**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company :

Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania : M-2013-2341990

Power Company, and West Penn Power Company : M-2013-2341991

for Approval of their Smart Meter Deployment : M-2013-2341993

Plan : M-2013-2341994

**SECOND PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

In accordance with the provisions of 66 Pa. C.S. § 333 and 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.221, a Further Prehearing Conference has been scheduled for the above-captioned cases in Hearing Room 3, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on Friday, April 25, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. Participation may be telephonic provided that you let the presiding officer know by no later than Thursday, April 24, 2014, of a telephone number that you can be reached at.

On April 16, 2014, the Commission issued a Secretarial Letter in the above-captioned matter referring Pennsylvania Power Company’s proposal for an accelerated smart meter deployment schedule to the Office of Administrative Law Judge to develop and certify an evidentiary record on or before May 15, 2014. 52 Pa. Code § 5.531. The Commission plans to consider the certified record and render a decision at the Public Meeting of June 5, 2014.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That a Further Prehearing Conference shall be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 25, 2014, in Hearing Room 3, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

2. That absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled prehearing conference. Failure of a party to participate in the conference, after being served with notice of the time thereof, without good cause shown, shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and an order or ruling with respect thereto.

3. That all parties shall review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa. Code § 5.331(b), which provides, among other things, that “a party shall initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa. Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa. Code 5.371-5.372.

4. That the parties shall be prepared for a discussion of the procedural schedule in this proceeding as well as any anticipated issues, procedural or substantive. Parties’ representatives shall be fully authorized to make commitments, both procedural and substantive, on behalf of their represented party.

5. That the parties shall consider May 14, 2014 as a deadline for the filing of briefs with no opportunity for reply briefs given the expedited nature of the proceedings. Based on this deadline, I encourage the parties to agree to a procedural schedule regarding the filing of testimony and the hearing dates. I have the following dates available for an evidentiary hearing including: May 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9. There will be a one-day turnaround on the transcript of the prehearing conference and hearing.

6. That briefs should be of a consistent format and include proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law.

 7. That on or before **Thursday, April 24, 2014**, the parties shall serve the presiding officer and each other with a prehearing conference memorandum addressing each of the subjects to be discussed above.

Date: April 18, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Elizabeth H. Barnes

 Administrative Law Judge

**M-2013-2341990, M-2013-2341991, M-2013-2341993, and M-23013-2341994**

**Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company for Approval of their Smart Meter Deployment Plan.**

**Revised 2/28/2013**

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