

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1923  
(717) 783-5048  
800-684-6560

FAX (717) 783-7152  
consumer@paoca.org

August 22, 2017

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 171020

Re: Brenda Smith  
v.  
Blue Pilot Energy, LLC and  
PPL Electric Utilities Corporation  
F-2015-2472890

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached for electronic filing please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies have been served per the attached Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

*Candis A. Tunilo*

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Candis A. Tunilo  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. # 89891  
E-Mail: CTunilo@paoca.org

Attachments

cc: Honorable Dennis J. Buckley, ALJ  
Certificate of Service  
\*238979

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Brenda Smith :  
v. : Docket No. F-2015-2472890  
Blue Pilot Energy, LLC and :  
PPL Electric Utilities Corporation :

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the following document, the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated this 22nd day of August, 2017.

SERVICE BY INTER-OFFICE MAIL

Honorable Dennis J. Buckley, ALJ  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

SERVICE BY E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID

Karen O. Moury, Esq.  
Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
213 Market Street  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Graig M. Schultz, Esq.  
Gross McGinley, LLP  
33 South Seventh Street  
PO Box 4060  
Allentown, PA 18105-4060

Brenda Smith  
159 Alva Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17112



Candis A. Tunilo  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. #89891  
Email: [CTunilo@paoca.org](mailto:CTunilo@paoca.org)

Kristine E. Marsilio  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. #316479  
Email: [KMarsilio@paoca.org](mailto:KMarsilio@paoca.org)

Counsel for Office of Consumer Advocate  
555 Walnut Street  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Forum Place  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923  
Phone: (717) 783-5048  
Fax: (717) 783-7152  
\*238980

BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Brenda Smith :  
 :  
 v. : Docket No. F-2015-2472890  
 :  
 Blue Pilot Energy, LLC and PPL :  
 Electric Utilities Corporation :

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NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

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Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.71-74, the Office of Consumer Advocate hereby gives Notice of Intervention in the above-captioned proceeding. A copy of all correspondence, notices, documents, orders or other communications with respect to the above-captioned proceeding should be addressed to the following:

Candis A. Tunilo  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. # 89891  
E-Mail: [CTunilo@paoca.org](mailto:CTunilo@paoca.org)

Kristine E. Marsilio  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. # 316479  
E-Mail: [KMarsilio@paoca.org](mailto:KMarsilio@paoca.org)

Office of Consumer Advocate  
5th Floor, Forum Place  
555 Walnut Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923  
Telephone: (717) 783-5048

Respectfully submitted,



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Candis A. Tunilo  
Assistant Consumer Advocate  
PA Attorney I.D. # 89891

Date: August 22, 2017

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
PURSUANT TO 71 P.S. SECTION 309-4(e)

Act 161 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, 71 P.S. Section 309-2, as enacted July 9, 1976, authorizes the Consumer Advocate to represent the interests of consumers before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission). In accordance with Act 161, and for the following reasons, the Acting Consumer Advocate determined to intervene in the formal complaint proceeding brought by Brenda Smith against Blue Pilot Energy, LLC (Blue Pilot) and PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL). Ms. Smith filed her formal complaint on March 16, 2015, appealing a Bureau of Consumer Services decision. In her formal complaint, Ms. Smith asserted that Blue Pilot promised to shop around for the lowest rate possible, yet Blue Pilot charged her \$0.4490/kWh for three months in early 2014 even though PPL's price was much lower. Ms. Smith also asserted that PPL charged late fees while she was on a payment plan, which made it difficult for her to pay down her back balance.

Early in 2014, the OCA received thousands of consumer contacts about supplier variable rate charges on their electric bills. The OCA and the Office of Attorney General, Bureau of Consumer Protection joined in the filing of a Complaint against, *inter alia*, Blue Pilot to address multiple identified violations of the Commission's regulations and Pennsylvania law and to seek protections for consumers. The Joint Complaint remains pending at the Commission. The OCA determined to intervene in this proceeding to continue to represent the interests of consumers alleging wrongdoing by Blue Pilot before the Commission and to ensure that Blue Pilot followed applicable requirements when it engaged in electric generation marketing and sales in Pennsylvania. Additionally, the OCA seeks to ensure that PPL charges late fees in accordance with the law, Commission's regulations and orders and PPL's tariff.