

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**PECO Energy Company
Pilot Plan for an Advanced
Payments Program and Petition
for Temporary Waiver of Portions
of the Commissions Regulations**

**Public Meeting – December 19, 2019
2573023-OSA
Docket No. P-2016-2573023**

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE

By Order entered on June 18, 2019, the Commission approved PECO's Prepay Petition with modifications. Today we consider the Petitions for Reconsideration and/or Clarification filed thereto by the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (CAUSE-PA) and Tenant Union Representative Network and Action Alliance of Senior Citizens of Greater Philadelphia (TURN *et al.*).

I would like to address the security deposit issue raised by the Petitioners. Our June 2019 Order provided that existing security deposits may be eligible for application to the prepay program but may be returned to the customer at the customer's election. We are not changing this determination today because no new or novel arguments have been offered. However, I urge PECO and the stakeholders that will participate in the collaborative process preceding PECO's compliance filing to focus on educating customers regarding security deposit requirements in the event the customer moves from prepaid service back to standard service.

As stated previously in my joint Motion with Vice Chairman Sweet, this is a pilot program meant to gather and study Pennsylvania specific data regarding whether or not prepaid service is beneficial to customers and utilities.¹ Prepaid service has the potential to utilize advances in technology to deliver expanded service options to customers. Of particular interest to me, prepaid service has the potential to help customers that have run out of options under Chapter 14, 66 Pa. C.S. §§ 1401 *et seq.*, to get or keep vital utility service. I look forward to seeing the data, whether positive or negative, that will be collected during this pilot program.

December 19, 2019
Date


Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman

¹ Joint Motion of Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille and Vice Chairman David W. Sweet, Docket No. P-2016-2573023 (April 25, 2019).