

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

**Chris Paluti  
v.  
West Penn Power Company**

**Public Meeting held October 29, 2020  
3004845-OSA  
Docket No. C-2018-3004845**

**STATEMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID W. SWEET**

Before the Commission are the Initial Decision of Administrative Law Judge Katrina Dunderdale, the exceptions of the complainant Chris Paluti and the reply exceptions of West Penn Power Company regarding a formal complaint in which Mr. Paluti alleged that the numerous service outages he experienced constituted unsafe or unreasonable service. West Penn claims that six of those outages were caused by off-corridor trees, which were since removed. The remainder were claimed to be normal recloser events. From September 2017 through August 2018, Mr. Paluti and his wife contacted West Penn ten times regarding the outages.

The ALJ notes, and the record supports a finding that West Penn did respond to the service issues and sought to address the service interruptions to the point where the utility's actions constitute a reasonable response, even going as far as removing off-right-of-way trees. The tree removal improved service to Mr. Paluti, but I cannot help but note that the record shows that there were 29 interruptions of service from May 2018 until the date of the hearing on July 19, 2019. I support the Commission's action in encouraging West Penn to continue to work to resolve whatever service interruptions remain, but I also ask that a copy of the Commission Order be served upon the Commission's Electric Safety Division for their information and whatever action that they may deem to be appropriate.

October 29, 2020  
DATE

  
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DAVID W. SWEET  
VICE CHAIRMAN