

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING 400 NORTH STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17120

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO OUR FILE C-2020-3020127

July 13, 2020

Via Electronic Filing

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Bureau of Investigation and

Enforcement v. Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a Clearview Energy

Docket No. C-2020-3020127 **I&E Reply to New Matter**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for electronic filing please find the Reply of the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement to the New Matter of Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a Clearview Energy with regard to the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies are being served on the parties of record in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Stephanie M. Wimer Senior Prosecutor

Attorney ID No. 207522

SMW/jfm Enclosure

cc: Michael L. Swindler, Deputy Chief Prosecutor

As per Certificate of Service

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

:

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement,

Complainant

:

v. : Docket No. C-2020-3020127

:

Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a

Clearview Energy,

Respondent

REPLY OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT TO THE NEW MATTER OF CLEARVIEW ELECTRIC, INC. d/b/a CLEARVIEW ENERGY

NOW COMES the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement ("I&E" or "Complainant") of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") by and through its prosecuting attorneys, and files this Reply to the New Matter of Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a Clearview Energy ("Clearview," "Company" or "Respondent"), pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.63(a). In support thereof, I&E avers as follows:

- 47. Denied. The averments in Paragraph 47 of Respondent's New Matter are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, I&E denies the allegations. By way of further answer, Section 3301(a) of the Public Utility, 66 Pa.C.S. § 3301(a), speaks for itself.
- 48. Denied. The averments in Paragraph 48 of Respondent's New Matter are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required,

I&E denies the allegations. By way of further answer, Section 3301(a) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 3301(a), speaks for itself.

- 49. Denied. To the best of I&E's knowledge and belief, the Commission has not established a penalty schedule to specify an amount or range of amounts of the civil penalty between \$1 and \$1,000 that should be imposed on electric generation suppliers for particular violations of the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives. It is denied that the establishment of such a penalty schedule is necessary or required to authorize the Commission to impose civil penalties upon electric generation suppliers that violate the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives. By way of further answer, the Commission analyzes the ten factors set forth in its Policy Statement at 52 Pa. Code § 69.1201(c) to evaluate the appropriateness and amount of a civil penalty on a case-by-case basis.
- 50. The averments in Paragraph 50 of Respondent's New Matter are admitted in part and denied in part. It is admitted that I&E has not established a penalty schedule to specify an amount or a range of amounts of the civil penalty between \$1 and \$1,000 that should be imposed on electric generation suppliers for particular violations of the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives. It is denied that the establishment of such a penalty schedule is necessary or required to authorize I&E to seek the imposition of civil penalties upon electric generation suppliers that violate the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives. By way of further answer, I&E analyzes the ten factors set forth in the Commission's Policy Statement at 52 Pa. Code § 69.1201(c) when determining the amount of a requested civil penalty.

- 51. Denied. Upon reasonable investigation, I&E is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief regarding the averments in Paragraph 51 of Respondent's New Matter that I&E disseminated criteria to regulated motor carriers that establish a penalty schedule or range to specific civil penalty amounts for particular violations of the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives. By way of further answer, it is denied that violations of the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations or Commission directives committed by motor carriers are relevant to the instant proceeding.
- 52. Denied. The averments in Paragraph 52 of Respondent's New Matter are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, I&E denies the allegations. By way of further answer, the Commission's Order at *Rosi v*. *Bell-Atlantic-PA, Inc. and Sprint Communications, L.P.*, Docket No. C-00992409 (Order entered March 16, 2006) and the Commission's Policy Statement at 52 Pa. Code § 69.1201(c), speak for itself.
- 53. Denied. The averments in Paragraph 53 of Respondent's New Matter are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, I&E denies the allegations. By way of further answer, I&E's Complaint seeks appropriate relief from Clearview that considers the factors set forth in the Commission's Policy Statement at 52 Pa. Code § 69.1201(c) and is consistent with past Commission decisions involving similar allegations of overbilling, unauthorized switching, failing to notify appropriate entities of door-to-door marketing activities, deceptive and unlawful marketing, and failing to conduct criminal background checks.
- 54. Denied. The averments in Paragraph 54 of Respondent's New Matter are conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required,

I&E denies the allegations. By way of further answer, it is denied that Clearview has not been afforded with sufficient due process or that there is an absence of structure regarding I&E's proposed civil penalty, which was properly computed in accordance with 66 Pa.C.S. § 3301(a) and the Commission's Policy Statement at 52 Pa. Code § 69.1201(c).

WHEREFORE, for all the foregoing reasons, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission respectfully requests that, after consideration of the record, the Office of Administrative Law Judge and the Commission deny Clearview's New Matter and find Clearview in violation of each and every count as set forth in the Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie M. Wimer Senior Prosecutor

PA Attorney ID No. 207522

Michael L. Swindler Deputy Chief Prosecutor PA Attorney ID No. 43319

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120 (717) 772-8839 stwimer@pa.gov

Date: July 13, 2020

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, : Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, :

Complainant :

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v. : Docket No. C-2020-3020127

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Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a

Clearview Energy, :

Respondent

VERIFICATION

I, Daniel J. Mumford, Director, Office of Competitive Market Oversight, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: July 13, 2020

Daniel Mumford

Director 6

Office of Competitive Market Oversight Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

400 North Street 3rd Floor, North

Harrisburg, PA 17120

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Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a :

Clearview Energy, :

Respondent :

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

Service by First Class Mail and Electronic Mail:

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d/b/a Clearview Energy

Stephanie M. Wimer Senior Prosecutor

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Dated: July 13, 2020