

April 6, 2021

E-FILED

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

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. PECO Energy Company-Electric Division / Docket No. R-2021-3024601

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Complaint, Public Statement, and Verification, on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"), in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies will be served on all known parties in this proceeding, as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Erin K. Fure

Erin K. Fure Assistant Small Business Advocate Attorney ID No. 312245

Enclosures

cc: Brian Kalcic

Parties of Record

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

:

Docket No. R-2021-3024601

PECO Energy Company-Electric Division

v.

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COMPLAINT OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

1. The Complainant is:

John R. Evans Small Business Advocate 555 Walnut Street Forum Place, 1st Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 783-2525

2. The name and address of the attorney for the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA") is:

Erin K. Fure Assistant Small Business Advocate Office of Small Business Advocate 555 Walnut Street Forum Place, 1st Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 783-2525

3. The respondent utility is:

PECO Energy Company 2301 Market Street P.O. Box 8699 Philadelphia, PA 19101

- 4. The Complainant is authorized and directed by the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 399.50, to represent the interests of small business consumers of utility services in matters before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission").
- 5. This Complaint is filed against the rates, terms, and other provisions of Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 7 ("Tariff No. 7"), which was filed with the Commission on March 30, 2021, by PECO Energy Company ("PECO" or the "Company"). The rates set forth in Tariff No. 7, if approved by the Commission, would increase PECO's revenues approximately \$246 million.
- 6. After preliminary review of the materials filed by the Company in support of the proposed Tariffs, Complainant believes, and therefore avers, that those materials may be insufficient to justify the rate increase requested and that the Company's present and proposed rates, rules, and conditions of service may be unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory, and otherwise contrary to law, particularly as they pertain to small business customers.
- 7. Complainant believes, and therefore avers, that PECO's proposed tariff changes and proposed rates, rate design, and revenue allocation are or may be unjust, unreasonable, and unlawfully discriminatory in violation of, *inter alia*, Sections 1301 and 1304 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. §§1301 and 1304, and contrary to appropriate public policy and sound ratemaking considerations, and may not be supported by the materials filed by PECO.
- 8. In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:
 - A. Suspend and investigate the operation of Tariff No. 7;

- B. At the conclusion of such investigation, reject the proposed new rates and other tariff changes in Tariff No. 7 to the extent required to make certain that PECO's rates are lawful, just, reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory to small business customers; and
- C. Grant such other relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Erin K. Fure

Erin K. Fure Assistant Small Business Advocate Attorney ID No. 312245

Office of Small Business Advocate 555 Walnut Street Forum Place, 1st Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 783-2525 (717) 783-2831 (fax)

Dated: April 6, 2021

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

:

Docket Nos. R-2021-3024601

PECO Energy Company-Electric Division

v.

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

The Small Business Advocate is authorized and directed to represent the interest of small business consumers of utility services in Pennsylvania under the provisions of the Small Business Advocate Act, Act 181 of 1988, 73 P.S. §§ 399.41 - 399.50 ("Act"). The Act further provides that the Small Business Advocate is to issue publicly a written statement stating concisely the specific interest of small business consumers to be protected by his initiation of or intervention in any proceeding involving those interests before the Public Utility Commission ("Commission") or any other agency or court. This public statement relates to the filing today by the Small Business Advocate of a complaint against the proposed base rate tariff filings of PECO Energy Company ("PECO" or the "Company"), which would increase PECO's electric division revenues in the amount of approximately \$246 million.

The Small Business Advocate files this formal complaint against the Company's proposed base rate tariff filings in order to protect the interests of the Company's small business customers. A thorough inquiry by the Commission into all of the elements of the Company's proposed base rate tariff filings is necessary to ensure that the tariff filings are lawful, just, reasonable, and not discriminatory to PECO's small business customers.

In view of the foregoing, the Small Business Advocate will participate in proceedings before the Public Utility Commission to investigate the reasonableness of the proposed base rate tariff filings. The Small Business Advocate will ask the Commission to deny any proposed new rates and other tariff changes that apply to small business customers that are not proven by PECO to be lawful, just, reasonable, and not discriminatory to the Company's small business customers.

Dated: April 6, 2021

VERIFICATION

I, John R. Bvans, hereby state that the facts set forth herein above 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: 04/06/2021

(Signature)

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

:

Docket Nos. R-2021-3024601

PECO Energy Company-Electric Division

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been served via email and/or First-Class mail (*unless other noted below*) upon the following persons, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

The Honorable Charles E. Rainey Jr. Chief Administrative Law Judge Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission 400 North Street Commonwealth Keystone Building Harrisburg, PA 17120 crainey@pa.gov

Tanya J. McCloskey, Esquire Acting Consumer Advocate Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 tmccloskey@paoca.org (Counsel for OCA)

Richard Kanaskie, Esquire
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
400 North Street
Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
rkanaskie@pa.gov
(Counsel for BIE)

Jack R. Garfinkle
Jennedy S. Johnson
PECO Energy Company
2301 Market Street
P.O. Box 8699
Philadelphia, PA 19101
jack.garfinkle@exeloncorp.com
jennedy.johnson@exeloncorp.com

Kenneth M. Kulak
Catherine G. Vasudevan
Brooke E. McGlinn
Mark A. Lazaroff
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1701 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
ken.kulak@morganlewis.com
catherine.vasudevan@morganlewis.com
brooke.mcglinn@morganlewis.com
mark.lazaroff@morganlewis.com

/s/ Erin K. Fure DATE: April 6, 2021

> Erin K. Fure Assistant Small Business Advocate Attorney ID No. 312245