

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

PA PUC

v.

Docket No. R-00973953

PECO Energy Company

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

On July 30, 1997 a Motion for Continuance of Hearings was submitted pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §1.15(b). This Motion was filed on behalf of and signed by various parties to this proceeding, including State Senator Vincent J. Fumo, the Consumers' Education and Protective Association (CEPA), the Tenant Action Group (TAG), ACORN, John W. Long, Jr., Lance Haver, PECO Energy Company (PECO), the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), the Office of Trial Staff (OTS), the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA), the Philadelphia Industrial Energy Users Group (PIEUG), and an ad hoc group of environmental organizations (Environmentalists). In the Motion, it is requested that the hearings scheduled to begin August 4, 1997 be continued for a period of two weeks, that the requirement of filing written testimony on August 1, 1997 be suspended and that the date of the Commission's final order in this case be delayed from January 8, 1998 to January 22, 1998. The purpose of the continuance is to allow the parties to engage in settlement discussions.

The Motion is reasonable and will be granted. It should be clarified that the effect of this Order is to completely suspend the schedule that has been established in this case for a two week period. At the end of that period, after notification from the parties as to whether a settlement has been achieved, a prehearing conference will be held if necessary to establish a new schedule. This may include cancellation and rescheduling of the hearings scheduled to be held August 18,

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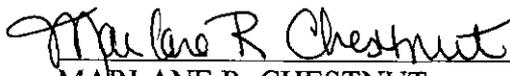
1997 through August 22, 1997 as well as the public input hearings which have been scheduled to be held throughout PECO's service territory.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the hearings scheduled to be held August 4, 1997 through August 15, 1997 are continued. This includes the public input session scheduled to be held on August 13, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. at the Arch Street Methodist Church, Broad and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
2. That PECO is directed to publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of Philadelphia explaining that the August 13, 1997 public input hearing will be rescheduled to a later date.
3. That the requirement of filing testimony on August 1, 1997 is suspended.
4. That in the event a joint settlement petition is not filed on or before August 12, 1997, the parties are to notify the presiding officers so that a prehearing conference can be held to establish a new schedule.
5. That Commission approval be sought of the change of date from January 8, 1998 to January 22, 1998 for issuance of a final order in this proceeding.

DATE: July 31, 1997


MARLANE R. CHESTNUT
Administrative Law Judge

CHARLES E. RAINEY, JR.
Administrative Law Judge

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Docket No. R-973953

July 31, 1997

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