



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

March 14, 2002

REP

REFER TO OUR FILE

A-110500F0315

ANTHONY C DECUSATIS ESQUIRE
MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS
1701 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19103-221

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

Letter of Notification of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation filed pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G with respect to the Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line termination and the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line termination.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that an Order has been adopted by the Commission in Public Meeting on March 14, 2002 in the above entitled proceeding.

An Order has been enclosed for your records.

DOCKETED

MAR 20 2002

Very truly yours,

James J. McNulty
Secretary

Enclosure
Certified Mail
JEP

PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA. 17105-3265

Public Meeting held March 14, 2002

Commissioners Present:

Glen R. Thomas, Chairman
Robert K. Bloom, Vice Chairman
Kim Pizzingrilli
Aaron Wilson, Jr.
Terrance J. Fitzpatrick

DOCKETED
MAR 20 2002

Letter of Notification of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation filed pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G with respect to the Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line termination and the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line termination.

Docket Number:
A-110500 F0315

ORDER

**DOCUMENT
FOLDER**

BY THE COMMISSION:

On December 18, 2001, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation ("PPL") filed a Letter of Notification pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §57.72 (d)(1)(vi), of the Commission's transmission line siting regulations. This section authorizes the abbreviated "Letter of Notification" siting application process when a transmission line is to be recondored or reconstructed so long as the size, character, design or configuration of the proposed line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.

Copies of the siting application were served in accordance with Section 57.72(d)(3). Notice of the filing was published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed project. No protests have been filed.

The facts as stated in the Letter of Notification and as found by the Commission are as follows:

PPL proposes to construct high voltage transmission line connections associated with a 500-230 kV substation, to be known as the Steel City 500-230 kV Substation (“Steel City Substation”) being built by PPL. The Steel City Substation and associated transmission line work will provide an outlet for 1,100 MW of generation from an electric generating station being built by Conectiv Mid-Merit Inc. (“Conectiv”). The Steel City Substation will also provide additional capacity to PPL’s 500 kV transmission line system in the Lehigh Valley that will be needed to meet future demand growth. The Steel City Substation will be located in the City of Bethlehem and the line connections associated with the Steel City Substation will be located in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, and Lower Milford Township, Lehigh County.

Conectiv proposes to construct an 1,100 MW generating station in the City of Bethlehem, connect the station to PPL’s transmission system and sell the generator’s output into the PJM market. The proposed generating station will be located approximately 1,000 feet from PPL’s existing Hosensack-Quarry 500/230 kV Line. Although the line is currently operating at 230 kV, it was designed and constructed for 500 kV operation for the majority of its length. Because PPL’s 230 kV system, as currently configured, is not capable of accepting 1,100 MWs of generation, it is necessary to convert the Hosensack-Quarry line to 500 kV operation while maintaining a 230 kV feed into the Quarry 230-69 kV Substation.

In order to achieve that goal, PPL proposes to construct the Steel City 500-230 kV Substation, which will split the existing Hosensack-Quarry

500-230 kV Line into two segments at the substation. The 230 kV segment of the Steel City substation which will maintain the 230 kV feed into the Quarry 230-69 kV Substation will be designated the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line. The 500 kV segment of the Steel City Substation which will provide the necessary 500 kV outlet for Conectiv's generation to PPL's 500 kV transmission line facilities will be designated Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line.

This project includes three proposed line connections, as follows: (1) approximately 1,775 feet of existing 500 kV line will be reconstructed with a new single circuit 230 kV design to terminate the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line into the new Steel City Substation. This section of line will be supported by one new fabricated multi-pole structure and one new fabricated single shaft steel pole; (2) approximately 925 feet of new single circuit 500 kV transmission line will be constructed to terminate the Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line into the new Steel City Substation. This section of line will be supported by two new multi-pole, fabricated steel pole structures; and (3) approximately 1,600 feet of new single circuit 500 kV transmission line will be constructed to terminate the Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line into the Hosensack 500 kV Switchyard. One new H-frame structure and one new multi-pole structure will support this section of line. The Hosensack 500 kV Switchyard is located immediately adjacent to the Hosensack 230-69 kV Substation.

The 500 kV transmission line connections will have three phases (single circuit) consisting of 2-2,493 KCMIL 54/37 stranding ACAR double-bundled conductors. Two 19 #9 alumoweld overhead ground wires will also be installed. The 230 kV transmission line connection will have three 1,590 KCMIL 45/7 stranding ACSR conductors. In addition, one ½ inch extra-high strength overhead ground wire and one 0.8228-inch diameter fiber optic ground wire will be installed. On the existing portion of the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line, one existing ½ inch

steel overhead ground wire will be replaced with a new 0.8228-inch diameter fiber optic ground wire.

Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Conectiv, IESI PA Bethlehem Landfill Corporation and PPL own properties within the proposed right-of-way for the project. PPL has obtained the necessary easement from the property owners. Some sections of the project will be located on existing right-of-way or on property entirely owned by PPL.

The project will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that meets or exceeds the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC") standards, PPL's design criteria and safety practices, and all legal requirements. The proposed project will not create an unreasonable risk of danger to the public health or safety.

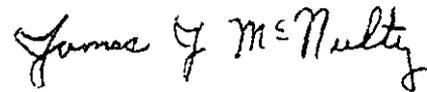
The proposed line will have minimal land use impacts because the most of the proposed route is located within PPL's existing right-of-way. No railroads, pipelines, communication towers or other utilities will be affected by the proposed line connections, and no roads will be crossed.

PPL stated that the proposed project would have no significant environmental impacts. The project will not impact any unique geological, scenic or natural areas. To avoid disturbance to wetlands, PPL will employ, as appropriate, the mitigating measures set forth in its "Program for Vegetation Management" and "Specification for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control for Transmission Line Rights-of-Way." No significant woodland vegetation will be removed for the proposed line connections. Finally, all required permits will be acquired prior to construction. An environmental assessment of the proposed line connections was attached to the filing as Exhibit C.

PPL's Letter of Notification and the manner in which it was filed conform to the requirements of 52 Pa. Code §57.72. Moreover, the Commission has reviewed the filing and does not find it to be inconsistent with applicable law or Commission policy regarding transmission line siting; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED, that the Letter of Notification filed by PPL with respect to Hosensack-Steel City 500 kV Line terminations and the Steel City-Quarry 230 kV Line termination, is hereby approved.

BY THE COMMISSION



James J. McNulty
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: March 14, 2002

ORDER ENTERED: **MAR 14 2002**