**PENNSYLVANIA**

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Harrisburg, PA. 17105-3265**

Public Meeting held July 12, 2017

Commissioners Present:

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| Gladys M. Brown, Chairman |
| Andrew G. Place, Vice Chairman |
| John F. Coleman, Jr.  Robert F. Powelson  David W. Sweet |

Letter/Petition for Approval of Nine Docket Number:

Board Members to the Sustainable M-00031715F0002

Development Fund

**ORDER**

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

By Letter/Petition dated June 21, 2017, the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF or fund) requested that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) approve the nomination of nine individuals to the Board of Directors. Mr. Alex Dews, Mr. Michael Freeman, Mr. Matthew Madia, Mr. Sonny Popowsky, Mr. Richard Schlesinger, Ms. Christina Simeone, Mr. Sidharth Singh, Ms. Lori Van der Voort and Mr. Sherif Youssef were nominated to fill vacancies on the Board and to replace four board members whose terms have expired.

At the SDF Board of Directors meeting on May 17, 2017, the Board approved the nomination of nine new members. The new members submitted for approval by the Commission are:

**Alex Dews**. Since January, 2015, Mr. Dews has served as the Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Green Building Association. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the sustainable design program at Philadelphia University School of Architecture and he serves as a board member of the Chester County Economic Development Council’s Smart Energy Initiative. Mr. Dews worked for five years as Policy and Program Manager at the City of Philadelphia Mayor’s Office of Sustainability. Mr. Dews has a B.A. in English from the University of Vermont and a M.S. in Sustainable Design from Philadelphia University.

**Michael Freeman**. Mr. Freeman cofounded Emerald Energy Consulting, LLC in 2013 and provides energy market analysis to power generation developers, transmission project developers, Regional Transmission Organizations, large retail customers, demand-response providers and electric generation suppliers. Mr. Freeman is also an adjunct professor of economics at Villanova University and at Drexel University. From 1997 to 2013, Mr. Freeman was a Senior Originator on the Exelon Power Team, where he was a leading voice on demand-side programs, wind, solar and other technologies of interest to SDF. Mr. Freeman has a B.S. in economics from Temple University and a M.S. in energy economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Matthew Madia**. Mr. Madia is chief strategy and development officer at Bridgeway Capital, a community financial development institution in Pittsburgh, where he is working on building up Bridgeway’s energy lending portfolio. Earlier, Mr. Madia worked as a policy analyst at OMB Watch in Washington, DC. Mr. Madia has a B.A. in Political Science and a B.S. in Landscape Contracting from Pennsylvania State University and a M.B.A. with a focus on sustainability from Duquesne University.

**Sonny Popowsky**. Mr. Popowsky worked for the Consumer Advocates Office from 1979 to 2012 and was the Consumer Advocate of Pennsylvania from 1990 to 2012. Mr. Popowsky brings first-hand experience with Act 129, the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act, and an abundance of other key utility issues. Mr. Popowsky has a B.A. degree from Yale and a J.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Richard Schlesinger**. Mr. Schlesinger has worked at PECO since1986 and currently serves as Manager of Retail Rates. Mr. Schlesinger has been active in PECO’s Act 129 program and their new Solar Collaborative. Mr. Schlesinger has a B.S. in engineering from Widener University, a B.S. in food science from Pennsylvania State University and a M.B.A. from Saint Joseph’s University.

**Christina Simeone**. Since 2014, Ms. Simeone has been the Director of Policy and External Affairs at the University of Pennsylvania’s Kleinman Center for Energy Policy. Before that, she was the director of the Energy Center for Enterprise and Environment at Citizens for Pennsylvania’s Future, policy director at the Alliance for Climate Protection (Washington, D.C.) and special assistant for energy and climate at PA DEP. Ms. Simeone has a B.A. in economics from the University of Miami, a B.S. in music industry from Drexel University and a M.S. in environmental studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Sidharth Singh**. Mr. Singh is cofounder and partner in the Strategic Finance Group, which focuses on small-to-mid sized sustainability projects across agriculture, energy water and waste sectors. Before that, he worked for Serious Capital, Jeffries & Company, Morgan Stanley. Mr. Singh has a B.S. in bio-mechanical engineering from Columbia University.

**Lori Van der Voort**. Ms. Van der Voort is director of energy at PWI Engineering, where she has experience working on energy issues for a wide variety of clients and settings. Ms. Van der Voort was one of the founding board members of the Council of Women in Energy and Environmental Leadership, a sub-group of the Association of Energy Engineers. Ms. Van der Voort has a B.E. in mechanical engineering from the Stevens Institute of Technology.

**Sherif Youssef**. Mr. Youssef is director of major accounts, sales and marketing at Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW). He developed PGW’s long range strategic plans to grow combined-heat-and-power. Mr. Youssef has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Cairo University and a M.B.A. from LaSalle University. He holds a Professional Engineer license in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The election of new members followed the board nomination process required by the SDF bylaws and is in keeping with the Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Board Best Practices on Nominations of New Directors. The SDF sent out notice of the Board vacancies and put notice of the Board vacancy on its website beginning March 3, 2017. SDF staff and Board members interviewed ten nominees and elected the nine nominees presented above.

Based on a review of all relevant information, we find the nominees to be well qualified to serve on the Board of Directors of the Sustainable Development Fund; **THEREFORE**,

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That the nomination of Mr. Alex Dews, Mr. Michael Freeman, Mr. Matthew Madia, Mr. Sonny Popowsky, Mr. Richard Schlesinger, Ms. Christina Simeone, Mr. Sidharth Singh, Ms. Lori Van der Voort and Mr. Sherif Youssef to the Board of Directors of the Sustainable Development Fund are hereby approved.

2. That a copy of this Order be served on Mr. Alex Dews, Mr. Michael Freeman, Mr. Matthew Madia, Mr. Sonny Popowsky, Mr. Richard Schlesinger, Ms. Christina Simeone, Mr. Sidharth Singh, Ms. Lori Van der Voort and Mr. Sherif Youssef, the Sustainable Development Fund, the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate.

3. That this proceeding at M-00031715F0002 be closed.

**BY THE COMMISSION,**



Rosemary Chiavetta,

Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: July 12, 2017

ORDER ENTERED: July 12, 2017