**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Michael G. Deegan : C-2018-3004165

Charles E. Spindler: C-2018-3004179

Cherie Roddy : C-2018-3004201

Joyce Fedusa and Thomas Fedusa : C-2018-3004342

Nancy R. Nail : C-2018-3004346

Melvin Bines : C-2018-3004354

Norma D. Fritz and James Leach : C-2018-3004411

James Hollenbaugh : C-2018-3004524

 :

 v. :

 :

Knox Energy Cooperative Association, Inc. :

**INTERIM ORDER**

**SCHEDULING A FURTHER PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

 Eight Complainants have filed formal complaints against Knox Energy Cooperative Association, Inc. (Knox) in response to notification they received from Knox that the company would cease providing gas service to them, effective October 31, 2018. On September 28, 2018, Knox filed answers to all of the complaints as well as preliminary objections. Knox and Complainant Michael G. Deegan filed a motion for consolidation of the complaints.

 The Office of Consumer Advocate filed a notice of intervention and public statement in the complaint of Charles E. Spindler, C-2018-3004179, on October 3, 2018.

 By order dated October 4, 2018, a prehearing conference was scheduled to permit the Complainants to respond to the preliminary objections and Knox’s motion for consolidation. The parties were directed to be prepared to discuss the application, if any, of the Commission’s decision in *Laffey v. Knox Energy Cooperative Association, Inc.,* Docket C-2015-2462487 (Opinion and Order entered September 3, 2015).

 OCA filed a prehearing memorandum on October 12, 2018. OCA requested that its intervention be deemed to apply to all of the complaints and also noted that Knox may not be in compliance with the settlement reached in *The Matter of the Application of Orwell Natural Gas Company for Approval of the Transfer of its Distribution System Assets,* A-2015-2478270 (*Orwell*)*.*

 The prehearing conference convened as scheduled. All of the Complainants appeared and were self-represented. Todd S. Stewart, Esquire appeared on behalf of Knox Energy and Dianne E. Dusman, Esquire appeared on behalf of the OCA. Consolidation of the complaints, the preliminary objections of Knox, the *Orwell* settlement and further proceedings were discussed. Four of the Complainants represented that they had already switched to an alternate energy source. Knox represented that it intended to rescind the notification that the Complainants received from Knox that the company would cease providing gas service to them, effective October 31, 2018.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the parties are to cooperate and engage in informal discovery for the purpose of advancing settlement discussions and shall work diligently to attempt to reach amicable resolution of the above-captioned complaints.

2. That a decision on the preliminary objections of Knox Energy to the complaints will be held in abeyance.

3. That the formal complaints filed by the above-captioned individuals are consolidated for the purpose of hearing and procedure. The formal complaints are not consolidated for the purpose of decision at this time.

4. That the OCA’s intervention in the Spindler Complaint is deemed to apply to each of the above-captioned complaints.

5. That a further telephonic prehearing conference in this case is scheduled for **Thursday, November 1, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.**

Date: October 18, 2018 /s/

 Mary D. Long

 Administrative Law Judge

**C-2018-3004165 ET AL; MICHAEL DEEGAN ET AL v. KNOX ENERGY COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

*(Revised 10/18/18)*

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