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April 10, 2020

**Via Electronic Filing**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Keystone Bldg. 2nd Floor W  
400 N. Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**RE: Duquesne Light Company Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan for 2017-2019 Submitted in Compliance with 52 Pa. Code § 54.74  
Docket No. M-2016-2534323**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Duquesne Light Company (“Company”) or (“Duquesne Light”) respectfully submits this letter requesting that its Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan (“USECP”) be temporarily amended to increase the number of customers who can qualify for assistance under the Hardship Fund program. As explained in the USECP, Duquesne Light’s Hardship Fund is administered by the Dollar Energy Fund (“DEF”) and is supported by donations from Duquesne Light’s customers and the Company’s matching contributions. The program is designed for lower-income residential customers who are unable to pay for their electric service. Specifically, the DEF targets lower-income customers who have overdue balances and an inability to pay the full amount of their energy bills. The primary features of the DEF include: (1) direct financial assistance for overdue energy bills, (2) protection against shutoffs, and (3) referral to other programs and services

Due to COVID-19 and the hardship the pandemic has (and will continue to) cause its customers, Duquesne Light is requesting a temporary amendment to its USECP to expand the number of customers who can qualify for assistance under DEF through the end of 2020. Under its current plan, DEF is available to lower-income residential customers with a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (“FPL”) By this letter, the Company requests DEF eligibility be expanded to residential customers with a household income at or below 250% of the FPL through the end of 2020. Duquesne Light will also temporarily waive the good faith payment requirement for Customer Assistance Program (“CAP”) customers with a household income between 200-250% of the FPL through the end of 2020.



Duquesne Light has discussed this request with the Office of Consumer Advocate (“OCA”) and the Coalition for Affordable Utility Service and Energy Efficiency (“CAUSE-PA”). The OCA and CAUSE-PA have authorized the Company to state that they do not object to the requested DEF eligibility expansion.

An electronic copy of this document has been served upon the OCA and CAUSE-PA as indicated in the enclosed Certificate of Service. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

cc: Certificate of Service

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily M. Farah", is written over the typed name and title.

Emily M. Farah  
Duquesne Light Company  
Counsel, Regulatory



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

### VIA E-MAIL ONLY

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