

November 5, 2015

#### **E-FILED**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re:

Petition of Pennsylvania Electric Company for Approval of its

Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plan

Docket No. P-2015-2508936

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing please find the Answer, Notice of Intervention, Public Statement, and Verification, on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate, in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies have been served today on all known parties in this proceeding, as indicated on the enclosed Certificate of Service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Daniel G. Asmus

Assistant Small Business Advocate

Attorney ID No. 83789

**Enclosures** 

cc:

The Honorable Charles E. Rainey, Jr.

Parties of Record

### BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Pennsylvania Electric

Company for Approval of its Long-Term:

Docket No. P-2015-2508936

Infrastructure Improvement Plan

ANSWER OF THE OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE
TO THE PETITION OF PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF ITS LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVEMENT PLAN

#### Procedural History

On or about October 19, 2015, Pennsylvania Electric Company ("Penelec" or "the Company") filed a Petition of Pennsylvania Electric Company for Approval of its Long-Term Infrastructure Plan ("Petition") with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 1352, and 52 Pa. Code §§121.1 et seq.

The Office of Small Business Advocate filed a Notice of Intervention and Public Statement on November 5, 2015.

The Office of Small Business Advocate files the following Answer in response to the corresponding numbered averments in the Company's Petition.

#### ANSWER

The averments in the two un-numbered paragraphs at the beginning of the Petition constitute a prayer for relief. Therefore, no response to these averments is required.

# I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1. Admitted.
- 2. Admitted.

- 3. Admitted. By way of further answer, the citations to Section 1351 of the Public Utility Code, being writings, speak for themselves, and no further answer is required.
- 4. Admitted. By way of further answer, the citations to Sections 1352 (referencing long-term infrastructure improvement plans ("LTIIPs")) and 1353 (referencing distribution system improvement charges ("DSICs")) of the Code, being writings, speak for themselves, and no further answer is required.
- 5. It is admitted that on August 2, 2012, the Commission issued its Final
  Implementation Order with respect to Act 11. By way of further answer, the Final
  Implementation Order, being a writing, speaks for itself, and no further answer is required.
- 6. It is admitted that on May 27, 2014, the Commission issued a Final Order adopting LTIIP regulations. By way of further answer, the Final Order, being a writing, speaks for itself, and no further answer is required.
- 7. It is admitted that Section 121.4(e) of the LTIIP regulations lists the criteria for approval of an LTIIP. By way of further answer, Section 121.4(e), being a writing, speaks for itself, and no further answer is required.
- 8. It is admitted that Sections 121.4(f) and (g) of the LTIIP regulations contemplates the filing of a new or revised LTIIP upon Commission Order. By way of further answer, Sections 121.4(f) and (g), being writings, speaks for themselves, and no further answer is required.

### II. PENELEC'S LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- 9. The averments of this paragraph state conclusions of law to which no response is required.
- 10. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.
- 11. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

# A. Identification of Types and Ages of Property to be Improved, Repaired and Replaced:

12. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which, no response is required.

# B. Initial Schedule for Planned Repair and Replacement of Eligible Property

13. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

# C. General Description of the Location of Eligible Property

14. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

## D. Estimate of Quantity of Eligible Property

15. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

## E. Projected Annual Expenditures

16. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

- F. Acceleration of infrastructure Improvement and Maintenance of Customer Service
- 17. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.
- 18. The OSBA is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the averments of this paragraph, and therefore, they are denied.
- G. Workforce Management and Training Plan for Performance of Work in Cost Effective, Safe and Reliable Manner
- 19. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.
- H. Description of the Utility's Outreach and Coordination Activities with Third Parties
- 20. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.
  - I. Estimated Implementation of Penelec's DSIC
- 21. The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

### III. CONCLUSION

The averments of this paragraph constitute a prayer for relief to which no response is required.

WHEREFORE, the OSBA respectfully requests that the Commission refer the Companies' Petition to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for hearings and the preparation of an initial decision.

Daniel G. Asmus

Assistant Small Business Advocate

Attorney ID No. 83789

For:

John R. Evans. Small Business Advocate

Office of Small Business Advocate 300 North Third Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17101 717-783-2525 717-783-2831 (fax)

November 5, 2015

### BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Pennsylvania Electric

Company for Approval of its Long-Term:

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Infrastructure Improvement Plan

# NOTICE OF INTERVENTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

1. The Intervenor is:

John R. Evans Small Business Advocate 300 North Second Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 783-2525 (717) 783-2831 (fax)

2. The name and address of the Intervenor's attorney is:

Daniel G. Asmus
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Office of Small Business Advocate
300 North Second Street, Suite 202
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 783-2525
(717) 783-2831 (fax)
dasmus@pa.gov

3. The respondent utility is:

Pennsylvania Electric Company 800 Cabin Hill Drive Greensburg, PA 15601

4. The Intervenor is authorized and directed by the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 - 399.50, to represent the interests of small business consumers of utility services in matters before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission").

- 5. This Intervention is filed regarding the Petition of Pennsylvania Electric Company for Approval of its Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plan ("Petition") that was filed with the Commission on October 19, 2015.
- 6. In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:
  - A. Direct the Office of Administrative Law Judge to holding hearings on the *Petition* and prepare an initial decision; and
  - B. Grant such other relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel G. Asmus

Assistant Small Business Advocate

Attorney ID No. 83789

Office of Small Business Advocate 300 North Second Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 783-2525 (717) 783-2831 (fax)

Dated: November 5, 2015

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Pennsylvania Electric

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# PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

The Small Business Advocate is authorized and directed to represent the interests of small business consumers of utility services in Pennsylvania under the provisions of the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 - 399.50 ("Act"). The Act further provides that the Small Business Advocate is to issue publicly a written statement setting forth concisely the specific interest of small business consumers to be protected by his initiation of or intervention in any proceeding involving those interests before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") or any other agency or court. This public statement relates to the Small Business Advocate's intervention in the above-captioned Commission proceedings.

On October 19, 2015, Pennsylvania Electric Company ("Penelec"), filed a Petition for approval of its long-term infrastructure improvement plan, initiating the above-captioned proceeding.

The Small Business Advocate is intervening in the above-captioned proceeding in order to protect the interests of Penelec's small business customers. A thorough inquiry by the Commission into all of the elements of Penelec's petition is necessary to ensure that Penelec's proposals for making and paying for distribution system improvements are

in accord with the Public Utility Code and with the Commission's regulations and

policies.

In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate is requesting that the

petition be subject to investigation and evidentiary hearings before the Commission. The

Small Business Advocate will ask the Commission to deny or modify any aspect of the

Penelec's proposal that is not proven by Penelec to be in accord with the Public Utility

Code and with the Commission's regulations and policies.

Dated: November 5, 2015

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### **VERIFICATION**

I, Daniel G. Asmus, hereby state that the facts set forth herein above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect 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: November 5, 2015

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Pennsylvania Electric

Company for Approval of its Long-Term:

Docket No. P-2015-2508936

Infrastructure Improvement Plan

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been served via email and/or first-class mail (unless other noted below) upon the following persons, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

The Honorable Charles E. Rainey, Jr. Chief Administrative Law Judge PA Public Utility Commission 400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor West Commonwealth Keystone Building Harrisburg, PA 17120 <a href="mailto:crainey@pa.gov">crainey@pa.gov</a> (E-mail and Hand Delivery)

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DATE: November 5, 2015

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