,000 for the transmission line, and \$776,000 for the distribution lines. See Figure 1 for the proposed transmission system configuration and Figure 3 for the proposed distribution system configuration in this area on pages 5 and 7.

16. Construction is scheduled to begin in March 2012 to support the project's in-service date of November 2012.

17. The proposed tap line will be approximately 200 feet long. It will require the installation of two new single-shaft steel monopoles, approximately 75 feet high to support three power conductors and one overhead ground wire. Both new structures will be direct-embedded

and guyed. The power conductors will be 556 kcmil<sup>4</sup> 24/7 stranding ACSR<sup>5</sup>. The 3/8-inch steel overhead ground wire will provide lightning protection for the proposed tap line.

18. The proposed line will be designed to, and will generally exceed, National Electrical Safety Code (“NESC”) minimum standards. Design specifications and safety rules practiced by PPL Electric are explained in Attachment 4. The minimum conductor-to-ground clearance for the Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap will be 30 feet, which occurs at a maximum conductor temperature of 125° C.

19. PPL Electric’s Magnetic Field Management Program is summarized in Attachment 5 and applied to reconstruction and new line projects. In order to lower magnetic field exposures, the program generally prescribes the use of line design that provides 5 feet higher ground clearances and reverse phasing of new double-circuit lines where it is feasible to do so at low or no cost. The implementation of additional modifications will be considered, provided those modifications can be made at low or no cost.

20. For this project, reverse phasing cannot be utilized to reduce magnetic field levels because only one circuit is being installed. However, some reduction in the magnetic field will be realized through the use of poles that exceed the NESC requirements by five feet.

21. An approximate 50 foot section of the proposed tap line will occupy existing PPL Electric right-of-way through the Delaware State Forest. PPL Electric has contacted the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Bureau of Forestry) and is working with it to modify the existing agreement to allow the installation of the proposed short tap line. The balance of the tap line is located on the substation property which is presently under a contract which provides to PPL Electric the option to purchase the property.

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<sup>4</sup> Kcmil means a thousand circular mills. A circular mil is the cross-sectional area of a wire one mil in diameter, where 1 kcmil = 0.5067 mm<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> Aluminum conductor steel reinforced.

22. The proposed tap line is located off of Shiney Mountain Road, north of Interstate 84, in Palmyra Township, Pike County. The proposed site is a combination of woodlands and meadow and is bordered to the south by the Delaware State Forest and to the east by a communications tower site. Due to the small scale, and remote location of this transmission line and its proximity to other infrastructure facilities, no significant impacts to the area are anticipated.

23. The communications tower, located on an adjacent land parcel to the proposed site, will not be impacted by the proposed tap. No railroads, pipelines or other utilities will be affected by the proposed project.

24. The nearest airport, Mountain Bay Air Park, is located approximately 1.3 miles away from the proposed project site. There will be no impact on the airport's flight operations because the proposed transmission monopoles are lower than the adjacent cell tower.

25. The project was reviewed by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission ("PHMC"). The PHMC has determined that there are no National Register eligible or listed historic or archaeological properties in the area.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts to such resources, and no further investigations are required.

26. The project will not affect any unique geological, scenic or natural areas. The line will not cross any wetlands or other aquatic resources. PPL Electric will acquire all required environmental permits and adhere to all of their terms and conditions. Some minimal tree clearing may be required, and 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. PPL Electric will employ its "Specification for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control on Transmission Line Rights-of-

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<sup>6</sup> (The PHMC file number is ER 2011-0025-103-A.)

Way” as appropriate. PPL Electric will acquire any required soil erosion and sedimentation control permits, and PPL Electric will comply with all conditions placed on the permits.

27. The Project will not affect any recreational areas or natural landmarks. The recreational area nearest to the proposed project location is Lake Wallenpaupack, located approximately 2 miles to the northwest. The nearest natural landmark, Lake Lacawac, is located approximately 3.8 miles west of the proposed site. Due to the small scale of the proposed transmission line and distance and terrain between these areas, no impact is expected.

28. As mentioned above, a section of the Delaware State Forest is located adjacent to and south of the proposed substation site. Impacts to the State Forest will be minimal because PPL Electric’s existing Blooming Grove – Jackson 138/69 kV Transmission Line already traverses this section of the forest.

29. PPL Electric has coordinated with the relevant state and federal agencies to obtain information regarding endangered and threatened species that could occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. All agencies report that, except for occasional transient species of wildlife, no threatened or endangered plant or animal life is found in the project area.

30. The proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line was reviewed with representatives of Palmyra Township and Pike County, and neither the Township nor the County has any objection.

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

31. Accompanying this Letter of Notification is a separately bound volume containing Attachments 1-7, which provide additional information about the proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line. This Letter of Notification and accompanying Attachments, which are incorporated herein by reference, contain all of the information required by 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(4).

32. 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 proposed construction of the Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line from the existing Blooming Grove - Jackson 138/69 kV line to the Ledgedale Substation qualifies for the use of a Letter of Notification because the Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line will be less than two miles in length.

33. The Necessity Statement for the proposed construction of the Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line is provided as Attachment 1 accompanying this Letter of Notification. As explained therein, the purpose of the proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line is to improve the reliability of service to the Pike County area by increasing the number of 12 kV distribution lines in the area thereby reducing the number of customers affected by a line outage. In addition, the project will allow PPL Electric to transfer between substations to facilitate maintenance and to restore service in the event of an outage.

34. The Engineering Description of the proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line is provided in Attachment 2 accompanying this Letter of Notification.

35. The proposed Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line will be located in part on the substation property which is presently under contract, which provides PPL Electric the option to purchase the property, and in part on a preexisting right-of-way through a state forest.

36. Attachment 5 accompanying this Letter of Notification explains PPL Electric's standards for Magnetic and Field Management.

37. Attachment 6 accompanying this Letter of Notification contains a list of the owners of property within the Right-of-Way. Copies of this Letter of Notification are being served on the owners of properties listed in Attachment 6

38. Attachment 7 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 Attachment 7 in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(3).

39. 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 Ledgesdale 138/69 kV Tap Line. Such notice will contain: (a) the date this Letter of Notification was filed with the Commission; (b) a brief description of the proposed project and its location; and (c) an instruction that interested parties should contact the Commission at its Harrisburg address.

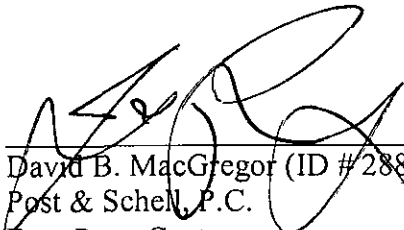
40. This Letter of Notification is filed on the date set forth below. As provided in 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(5), the Commission will review and, by order, approve or disapprove this Letter of Notification. If the Commission approves this Letter of Notification, the proposed Ledgesdale 138/69 kV Tap Line will be constructed as proposed herein without the formal application process set forth at 52 Pa. Code §§ 57.71, *et seq.*

**IV. CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission approve the Ledgedale 138/69 kV Tap Line in Palmyra Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania, that is explained above and in the Attachments hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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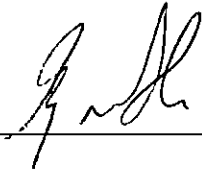
Date: May 31, 2011

Attorneys for PPL Electric Utilities Corporation

**VERIFICATION**

I, Gregory N. Dudkin, being the Senior Vice President - Operations 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: 5/24/11

  
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## 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 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

### VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Ms. Sally Corrigan, Planning Director  
Bureau for Historic Preservation Pike County  
Commonwealth Keystone Building 837 Route 6, Unit 4  
400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Shahola, PA 18458  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053  
Attn: Mr. Douglas C. McLearn, Chief

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 8th 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

Pike County Commissioners  
506 Broad St.  
Milford, PA 18337  
Attn: Mr. Richard Caridi, Chairman

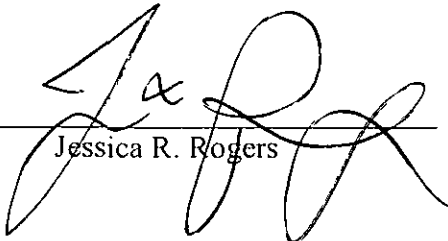
Palmyra Township Board of Supervisors  
115 Buehler Lane  
Paupack, PA 18451  
Attn: Mr. Thomas A. Simons, Chairman

Palmyra Township Planning Commission  
115 Buehler Lane  
Paupack, PA 18451  
Attn: Mr. James Trunzo, Chairman

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Delaware State Forest  
Bureau of Forestry  
Rachel Carson State Office Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552

Rubin P. & Laurie S. Blair  
3 Warner Road  
New Hope, PA 18938-9226

Date: May 31, 2011

  
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Jessica R. Rogers

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