

CSA STATEMENT No. 1

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PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

V.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NO. R-850152

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JAN 24 1986

SECRETARY'S OFFICE
Public Utility Commission

Testimony of

PHILIP R. WINTER, CEA

Cost of Capital

on Behalf of the Federal Executive Agencies
General Services Administration

General Services Administration (PUR)
Room 6317
18th & F Streets, N.W.
Washington, DC 20405
(202) 566-1034

January 2, 1986

DOCKETED
JAN 27 1986

ROOM
SIDE

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PHILIP R. WINTER

1 Q: PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2

3 A: My name is Philip R. Winter. My business address is Office
4 of Public Utilities, Rate Case Division, General Services
5 Administration, 18th and F Streets, N.W., Washington, DC
6 20405.

7

8 Q: WHAT IS YOUR POSITION WITH THE GENERAL SERVICES
9 ADMINISTRATION?

10

11 A: I am an Operations Research Analyst in the Office of Public
12 Utilities, and am responsible for cost of capital and cost
13 of service testimony in public utility rate cases. A
14 statement of my educational background and professional
15 experience is contained in Appendix A of this testimony.

16

17 Q: IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU APPEARING BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?

18

19 A: I am appearing as a witness on behalf of the General
20 Services Administration, representing the consumer interests
21 of all the Federal Executive Agencies.

22

23

1 Q: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY HEREIN?

2

3 A: I address cost of capital issues, including Philadelphia
4 Electric Company's (PECO or Company) cost of debt, cost of
5 preferred and common equity, and appropriate capital
6 structure.

7

8 Q: WHAT OVERALL COST OF CAPITAL IS APPLICABLE TO THE COMPANY IN
9 THIS CASE?

10

11 A: The Company's overall cost of capital applicable in this
12 case should reflect the effect of recent debt issuances and
13 debt redemptions by the Company. Although data necessary
14 for determination of the overall effect of these issuances
15 and redemptions have been requested, such data are not, as
16 yet, available. When data are available, I will file an
17 update to Schedule 1 contained in this testimony, which will
18 show the Company's cost of debt and overall cost of capital
19 for the test year ending June 30, 1986.

20

21 Q: WHAT COST IS APPLICABLE TO THE LONG-TERM DEBT COMPONENT OF
22 THE COMPANY'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE?

23

24 A: The company's filing shows a 10.74% estimated embedded cost
25 of debt for the test year ending 6/30/86. This estimate is
26 excessive, however, since (1) new debt has been sold at an

1 effective cost below the 12.5% estimate included in Company
2 witness Brennan's testimony; (2) a portion of the Company's
3 high coupon debt has been redeemed, thereby lowering the
4 overall embedded debt costs; and (3) Mr. Brennan's estimate
5 of yields on floating rate bonds is incorrectly based on
6 Treasury bill futures contract yields.

7
8 Based on data from EBASCO, a business consulting firm,
9 approximate costs to PECO for \$250 million and \$150 million
10 of mortgage bonds sold on November 20, 1985 were 11.91% and
11 11.04%, respectively. The exact costs of these issues have
12 not, as yet, been provided by Mr. Brennan, and the end
13 result of the redemption of high coupon issues is unknown.
14 The impact of the new issuances and redemptions on test year
15 debt costs should be determined and then used in
16 establishing PECO's overall cost of debt in this case.

17
18 With regard to the floating rate pollution control notes, my
19 estimates of their effective costs are based on current
20 consensus forecasts of T-bill yields as opposed to the T-
21 bill futures contract yields on which Mr. Brennan relies
22 (see his Schedule 4, p. 7). I utilize the consensus
23 forecast of yields because they are known to represent
24 current expectations for T-bill yields in 1986 while current
25 T-bill futures contract yields do not. Supportive of my
26 position on this issue is a statement by

1 Dr. Robert W. Kopprasch, vice president in the bond
2 portfolio analysis group of Salomon Brothers. In a recent
3 article entitled, "Options and Futures: Strategic Tools for
4 Portfolio Management (Part I)," in Options and Futures: New
5 Route to Risk/Return Management, 1984, pp. 8-17, Dr.

6 Kopprasch states:

7 "... One of the major aspects of futures pricing is that you
8 don't price the futures contract on expectations. The
9 three-month contract is not priced based on where people
10 think three-month rates will be ..."

11
12 Q: WHAT T-BILL FORECASTS ARE THE BASIS FOR YOUR ESTIMATE OF
13 YIELDS ON PECO'S FLOATING RATE ISSUES?

14
15 A: I rely on the consensus forecasts for 1986 T-bill yields
16 contained in the January 1, 1985 Blue Chip Financial
17 Forecasts. These forecasts range from 7.0% to 7.3% for the
18 four quarters of 1986. As a point estimate for use in this
19 case, I have chosen 7.15%, and use this value in place of
20 the 8.13% futures contract yield on which Mr. Brennan's
21 calculations are based. For example, my estimated effective
22 interest rate for the 1982 Series A pollution control note
23 of 5.65% is calculated as follows:

24
25 $(.6)(.0715) = .0429 / .9846 = .0436 \times \$60,000,000 = \$2,614,260 +$
26 $\$777,462 = \$3,391,722 / \$60,000,000 = 5.65\%$

1 Effective yields on the remaining floating rate issues are
2 calculated in a comparable manner. Results of these
3 calculations, including the weighted cost rates, are shown
4 in Schedule 2. An apparent error in Mr. Brennan's
5 calculation of the weighted costs for the 5.50% Pollution
6 Control Note of 1997 has also been corrected. The end
7 result of these calculations is a reduction in the estimated
8 costs of PECO's Pollution Control Notes from 9.51% to 9.31%.

9
10 Q: WHAT COST IS APPLICABLE TO THE PREFERRED STOCK OF THE
11 COMPANY'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE?

12
13 A: Mr. Brennan's estimate for the cost of PECO's test year
14 preferred stock is 10.54%. This estimate includes a
15 preferred issue of \$50 million scheduled for offering in May
16 1986 (TR 6, lines 14-16 and his Schedule 5, p. 2) at an
17 estimated cost of 12.63%. In my opinion, this estimate is
18 excessive just as Mr. Brennan's cost estimates for new debt
19 have proven to be excessive. Recent preferred and
20 preference stock issues by triple-B rated companies have
21 fallen between 9.4% and 9.8% (based on issuances by Georgia
22 Power and Commonwealth Edison on 12/5/85). Given these
23 recent yields and Blue Chip forecasts for no change in 1986
24 interest rates from current levels, I consider a 10.0% cost
25 estimate fully adequate. Replacing Mr. Brennan's 12.63%
26 figure with my 10% estimate, lowers PECO's test year

1 cost of preferred stock from 10.54% to 10.41%. The 10.41%
2 should be used in calculation of PECO's overall cost of
3 capital.
4

5 Q: WHAT CONCLUSION HAVE YOU REACHED CONCERNING THE COST OF THE
6 COMPANY'S COMMON EQUITY?
7

8 A: The current cost of the Company's common equity is between
9 15.1% and 16.1%. In today's capital market, I consider the
10 midpoint of this range, 15.6%, a reasonable point estimate
11 of the cost of equity. Documentation of my analysis of the
12 Company's cost of equity is contained in the following
13 pages. As is explained in the following, PECO's common
14 equity is among the more risky publicly traded electric
15 utility stocks because of its Limerick nuclear plant
16 investments and associated problems. Without these problems
17 PECO's stock would be considerable less risky and a
18 significantly lower return would be required on the
19 Company's capital.
20

21 If the Commission excludes part (or all) of the Limerick
22 investment from rate base, because of an imprudency or
23 excess capacity finding, my cost of equity recommendation
24 shown above should be reduced to reflect this finding.
25 Unless my cost of equity figures are reduced, the denial of
26 Limerick rate base treatment would, on one hand, indicate

1 that current ratepayers are not responsible for Limerick
2 costs while, on the otherhand, current ratepayers are
3 responsible for the increment in my cost of equity finding
4 that is, in fact, a cost of Limerick. To avoid this obvious
5 inconsistency, a Commission finding of imprudency, or excess
6 capacity, should be accompanied by a cost of equity finding
7 that excludes any increment for the additional risks
8 associated with the Limerick investment.

9
10 My estimate of the minimum increment due to Limerick in the
11 above 15.1% to 16.1% cost of equity range is 50 to 100 basis
12 points. This estimate is based on the belief that without
13 Limerick PECO's dividend would be more secure, PECO's stock
14 price would be less volatile, and dilution from new stock
15 sales would be less likely. The overall effect of these and
16 concomitant factors would reduce the risks associated with
17 PECO's equity to a level more in line with bonds rated
18 single-B by Moody's and Standard and Poor's Bonds in this
19 risk category currently yield approximately 50 to 100 basis
20 points less than my DCF findings as shown in Schedule 11.
21
22
23
24
25
26

1 Q: WHAT CRITERIA HAVE YOU UTILIZED TO DETERMINE THE CURRENT
2 INVESTOR-REQUIRED RETURN FOR THE COMPANY?

3
4 A: I have applied the criteria established by the Supreme Court
5 in the Bluefield and Hope decisions. In Bluefield
6 Waterworks & Improvement Co. v. Public Service Commission of
7 West Virginia, 262 U.S. 679, 693 (1923), the Court stated:

8 "The return should be reasonably sufficient to assure
9 confidence in the financial soundness of the utility
10 and should be adequate, under efficient and economical
11 management, to maintain and support its credit and
enable it to raise the money necessary for the proper
discharge of its public duties."

12
13 In addition, as an indication of an upper bound on the
14 return and the potential instability of investor return
15 requirements, the Court stated (262 U.S. at 692-693):

16
17 "...[the company] has no constitutional right
18 to profits such as are realized or anticipated
in highly profitable enterprises or speculative
ventures."

19
20 "A rate of return may be reasonable at one time
21 and become too high or too low by changes affecting
22 opportunities for investment, the money market and
business conditions generally."

1 The Hope decision (FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co., 320 U.S.

2 591, 603 (1944)) provided guidelines similar to those that I
3 initially related from the Bluefield opinion, as follows:

4 "...the return to the equity owner should be
5 commensurate with returns on investments in other
6 enterprises having corresponding risks. That
7 return, moreover, should be sufficient to assure
8 confidence in the financial integrity of the
9 enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to
10 attract capital."

11
12 Q: DO THE CRITERIA STATED IN THESE SUPREME COURT DECISIONS
13 INDICATE UPPER AND LOWER BOUNDS FOR THE COST OF EQUITY?

14
15 A: In a general sense, they do. The lower bound is established
16 as the return sufficient to maintain the Company's credit in
17 the marketplace. Indications of the sufficiency of the
18 return are the Company's success in raising necessary
19 capital and the similarity of the after-tax return to the
20 after-tax return on other investments of corresponding
21 risks. Certainly, investors' capital will be attracted by
22 those firms of corresponding risk that offer the higher
23 after-tax returns. Unless the return offered by the
24 regulated utility is competitive, the capital attraction
25 criterion is unlikely to be met.
26

1 The upper bound on returns is stated to be below that
2 realized or anticipated from highly profitable enterprises
3 or speculative ventures. For high-grade utility firms,
4 without consideration of the company's specific risk level,
5 I believe yields-to-maturity on bonds rated below BBB by
6 Standard & Poor's or Baa by Moody's may be used as an
7 indicator of this upper bound. Such bonds are considered to
8 be "predominantly speculative" or have "speculative
9 elements", according to these rating services, and offer
10 returns in excess of that generally required in the market-
11 place.

12
13 Q: GIVEN THE GENERAL SUPREME COURT GUIDELINES, HOW HAVE YOU
14 DETERMINED SPECIFIC BOUNDARIES FOR THE COST OF THE COMPANY'S
15 EQUITY?

16
17 A: I have first reviewed macroeconomic conditions that define
18 the environment for today's credit market. Included in this
19 review were expectations for, and recent trends in, the
20 inflation rate, current Federal Reserve policy on monetary
21 growth, and loan demand at large commercial banks. These
22 interrelated factors are primary determinants of the cost of
23 money. Secondly, I have performed a current market analysis
24 of utility stocks, in general, and of PECO's common stock,
25 specifically, to determine the Company's current cost of
26 equity. Finally, I have reviewed cost of capital trends to

2 equity for the period during which rates from this case will
3 be in effect.
4

5 Q: WHY DO YOU BEGIN YOUR ANALYSIS OF THE COMPANY'S COST OF
6 EQUITY WITH A REVIEW OF CURRENT MACROECONOMIC CONDITIONS?
7

8 A: As indicated above, macroeconomic conditions including the
9 supply and demand for funds in the U.S. economy and the rate
10 of inflation are primary determinants of the general rates
11 of interest (costs) on borrowed or invested capital. These
12 general costs establish the base from which a specific
13 company's cost of capital is determined.
14

15 Q: HOW ARE THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S MONETARY POLICY, THE INFLATION
16 RATE, LOAN DEMAND, AND THE COST OF MONEY RELATED?
17

18 A: The interrelationships of these factors are multifaceted and
19 complex. In basic terms, however, a tight monetary policy
20 with stable loan demand tends to decrease the rate of
21 inflation and place upward pressure on interest rates in the
22 short-term. Over the long-term, interest rates would be
23 expected to decline as inflationary pressures cool.
24 Similarly, a policy toward increasing monetary growth with
25 stable loan demand has tended to reduce interest rates over
26 the short-term (due to the more plentiful supply of money),

2 long-term, interest rates would be expected to rise with the
3 increasing rate of inflation. Short-term effects of
4 monetary growth on interest rates may be lessened or
5 increased by fluctuating loan demand, level of foreign
6 investment in U.S. securities, and changes in velocity,
7 i.e., the average number of times per year that a dollar is
8 used to purchase components of GNP.

9
10 For example, heavy demand for business loans during the
11 first quarter of 1985 (loan growth at a 9% annual compound
12 rate) placed upward pressure on interest rates even with
13 relatively rapid growth in the money supply (9% growth in
14 M1). Relatively flat or declining demand for business loans
15 coupled with continued rapid growth in the money supply has
16 more recently contributed to interest rate declines from the
17 March, 1985, level.

18
19 Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE RECENT MONETARY POLICY OF THE FEDERAL
20 RESERVE?

21
22 A: Recently stated goals of the Federal Reserve are "to foster
23 monetary and financial conditions that will help to reduce
24 inflation further, promote growth in output on a sustainable
25 basis, and contribute to an improved pattern of inter-
26 national transactions" (see Record of Policy Actions of the

1 Federal Open Market Committee, Meeting of October 1, 1985).

2 To achieve these goals, the Federal Reserve has allowed
3 monetary growth somewhat above its 1985 target growth range
4 of 3% to 8% (for M1). Primary concerns of the Federal
5 Reserve's policy committee include the large Federal
6 deficit, the strength of the dollar and its affect on
7 American exports, and the potential for renewed inflation.
8 The first two concerns (the deficit and strength of the
9 dollar) may be alleviated over the short-term by more rapid
10 monetary growth, i.e., higher monetary growth would likely
11 reduce interest rates thereby easing the pressures of
12 Federal borrowing and reducing the attractiveness of the
13 dollar. Higher monetary growth, however, may reignite
14 inflation.

15
16 Even with the recent rapid growth in M-1, the Committee has
17 not found signs of higher inflation rates. Instead, prices
18 and wages have risen at rates similar to, or below, those
19 recorded earlier in the year. Notwithstanding the favorable
20 reports on inflation, some slowing of monetary growth is
21 believed desirable and action has been taken to effect such
22 a slowdown.

1 Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE RECENT PATTERN IN INFLATION RATES?

2
3 A: Inflation rates have dropped significantly since the early
4 1980's and have continued to decline in 1985 (see Schedule
5 3, Part 1). Recent quarterly data (for July, August and
6 September 1985) show inflation rates that are among the
7 lowest recorded in the past twenty years. The third quarter
8 rate on an annualized basis is 2.3%, which is approximately
9 55% of the first quarter value.

10
11 Numerous factors including declining oil prices, strength of
12 the dollar against foreign currencies, and Federal Reserve
13 policy have contributed to favorable inflation rate trends.
14 The trends are expected to continue due to strong
15 competition from foreign producers and likely further
16 declines in oil prices associated with dissension within
17 OPEC.

18
19 Q: WHAT IS THE CURRENT OUTLOOK FOR INFLATION?

20
21 A: Expectations for future inflation are commonly believed to
22 be based on historical rates, with the more recently
23 experienced rates of increase carrying the greatest weight.
24 The pattern of inflation has stabilized since early 1984,
25 and current low levels of inflation are generally expected
26 in the coming months. According to the December 10, 1985

1 issue of Blue Chip Economic Indicators, price inflation
2 during 1985 will be near 3.5%. Forecasts for 1986 indicate
3 expectations for consumer prices to rise at a 3.7% annual
4 rate. Recent inflation forecasts by major forecasting firms
5 are shown in Schedule 3, Part II. Inflation rate
6 expectations of these forecasters range between 3.1% and
7 4.4% for the period 1985-86.

8
9 Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF INFLATION, LOAN DEMAND, RECENT
10 FEDERAL RESERVE POLICY, AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT FACTORS ON THE
11 CREDIT MARKETS?

12
13 A: Recent interest rates on bonds and other fixed yield
14 investments are shown in Schedule 4. Average yields on
15 fixed income securities trended downward from the summer of
16 1984 through January 1985. Fixed income security yields
17 dropped 150 to 350 basis points during this period. The
18 Federal Reserve's restraint on monetary growth and increased
19 loan demand in early 1985 subsequently led to a plateau in
20 yield trends followed by increases of 50 to 100 basis
21 points. Subsequent to mid-March, 1985, interest rates in
22 general have dropped significantly. Declines of 100 to 150
23 basis points have led to the lowest yields experienced since
24 the late 1970's. Contributing to the general declining
25 trend in fixed income yields has been heavy foreign
26 investment in U.S. securities, adequate money supply

1 relative to demand, moderate levels of unemployment, and
2 noninflationary levels of U.S. capacity utilization.

3
4 Q: WITHIN THE SCENARIO DESCRIBED ABOVE OF M1 GROWTH NEAR THE
5 UPPER END OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE TARGET RANGE OF 3% TO 8%
6 AND A PLATEAU IN INFLATION RATE TRENDS, WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK
7 FOR THE COST OF CAPITAL?

8
9 A: If inflation continues to fall near 3% and credit demands
10 are consistent with allowed monetary growth without oil, or
11 other price shocks, interest rates should decline.
12 Alternatively, more restrictive monetary, growth coupled
13 with strong demands for credit, will exert upward pressure
14 on current rates. As reflected in the January 1, 1985 issue
15 of Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, the consensus opinion is
16 for no change in capital costs during 1986 and early 1987
17 with seasoned A-rated utility bond rates of 11.0%.

18
19 Q: WITH THE CURRENT ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERIZED BY
20 INFLATION EXPECTATIONS OF 3.5% to 4.5% AND A MODERATE
21 FEDERAL RESERVE MONETARY POLICY, WHAT HAS BEEN THE
22 PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRIC UTILITY STOCKS IN GENERAL?

23
24 A: Utility stock price trends, as indicated by the Dow Jones
25 and Standard and Poor's utility indices, are shown
26

1 graphically in Schedule 5 for the period August 30, 1985 to
2 December 13, 1985. Both indices reflect downward price
3 movements of approximately 6% during the first five weeks of
4 this period. During the remaining eleven weeks, these price
5 declines were erased as price increases totaling 12% - 16%
6 were recorded. The recent price improvement has been
7 attributed to interest rate declines, continuing low levels
8 of inflation, and improvement in quality of earnings.
9

10 Q: HAS THE COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE BEEN SIMILAR TO THAT OF OTHER
11 ELECTRICS?
12

13 A: Schedule 6 shows PECO's stock price trend to be similar to
14 that of the indices. Price declines for the stock during
15 the initial six weeks of the period, totaled almost 5.8%,
16 somewhat less than that of the utility indices, while
17 subsequent increases were approximately 19%. In addition to
18 the favorable interest rate trends and other contributing
19 factors described above, recent appreciation in PECO's stock
20 is attributable to indication from the Pennsylvania Public
21 Utility Commission that Limerick #2 construction could
22 continue if certain requirements were satisfied.
23
24
25
26

1 Q: OF WHAT IMPORTANCE IS PECO'S RECENT STOCK PRICE TREND TO
2 YOUR DETERMINATION OF THE COMPANY'S RETURN REQUIREMENTS?
3

4 A: Stock prices carry information concerning investor return
5 expectations and requirements. Prices recorded for PECO'S
6 stock represent the consensus opinion of the marketplace on
7 the stock's value, given the current and prospective
8 growth expectations and discount rates.
9

10 Theoretically, a stock's value is equal to the present value
11 of expected future returns from investing in the stock. The
12 future returns are in the form of dividends and price
13 appreciation. From a knowledge of investors' expectations
14 for dividend growth and price appreciation, investor return
15 requirements may be estimated. By adjusting investor return
16 requirements for the effects of flotation cost and market
17 pressure (if any), PECO's return requirements on equity may
18 be estimated.
19
20
21
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26

1 Q: IN GENERAL, WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A COMPANY'S
2 STOCK PRICE TREND AND INVESTOR RETURN REQUIREMENTS?
3

4 A: In general, increasing stock price trends in the short-term
5 are a result of an increase in expected returns from the
6 stock or a decline in investor return requirements.
7 Similarly, decreasing stock price trends imply decreasing
8 expected returns or rising required returns. For example,
9 recent price appreciation in PECO's stock is a sign of
10 declining costs of equity to PECO.
11

12 Q: PECO'S STOCK PRICE PERFORMANCE SHOULD BE SUPPORTED BY THE
13 COMPANY'S UNDERLYING FUNDAMENTALS. WHAT IS THE RECENT TREND
14 IN THESE FUNDAMENTALS, AND HOW DO THEY COMPARE WITH MOODY'S
15 ELECTRICS AND WITH LARGE CORPORATIONS IN GENERAL?
16

17 A: A review of fundamental ratios indicative of PECO's recent
18 performance (see Schedule 7), reveals the following: PECO's
19 after-tax profit margins increased steadily and
20 significantly between 1981 and 1984. During this three year
21 period, profit margins increased 45%, reflecting an annual
22 compound growth rate of 13.1%. The Company's profit margins
23 are consistently above those recorded by Moody's Electrics,
24 and differences in margins became wider, as opposed to
25 narrowing, during this period. At the end of 1984, PECO's
26

1 margins were more than 1.3 times those recorded by the
2 Moody's index of electric utilities. PECO's margins compare
3 even more favorably with those recorded for large
4 corporations. The large corporations recorded a drop in
5 margins during 1982, and as of 1984 had not exceeded 1981
6 levels. PECO's margins were 2.3 times the large corporate
7 margin at the beginning of this period (1981) and more than
8 3.3 times the corporate average in 1984.

9
10 On the other hand, PECO's returns on equity (ROE) for the
11 years 1981 through 1984 consistently fell below those
12 recorded by Moody's Electrics. Some relative improvement in
13 PECO's ROE was, however, recorded during this period with a
14 1984 shortfall from the Moody's average of 2.8%, compared
15 with a shortfall in 1981 of 4.2%. Relative to the large
16 corporation averages, PECO's ROE improved consistently
17 during the period. While PECO's ROE was below the corporate
18 average in 1981, its ROE exceeded the corporate figure by
19 almost 7% in 1984.

20
21 Q: WHAT FACTORS EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PECO'S RECENT
22 ROE AND THE COMPARABLE ROE FOR MOODY'S ELECTRICS?

23
24 A: Part II of Schedule 7 offers insight on the factors
25 contributing to the shortfall of PECO's ROE from the Moody's
26 average. This exhibit shows that PECO's ROE was 2.8% below

1 the Moody's average in 1984. This shortfall was due to a
2 lower turnover rate (Revenues/Total Capital), and lower pre-
3 tax profit margin (Pre-tax Profits/Revenues) than that
4 recorded for Moody's Electrics. PECO's turnover ratio is
5 21.7% below the Moody's figure. This low turnover ratio
6 shows that PECO has been unable to generate revenues from
7 invested capital at the same level attained by the average
8 utility. An apparent cause of the relatively low turnover
9 ratio is PECO's investment in the Limerick plants and the
10 lack of revenues from these plants.

11
12 PECO's pre-tax profit margin, which is 8.49% below the
13 Moody's average, indicates management's ability to capture
14 profits from revenues. The below average profit margin for
15 1984 may be attributable to the need for greater utilization
16 of generating capacity and improved control of operating
17 costs.

18
19 Q: WHAT METHODS HAVE YOU USED TO DETERMINE THE COST OF EQUITY
20 TO PECO?

21
22 A: To estimate return requirements, I rely most heavily on the
23 discounted cash flow (DCF) approach, an approach that uses a
24 company's stock price along with expectations for dividend
25 growth and price appreciation, to estimate investor
26

1 return requirements. I also use an historical risk premium
2 approach, and review current return requirements on
3 alternative investments of varying risks to check the
4 reasonableness of results from the DCF method.
5

6 Q: WHAT ASSUMPTIONS OR JUDGMENTS MUST THE ANALYST MAKE WHEN
7 APPLYING THE DCF METHOD?
8

9 A: Primary assumptions in application of the DCF method are
10 that the price paid for a security is an "equilibrium" price
11 and is equal to the discounted stream of investor-"expected"
12 dividends and price appreciation over the investor-holding
13 period. The discount rate that equates a company's stock
14 price to these expected returns is an indication of the
15 investor-"required" rate of return. Algebraically, these
16 assumptions may be expressed as shown in Schedule 8.
17

18 Q: WHAT JUDGMENTS MUST THE ANALYST MAKE BEFORE APPLYING THE DCF
19 MODEL?
20

21 A: To apply the DCF model, the rate of return analyst must make
22 decisions about the following items:
23
24
25
26

- 1 1. What is the investor-expected growth in dividends
2 during the investment horizon, and does the expected
3 growth rate change over time?
4
- 5 2. What stock price is representative of current investor
6 return requirements, e.g., the price of the stock on a
7 specific date; the average price over the most recent
8 12 weeks, 16 weeks, or other period?
9
- 10 3. What is the investor's expected holding period or
11 investment horizon, i.e., the future period over which
12 the investor makes assumptions about potential returns?
13
- 14 4. What is the expected change in the stock's price during
15 the investment horizon?
16

17 Q: WHAT FORM OR VERSION OF THE DCF MODEL HAVE YOU USED IN THIS
18 CASE?
19

20 A: I rely on a "two-stage" model that allows explicit
21 consideration of varying price and dividend growth rates
22 over time.
23
24
25
26

1 Q: DOESN'T THE COMMONLY USED "YIELD PLUS GROWTH," i.e. $D/P + g$
2 FORM OF THE DCF MODEL ALLOW CONSIDERATION OF GROWTH RATES
3 THAT VARY OVER TIME?
4

5 A: No, it does not. The "yield plus growth" form of the DCF
6 model is obtained from the longer version shown in Schedule
7 8 only if the assumption is made that price and dividends
8 grow each year at a constant rate. In fact, if the $D/P + g$
9 version is properly used, the analyst will concentrate on
10 determination of an expected long-term growth rate as
11 opposed to relying solely on near-term estimates. Strictly
12 speaking, the growth rate used in this simple form of the
13 model is assumed to continue through infinity without
14 change.
15

16 Q: IN ESTIMATING RETURN REQUIREMENTS FOR PECO, WHAT OTHER
17 ASSUMPTIONS ARE IMPLICIT IN THE CONSTANT GROWTH MODEL?
18

19 A: The constant growth DCF model also implicitly assumes that
20 the market price, earnings and book value of the company's
21 common stock each grow at the same constant rate as
22 dividends. Since a review of individual utility companies'
23 short- or long-term performance (see Schedule 10) will show
24 that these constant growth conditions are seldom
25 experienced, constant growth assumptions are unlikely to be
26 representative of investor expectations. If inaccuracies

2 are to be minimized, the growth rate used must reflect the
3 composite long-term growth expectations for all these
4 elements i.e., price, dividends, earnings, and book value.
5 Failure to consider composite growth rate expectations,
6 especially for determination of long-term growth prospects,
7 may lead to significant errors in DCF findings.

8
9 Q: WHY IS THE TWO-STAGE MODEL THAT CONSIDERS DIFFERING RATES OF
10 GROWTH MORE APPROPRIATE THAN THE SINGLE-STAGE, OR CONSTANT
11 GROWTH MODEL?

12
13 A: The two-stage model is most applicable to this case because
14 little growth in PECO's dividend, or possibly a cut, is
15 expected in the near term. Although the dividend appears
16 secure at present, PECO's Board of Directors has frequently
17 mentioned the likelihood of a dividend reduction if a
18 Limerick plant is cancelled. Once the financial strain
19 associated with Limerick construction has been alleviated,
20 however, growth in PECO's dividends should return to more
21 typical levels. Since the two-stage model allows explicit
22 modeling of an initial low growth period, followed by a
23 return to normal growth levels, it allows a closer match of
24 reality than the single-stage model with its constant growth
25 assumptions.

26

1 Q: IS THE TWO-STAGE, OR MULTISTAGE, DCF MODEL RELEVANT TO THE
2 INVESTMENT AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES?
3

4 A: Yes, it is. Kidder, Peabody; Prudential-Bache; Salomon
5 Brothers; Drexel, Burnham and Lambert; Goldman, Sachs & Co.;
6 and others currently use multistage DCF models to estimate
7 investor return expectations on common stock. Also
8 academicians, such as David Hawkins of Harvard University,
9 Eugene Brigham of the University of Florida, and Fred Weston
10 of the University of California (Los Angeles), recognize the
11 need for multistage models in texts they have authored.
12

13 Q: WHAT ARE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TWO GROWTH PERIODS YOU EMPLOY
14 IN THE DCF MODEL AND WHAT IS THE LOGIC FOR YOUR SELECTION OF
15 THESE BOUNDARIES?
16

17 A: I recommend a DCF model of the following form:
18

$$19 \quad P = \sum_{i=1}^5 D(1+g_1)^i / (1+k)^i + \sum_{i=6}^{\infty} D(1+g_1)^5 (1+g_2)^{i-5} / (1+k)^i$$

20
21 where "P" and "D" are the current price and dividend,
22 respectively, "g₁" is the average annual growth rate
23 expected within the next five years, "g₂" the average annual
24 growth expected over the long term, and "k" is the investor-
25 required return.
26

1 The near-term boundary defines a five-year forecast period.
2 Forecasts covering a period of this length are frequently
3 published by investment services and are generally available
4 to investors. Value Line, Dean Witter, Merrill Lynch, and
5 Salomon Brothers are among the better known firms providing
6 forecasts for this period.

7
8 Because of the broad circulation of such forecasts and the
9 relative accuracy with which five-year forecasts may be
10 made, I believe this period receives particular attention by
11 investors. Forecasts and expectations beyond the four to
12 five year period become less certain and may vary widely.
13 Using the above rationale, I have selected a five-year
14 period for the initial stage of the DCF model.

15
16 Q: ON WHAT DATA HAVE YOU RELIED TO ESTIMATE GROWTH RATES
17 APPROPRIATE FOR USE IN THIS MODEL?

18
19 A: I rely on investment firm growth forecasts for PECO for both
20 the near- and long-term growth rates. In addition, I have
21 reviewed long-term growth histories for both regulated and
22 unregulated firms.

1 Q: WHAT ARE INVESTMENT FIRM FORECASTS FOR PECO GROWTH DURING
2 THE FIRST STAGE OF THIS MODEL?
3

4 A: Relying on the most recent reports available from various
5 investment firms, I have found the following. Value Lines's
6 forecasts, dated September 27, 1985, indicate expectations
7 for annual dividend, earnings, and book value growth from
8 the end of 1985 to the end of 1989 to average 2.2%, 1.4%,
9 and 2.2%, respectively. Prudential-Bache, in its October
10 1985 Quantum report, expects no growth in dividends or
11 earnings during the next five years. Merrill Lynch, in its
12 November/December 1985 Quantitative Analysis report,
13 projects five-year growth rates for dividends and earnings
14 of 1.8% and -2.3%, respectively. Salomon Brothers' November
15 1985, Monthly Stock Review indicates expectations for
16 five-year dividend and earnings growth rates of 1.0% and
17 2.0%, respectively. Duff and Phelps' May 17, 1985 Common
18 Stock Summary reports expectations for no change in
19 dividends over the near term. E.F. Hutton, in its September
20 1985 Equity Research report, foresees no near-term growth in
21 dividends nor earnings.
22
23
24
25
26

1 Finally, Dean Witter's October 21, 1985 Equity Research
2 publication contains five-year dividend and earnings growth
3 forecasts for PECO of 2.0% and 2.5%, respectively. Near-
4 term dividend growth rates estimated by these investment
5 firms range between 0.0% and 2.2%, and are summarized in
6 Schedule 12.

7
8 Q: WHAT ARE YOUR FINDINGS FROM REVIEW OF SHORT-TERM HISTORICAL
9 GROWTH RATES FOR PECO?

10
11 A: Historical, five-year holding period, price, and dividend
12 growth rates are shown in Schedule 9. For the ten most
13 recent five-year holding periods with December 1 boundaries,
14 e.g., Dec. 1, 1979 to Dec. 1, 1984; Dec. 1, 1978 to Dec 1,
15 1983, dividend growth rates have averaged 2.6%. Price
16 growth rates during these same ten, five-year holding
17 periods have not kept pace with dividend growth, and price
18 declines have frequently been recorded. The average price
19 growth for the ten most recent five-year growth periods is
20 -1.1%.

1 Q: WHAT IS YOUR CONCLUSION CONCERNING PECO'S NEAR-TERM GROWTH
2 RATE?

3
4 A: Based on review of forecasts from investment services and
5 the historical short-term growth history, most investor
6 short-term growth expectations fall between 0.0% and 2.0%.
7 The possibility of a dividend reduction due to the Limerick
8 investment and a preponderance of forecasted growth rates
9 near 0.0%, make the lower end of the above range the more
10 appropriate for use in the DCF model. Also, PECO's history
11 of negative short-term price growth, the absence of further
12 interest rate declines (that contributed to price growth in
13 the recent past), and the Commission's decision in Docket
14 No. R-842651 that denied a return on the common equity
15 portion of PP&L's Sesquehanna plant #2, are all factors that
16 tend to support the lower end of this growth rate range. In
17 light of the above, I consider growth rates between 0.0% and
18 1.0% representative of most investors' expectations for
19 PECO. I employ this range in the two-stage DCF model, along
20 with long-term growth expectations, to estimate current
21 investor return requirements.

1 Q: WHAT FACTORS AFFECT INVESTORS' EXPECTATIONS FOR GROWTH
2 DURING THE SECOND STAGE OF THIS MODEL?
3

4 A: Considerable uncertainty surrounds the timing of PECO's
5 return to growth rates more typical of the electric
6 industry. Most of this uncertainty is due to construction
7 of Limerick Unit #2. If this unit is completed, associated
8 needs for new financing will have a weakening influence on
9 the Company's balance sheet and potential rate base
10 treatment of the unit will be a source of concern to
11 investors. If Unit #2 is cancelled, a dividend cut is
12 likely as has frequently been brought to the attention of
13 PECO shareholders during meetings with PECO management.
14 While the investment community currently appears to believe
15 Unit #2 will be completed, this outcome is far from certain,
16 and a dividend cut remains a possibility.

17
18 Uncertainty related to the Limerick project will likely
19 continue until the early 1990s, given the current
20 construction schedule. Delays and other difficulties that
21 have plagued most nuclear projects may prolong these
22 uncertainties into the mid-1990s. Even after construction
23 is completed, associated requirements such as the need for a
24 water supply for cooling (that may affect the Unit #1 in-
25 service date) could delay the return of PECO to a more
26 typical period of growth.

1 Q: IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTORS UPON WHICH PECO'S RETURN TO
2 TYPICAL GROWTH IS DEPENDENT, WHAT GROWTH RATE RANGE HAVE YOU
3 FOUND REASONABLE FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF YOUR DCF MODEL?
4

5 A: I consider a growth rate range of 1.0% to 2.0%
6 representative of investor expectations for long-term PECO
7 growth. Although this range falls below the current steady-
8 state (long-term) earnings growth forecast of 2.9% by
9 Merrill Lynch, it is above the rate of growth experienced by
10 PECO investors during any recent long-term period. For
11 example, PECO's dividend growth during the last 20 to 25
12 years has averaged between 2% and 3%, but such growth has
13 been more than offset by declines in PECO's stock price.
14 Price declines have averaged near -3.5% during this period.
15 Since PECO's stock has not demonstrated an ability to
16 provide positive growth to investors, it appears investors
17 are demanding their return up front, in the form of dividend
18 yield, and are expecting little return in the form of
19 growth. Supportive of this position is PECO's recent
20 dividend yield of 14.5%, which is among the highest (if not
21 the highest) of yields available on electric utility stocks
22 today. PECO's yield is almost 600 basis points above the
23 8.8% current average yield for the industry.
24
25
26

1 Also, in the case of a dividend cut, the eventual return to
2 a 3% or 4% long-term growth rate (which is the typical
3 actual long-term growth rate for the industry) would not
4 represent a 3%-4% average growth rate from current dividend
5 levels. For example, if PECO's dividend is halved
6 (comparable to Kansas Gas and Electric's dividend cut after
7 Commission disallowance of a portion of the Wolf Creek
8 nuclear plant), then followed by 3% annual growth over the
9 next 30 years, the annual growth rate from PECO's current
10 dividend is only 0.6%. The 0.6% figure is obtained by
11 noting that PECO's current dividend of \$2.20, if halved,
12 would be \$1.10, and would increase to \$2.67
13 ($\$1.10 * (1.03^{30} = \$2.67)$) after 30 years of 3% annual growth.
14 But the \$2.67 dividend represents only a 0.647% annual
15 growth rate over the \$2.20 current dividend since
16 $(1.00647^{30}) * \$2.20 = \2.67 . Therefore, in the event of a
17 dividend cut, even the 1.0% to 2.0% long-term growth rate
18 range that I have found reasonable may be excessive.

19
20 Q: WHAT IS THE CURRENT DIVIDEND YIELD TERM OF YOUR DCF EQUATION
21 AND HOW WAS IT DERIVED?

22
23 A: The current dividend yield (D_0/P_0) is 14.5%. This yield is
24 computed as the average of the quotients of end-of-week
25 stock prices and effective annual dividend rates from the
26 most recent 16-week period (8/30/85-12/13/85). A period of

1 this duration is necessary to level the effects of temporary
2 price fluctuations. Also the 16-week period, as opposed to
3 a shorter period, is less likely to be fully contained
4 within a peak or valley in the price pattern.

5
6 If significant trends in price movement are observed during
7 the period, information conveyed by these trends should be
8 incorporated in the final decision concerning the cost of
9 equity. PECO's stock price varied from \$14.125 to \$16.75
10 during this period, based on end-of-week prices, and the
11 indicated annual dividend was \$2.20 per share. The most
12 recently recorded prices are at the upper end of this range.

13
14 Q: WHAT ARE YOUR CONCLUSIONS FROM THE TWO-STAGE DCF MODEL
15 CONCERNING INVESTOR RETURN REQUIREMENTS ON PECO'S STOCK?

16
17 A: A current dividend yield of 14.5%, coupled with near- and
18 long-term expected growth rates of 0.0% to 1.0% and 1.0% to
19 2.0%, respectively, indicate investor requirements of
20 between 15.09% and 16.09%. In terms of the "yield plus
21 growth" or "constant growth" model, my analysis indicates
22 investors expect constant annual dividend and price growth
23 rates between 0.5% and 1.4%, i.e., $15.09 = (1.005) 14.5 +$
24 0.5 and $16.09 = (1.014) 14.5 + 1.4$.

1 Q: WHAT ARE THE POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN YOUR DCF RESULTS
2 FOR PECO'S AND THOSE OF COMPANY WITNESS BRENNAN?
3

4 A: Mr. Brennan's DCF finding of a 16.7% cost of equity (before
5 a flotation cost adjustment), (Brennan Testimony, p. 40
6 lines 1-3), is based on a company specific dividend yield of
7 15.0% and a growth rate of 1.7%. The most significant
8 shortcomings in these findings are described below.
9

10 Mr. Brennan's yield figure is based on the spot yield for
11 September 9, 1985 and on the recent 12-month average yield
12 for PECO (see his Schedule 14, p. 2). He "inflates" both
13 the spot and 12-month average yield by 2.4% to reflect his
14 findings for next-period dividend growth. As a final step,
15 he averages four yields, the "inflated" and "uninflated"
16 spot yields and the "inflated" and "uninflated" 12-month
17 average yields. While it is unclear why his composite of
18 "spot" and 12-month average yields is, or should be,
19 representative of current investor return requirements, at
20 least two shortcomings in his findings are apparent in this
21 approach. The first is that spot yields are too volatile
22 for use in determining overall market return requirements on
23 PECO's stock. For example, PECO's recent yield has ranged
24 between 13.1% and 14.5%, some 50 to 190 basis points below
25 Mr. Brennan's figures. A second shortcoming is that Mr.
26 Brennan's next period dividend is based on a 2.4% growth

1 rate which is inconsistent with the 1.7% growth figure he
2 has found reasonable for PECO. It is interesting to note
3 that the 2.4% is based on 3.5% short-term historical growth
4 rate (see column 7 of his Schedule 15, p. 1) a growth rate
5 that is well above even the most optimistic investment firm
6 growth rate forecast. If Mr. Brennan were to rely on
7 current market data and investment firms' growth forecasts,
8 his yield finding would be reduced by approximately 50 basis
9 points.

10
11 Mr. Brennan's constant, long-term growth rate of 1.7%, is
12 based completely on analysts' short-term earnings and
13 dividend growth forecasts and on PECO's short-term dividend
14 growth history (see his Schedule 15, p. 1). He ignores the
15 long-term growth forecasts from Merrill Lynch and ignores
16 the long-term composite price and dividend growth rate
17 history for PECO. By ignoring prospects for PECO's price
18 growth, he violates a theoretical basis for the DCF
19 technique that he specifies on page 23, lines 1-7 of his
20 testimony; that is, the investor-expected return includes
21 both dividend yield and stock price appreciation. If Mr.
22 Brennan were to exclude the 3.5% short-term historical
23 dividend growth rate from calculation of the 1.7% average
24 and include, instead, growth rates that are probable over
25 the long-term for both price and dividends, his growth rate
26 findings would be reduced by 50 to 100 basis points.

2 OTHER ANALYSIS HAVE YOU PERFORMED TO REACH CONCLUSIONS
3 ABOUT INVESTOR RETURN REQUIREMENTS ON COMMON EQUITY?

4 A: As a check on the reasonableness of my DCF findings, I have
5 calculated historical risk premiums between a portfolio of
6 utility stocks and long-term Government bonds. I have also
7 considered recent indications from the investment community
8 on the current risk premium between stocks and bonds.
9

10 Q: ARE HISTORICAL RISK PREMIUMS USED BY THE INVESTMENT
11 COMMUNITY TO MAKE INVESTMENT DECISIONS?
12

13 A: Historical risk premiums are widely used by members of the
14 investment community, and background on this methodology is
15 frequently included in required reading material for the
16 training of financial analysts. The Ibbotson and
17 Sinquefeld findings have particularly widespread
18 application, and are frequently used by portfolio managers
19 in the development of scenarios of prospective returns
20 available from stock investments.
21
22
23
24
25
26

1 Q: WHAT IS THE RATIONALE FOR USE OF HISTORICAL RISK PREMIUMS?

2
3 A: The rationale underlying use of historical risk premiums is
4 that investors are risk averse, and that incentives in the
5 form of higher expected returns are required to convince
6 investors to purchase more risky securities. Historical
7 data suggest that investors have generally been rewarded for
8 assuming such risks. As shown in Schedule 13, a portfolio of
9 the S&P Index stocks offered the greatest total return since
10 1928, followed by a portfolio of utility stocks, then
11 government bonds. These long-term returns are consistent
12 with general perceptions of the relative risks of these
13 three groups of securities compared with the higher returns
14 associated with the more risky securities.

15
16 By comparison of historical returns from investments of
17 differing risks, risk premiums previously available to
18 investors may be calculated. The statistical distribution
19 of these premiums depicts past investor experience, and is
20 indicative of premiums likely to be available in the future.
21 Premiums falling in the tails of the distribution are
22 improbable and, in most cases, would not be representative
23 of investor expectations. I believe, however, that average
24 historical premiums, for varying holding periods, and over
25 an extended time frame, are a reasonable proxy for investor-
26 expected premiums over the long term.

1 Q: ARE HISTORICAL LONG-TERM RISK PREMIUMS AN ACCURATE
2 INDICATION OF CURRENT INVESTOR REQUIREMENTS?

3

4 A: Long-term historical premiums may, or may not, be
5 representative of current investor requirements. An
6 increase in the riskiness of bonds relative to stocks (such
7 as that occurring since late 1979), may reduce the risk
8 premium between these two types of securities. Similarly,
9 changes in the relative tax treatment of returns on bonds
10 and stocks may change the historical risk/return
11 relationship.

12

13 Q: WHAT HISTORICAL RISK PREMIUMS HAVE YOU FOUND BETWEEN UTILITY
14 STOCKS AND BONDS?

15

16 A: I have found that, based on geometric mean returns, a
17 portfolio of Moody's 24 Utilities, during the period 1929 to
18 1984, returned approximately 182 basis points more than
19 long-term Government bonds. To be consistent with my belief
20 that the risk premium be based on available returns over
21 varying holding periods and an extended time frame, I have
22 computed the average of the premiums that would have been

23

24

25

26

1 realized over all whole-year holding periods of one year to
2 ten years during 1929-1984. Only those holdings periods
3 with end-of-calendar-year boundaries were considered. The
4 average premium from this analysis was 359 basis points for
5 utility stocks over Government bonds.
6

7 Q: WHAT DATA HAVE YOU USED TO CALCULATE THESE RISK PREMIUMS?
8

9 A: For Government bonds, I have used the bond data described by
10 Ibbotson and Sinquefeld in their publications of various
11 titles, such as Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: The
12 Past (1926 - 1976) and the Future (1977 - 2000) and updates
13 to these publications including Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and
14 Inflation - 1985 Yearbook. For the utility stock data, I
15 have relied on the monthly price and dividend data found in
16 Moody's Public Utility Manual. These utilities include
17 representative privately owned, electric and gas utility
18 companies, that are dispersed geographically across the
19 nation.
20

21 All dividends are assumed to be reinvested at the closing
22 price for the month in which they were received. The long-
23 term historical period chosen for analysis was 1929 to 1984.
24 Data prior to 1929 are not available from the Moody's Manual
25 on the Moody's stock index.
26

1 Q: HAVE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE RISK PREMIUM BETWEEN UTILITY
2 STOCKS AND BONDS OCCURRED RECENTLY?

3
4 A: Yes, significant changes have occurred. For example, the
5 October 1979 policy change of the Federal Reserve had a
6 significant impact on interest rate volatility and, in turn,
7 on required risk premiums. Although both stocks and bonds
8 are interest rate sensitive, the greatest impact of this
9 change has been felt in the bond market. Articles in the
10 Wall Street Journal and Federal Reserve statistical papers
11 have highlighted this impact. For example, an October 29,
12 1980, article in the Journal noted that "Bond buying these
13 days has become a greater gamble than buying stocks. That
14 once unthinkable notion is now widely accepted by investors
15 ...". Also, the investment firm of Goldman Sachs reported in
16 an April 1981 research paper that the average equity risk
17 premium over bonds was - .5% at that time.

18
19 More recent publications from Merrill Lynch, ("Valuation
20 Perspectives", dated April, 1985) and Salomon Brothers
21 ("Valuation Focus-November 1985," dated November 11, 1985)
22 indicate that the reduced risk premiums between stocks and
23 bonds recorded in 1979-1981 continue to prevail. These
24 reports also clearly point out that bond price volatility
25 continues to exceed that of stocks in general. A logical
26 conclusion from this increased bond volatility is stated in

1 the Salomon Brothers' publication:

2
3 " ...[this volatility] confirms what many have argued:
4 Bond markets have become so jumpy that their risk
5 reaches or exceeds that of stocks ..."
6

7 Q: BASED ON THE RESULTS FROM YOUR RISK PREMIUM STUDY, WHAT
8 CONCLUSIONS HAVE YOU DRAWN CONCERNING THE REASONABLENESS OF
9 YOUR DCF-DETERMINED INVESTOR RETURN REQUIREMENTS ON PECO'S
10 COMMON STOCK?
11

12 A: I believe that the 182 to 359 basis point premiums
13 calculated for Moody's 24 Utilities over long-term
14 Government bonds should be the starting point for
15 determining the risk premiums for PECO'S stock. These
16 premiums represent an average of long-term historical
17 premiums for medium grade utilities.
18

19 The increased volatility in the bond market favors the lower
20 end of the historical risk premium range. Since the average
21 yield on long-term Treasury securities during a recent 16-
22 week period (8/30/85 - 12/13/85) has been 10.5%, my DCF
23 findings of 15.1% to 16.1% offer risk premiums of 460 to 560
24 basis points. These premiums fall above the average
25 premiums that have been available to investors in utility
26 stocks over the long-term as would be expected due to

1 greater than average risks currently associated with PECO's
2 stock.

3
4 My DCF findings also indicate a risk premium between PECO
5 common equity and PECO medium to long-term first mortgage
6 bonds of 220 to 590 basis points. This finding is based on
7 recently recorded yields-to-maturity on PECO bonds that
8 mature in 10 to 20 years. Since early September 1985, these
9 bonds have yielded 10.3% to 12.9%, with the longer term
10 bonds requiring the higher yields. Since PECO's common
11 equity is, in a sense, a variable rate issue with allowed
12 returns adjusted every few years to market-based levels, the
13 medium-term PECO bonds are the appropriate point of
14 comparison. This comparison between my DCF and risk premium
15 findings indicates a yield spread, or risk premium, that is
16 fully sufficient to reward investors for investing in PECO's
17 equity.

18
19 Q: HAVE YOU PERFORMED ANY OTHER CHECKS ON THE REASONABLENESS OF
20 YOUR DCF FINDINGS?

21
22 A: Yes. The final check of reasonableness that I have performed
23 is one in which my DCF findings are compared with recent
24 required returns on other competing investments. This
25 approach is totally independent of my company specific DCF
26 approach and therefore offers an acceptable method for

2 investments that I have chosen have associated risks that
3 range from very low to very high levels. If my DCF findings
4 are within reason, they should be similar to required
5 returns on investments in the same risk category as PECO's
6 common stock.

7
8 Q: WHAT IS YOUR SOURCE FOR RECENT REQUIRED RETURNS ON
9 INVESTMENTS OF VARYING RISKS?

10
11 A: I rely on Moody's Bond Record and the S&P Bond Guide. Both
12 contain implicit required returns of investors on numerous
13 bond issues. These returns are based on actual sale prices
14 of the issues and the expected income stream to maturity from
15 the security.

16
17 Q: ARE THE REQUIRED RETURNS SHOWN IN THESE PUBLICATIONS DIRECTLY
18 COMPARABLE TO YOUR DCF FINDINGS?

19
20 A: Yes, they are. The required returns are discounted cash flow
21 (DCF) returns calculated from the current price of the bond
22 and the expected income stream (coupon payments and return of
23 the bond's face amount upon maturity), just as my DCF
24 findings for PECO were determined. There is, however, less
25 uncertainty as to the investor-required (expected) return on
26 these bonds, since the coupon amounts and frequency of

1 payment, as well as the face amount to be returned upon
2 maturity, are contractually specified. The required returns
3 (yields-to-maturity) contained in the Moody's and S&P
4 publications are therefore a more accurate indication of
5 actual investor return requirements than are the DCF returns
6 derived for a common stock.

7
8 Q: IS THE INVESTMENT RISK ASSOCIATED WITH PECO'S COMMON STOCK
9 CONTAINED IN THE RANGE OF RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BONDS
10 INCLUDED IN THE MOODY'S AND S&P PUBLICATIONS?

11
12 A: Yes. Risks associated with the referenced bonds range from
13 the very low to the very high. The triple-A rated bonds
14 are, for example, among the lowest risk investments
15 available. Their low risk is apparent from the fact that
16 recent required returns on triple-A bonds are near 10.4%
17 which is only 30 basis points more than the 10.1% return
18 currently required on long-term Treasury securities.

19
20 On the other hand, bonds rated triple-C (or Caa) are among
21 the most risky of all investments. Moody's describes these
22 bonds as being of "poor standing" and states that such bonds
23 may be in default. S&P similarly states that these bonds
24 are, on balance, "predominantly speculative with respect to
25 capacity to pay interest and repay principal" in accordance
26 with the contractual agreement.

1 PECO's common equity is more risky than triple-A rated
2 bonds, because of greater uncertainty concerning the amount
3 and timing of the future income stream. However, this
4 uncertainty is less than that associated with the triple-C
5 bonds of a company that is near bankruptcy. While PECO
6 management and the investment community have mentioned the
7 possibility of a dividend reduction, such a reduction would
8 not lead to losses comparable to these faced by the owner of
9 the typical triple-C rated bond. The dividend cut would
10 reduce the level of income to PECO shareholders, but income
11 would continue to be received and a relatively small drop in
12 PECO's stock price would occur. In the case of default on
13 the bond, however, years may pass before the investor can
14 recover even a portion of his investment.

15
16 Q: WHAT RISK LEVEL DO YOU ASSOCIATE WITH PECO'S COMMON STOCK?

17
18 A: An investor in PECO's common stock currently faces risks
19 that are similar to those faced by an investor in bonds
20 rated between B and CCC (Caa). In my judgment, the
21 uncertainties associated with the regulatory treatment of
22 PECO's Limerick investments, and concomitant uncertainty as
23 to the impact of this treatment on PECO's dividend, are
24 risks similar to those faced by investors in the CCC risk
25 class. Without these uncertainties, an investment in PECO's
26 stock would be significantly less risky.

1 Other factors considered in my risk classification of PECO
2 include liquidity risks and price volatility. My findings
3 indicate PECO's common equity has lower liquidity risk than
4 most B-rated bonds, i.e., it may be sold at a lower price
5 sacrifice than most B-rated bonds. For example, bonds rated
6 from B to CC currently have a 3% to 5% spread between the
7 bid and ask price. PECO's common equity can, on the
8 otherhand be sold at approximately a 1% price sacrifice.

9
10 Comparing PECO's stock price volatility with the volatility
11 of high risk bonds, PECO's stock is again shown to be of
12 lower risk. As previously mentioned, bonds in general
13 (independent of their risk class) have shown greater price
14 volatility than common stocks during the past four to five
15 years.

16
17 Q: WHAT RETURN IS CURRENTLY REQUIRED BY INVESTOR IN SECURITIES
18 THAT FALL IN THIS RISK CLASS?

19
20 A: Schedule 11 shows graphically the current return
21 requirements associated with various levels of risk.
22 Required returns that correspond to a risk rating of B to
23 CCC range from 14.4% to 16.0%, based on data from Moody's
24 November 1985 Bond Record, and from 14.0% to 15.7% based on
25 S&P's December 1985 Bond Guide.

1
2 ANALYSIS?
3

4 A: Yes, they are. My DCF findings of 15.1% to 16.1% fall near
5 the upper end of both Moody's and S&P "required return"
6 range found for PECO's risk class. My findings are
7 therefore fully adequate to compensate PECO investors for
8 the risks they assume.
9

10 Q: YOUR FINDINGS ON PECO'S RETURN REQUIREMENTS HAVE VARIED
11 DEPENDING ON THE METHOD USED. WHAT IS YOUR POINT ESTIMATE
12 OF PECO'S EQUITY RATE?
13

14 A: My point estimate for PECO's bare equity rate is 15.60%
15 the mid-point of my DCF range. The DCF, risk premium, and
16 risk/return analyses that I have performed rely on recently
17 recorded stock prices and recent long-term Treasury security
18 and corporate bond yields. Results are, therefore,
19 indicative of investor return requirements during the
20 period, 8/30/85 - 12/13/85, in which these prices and yields
21 were recorded. Due to the previously referenced consensus
22 forecasts for no change in capital costs through 1986, I do
23 not believe an adjustment to my findings for anticipated
24 trends is appropriate at this time.
25
26

1 volatility in the capital markets has, however, made even
2 near-term interest rate forecasts susceptible to large
3 errors. In light of such volatility, I consider the mid-
4 point of my DCF range to be the best current estimate of the
5 Company's bare bones cost of equity in this case. The
6 Commission should, however, consider cost of capital trends
7 as they materialize and modify their findings accordingly at
8 the time for decision in this case.

9
10 Q: SHOULD YOUR FINDINGS AS TO PECO'S COST OF EQUITY BE ADJUSTED
11 FOR FLOTATION COSTS AND MARKET PRESSURE IN THIS CASE?

12
13 A: No. An adjustment of PECO's bare equity rate for flotation
14 costs and market pressure offers an insurance policy to
15 stockholders against unfavorable markets. Premiums on this
16 policy are paid by the ratepayers, but the stockholders are
17 the beneficiaries. Furthermore, this policy pays benefits
18 in the form of higher returns on equity whether or not the
19 effects of unfavorable markets during stock sales, or,
20 dilution, are experienced.

1 Also, market pressure (positive or negative) will occur at
2 the time of every offering whether or not, an adjustment is
3 allowed. Negative pressure will occur, i.e., market price
4 below that which would otherwise be recorded, without the
5 offering if the supply of PECO shares exceeds demand for
6 these shares. Similarly, the price of PECO shares may
7 exceed that which would otherwise be recorded if demand
8 exceeds supply at the time of offering.

9
10 Given the above, a flotation or market pressure adjustment
11 in this case is inequitable and should not be allowed.

12
13 Q: WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE HAVE YOU FOUND REASONABLE FOR PECO?

14
15 A: Due to recent new debt issuances and debt redemptions by
16 PECO, the capital structure contained in Mr. Brennan's
17 prefiled exhibits needs updating. The necessary data is not
18 available at this time, however. I intend to file an
19 addendum to this testimony that contains my capital
20 structure recommendations once the required data are
21 available.

22
23 Q: DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

24
25 A: Yes.

26

Appendix A

Educational and Professional Summary

INTRODUCTION: Mr. Winter is a Chartered Financial Analyst and has prepared testimony on Cost of Capital and other public utility regulatory issues since 1980.

EDUCATION:

University of Oklahoma, 1965
MA in Mathematics

BS, Southwest Missouri State College, 1964
Major: Mathematics

HONORS RECEIVED:

Cum Laude Graduate
Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges

EMPLOYMENT:

Operations Research Analyst
Rate Case Division
Office of Public Utilities
General Services Administration
Washington, DC
December 1979 to present.

Program Analysis Branch Chief
Division of Program Planning and Analysis
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, DC
February 1979 to December 1979.

Operations Research Analyst
Policy and Procedures Division
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
October 1976 to February 1979.

Industrial Engineer and Mathematician
Manpower and Cost Control and Research Departments
U.S. Postal Service, Hq.
Washington, DC
June 1968 to October 1976.

PUBLICATIONS: "Single-stage vs. Multi-stage Discounted Cash Flow Analysis for Cost of Equity Determination;" Electric Ratemaking, Vol. 1, No. 5, Oct/Nov. 1982, pp. 27-29.
(Co-authored with David E. Kelley)

"The Discounted Cash-flow Estimate of the Dividend Growth Rate Revisited", (Comment on prior article), Public Utilities Fortnightly, Nov. 8, 1984, pp. 56, 57.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

The Washington Society of Investment Analysts, Financial Management Association.

PARTICIPATION IN REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Winter has testified on cost of capital issues before the following state commissions and other regulatory bodies: California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

V.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

DOCKET NO. R-850152

Exhibits of

PHILIP R. WINTER, CFA

Cost of Capital

on Behalf of the Federal Executive Agencies
General Services Administration

General Services Administration (PUR)
Room 6317
18th & F Streets, N.W.
Washington, DC 20405
(202) 566-1034

January 2, 1986

COMPUTATION OF PECO'S
OVERALL COST OF CAPITAL

	<u>% of Total Capital</u>	<u>Effective Cost (%)</u>	<u>Weighted Cost (%)</u>
Long-term debt	***	***	***
Preferred stock	***	10.41	***
Common Equity	<u>***</u>	15.60	<u>***</u>
Total	100.0%		***

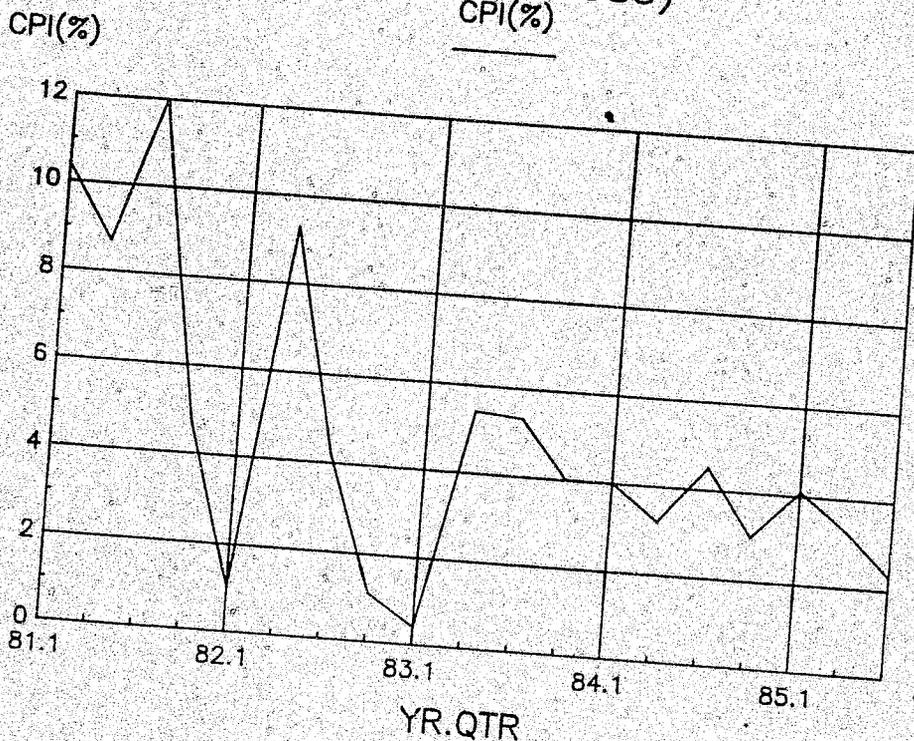
*** Actual data on the effect of new debt issuances and debt redemptions on the Company's test year capital structure and overall cost of capital are not available at this time. The above schedule will be completed when data are available.

Schedule 2

Estimated Test Year Costs
Pollution Control Notes

<u>Pollution Control Notes:</u>	<u>Amt. Outstdg.(000)</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Effective Costs (%)</u>	<u>Weighted Costs (%)</u>
5.50%, due 1997	\$24,485	4.72	5.02	.24
13 %, due 2010	71,500	13.80	13.38	1.85
11.5%, due 2011	18,500	3.57	13.16	0.47
Floating Rate, 1982 Series A	60,000	11.58	5.65	0.65
Floating Rate, 1982 Series B	40,000	7.72	5.26	0.41
Floating Rate, 1983 Series A	50,000	9.65	5.27	0.51
Floating Rate, 1984 Series A(York)	4,500	0.87	5.07	0.04
Floating Rate, 1984 Series A(Salem)	4,200	0.81	5.07	0.04
10.5%, Series due 2015	<u>245,000</u>	<u>47.28</u>	10.79	<u>5.10</u>
Total Pollution Control Notes	\$518,185	100.00%		9.31%

I. TRENDS IN CHANGES IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX.

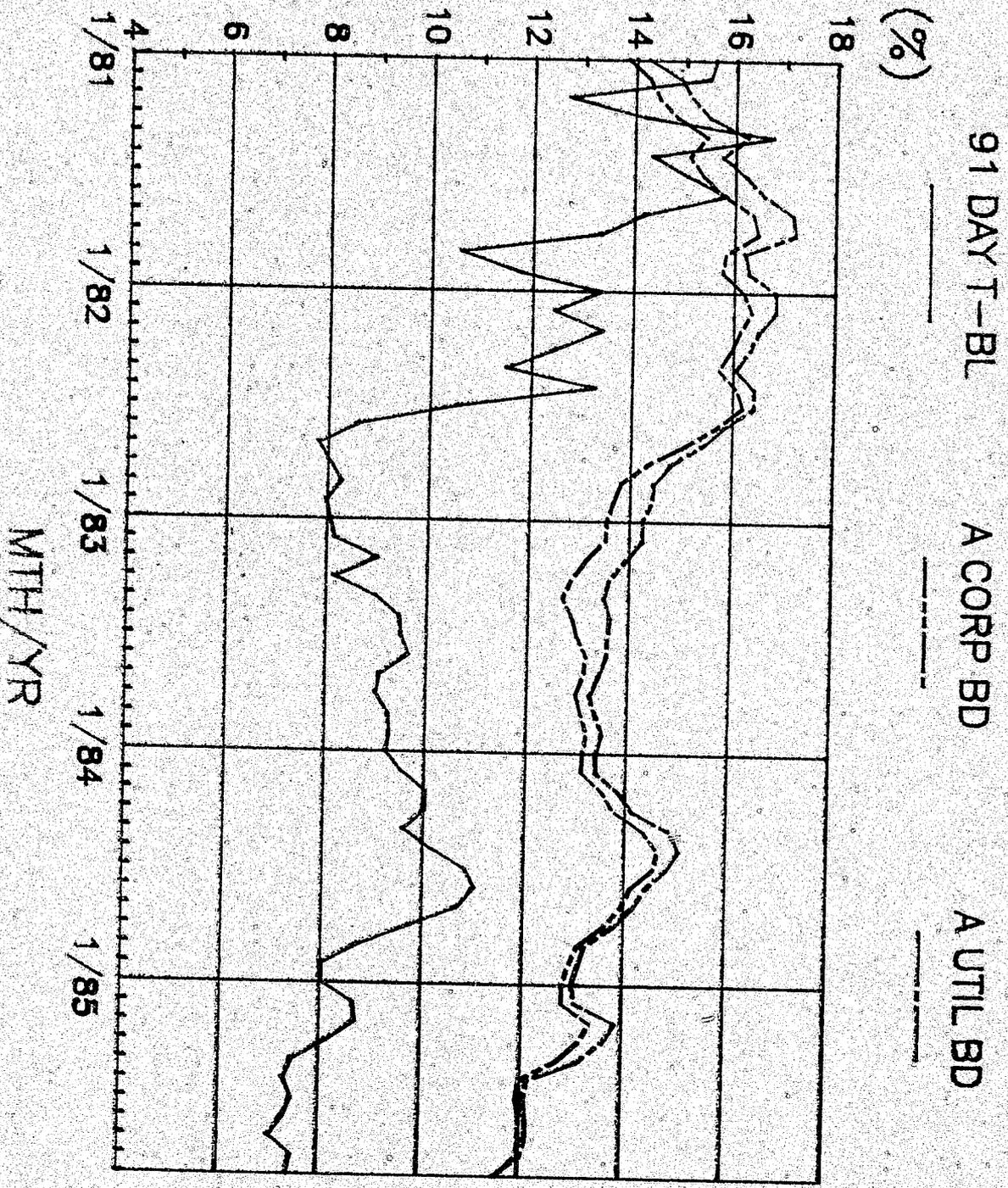
RECENT INFLATION RATE TRENDS
(1981 TO 1985)

II. FORECASTS OF INFLATION IN CONSUMER PRICES (1985-1986)

	1985 over 1984(%)	1986 over 1985(%)
-L. Meyer & Associates	3.5	3.1
-Evans Economics	3.5	3.8
-Univ. of Michigan M.Q.E.M.	3.5	4.0
-University of California L.A.	3.4	3.6
-Chase Econometric	3.5	3.9
-Value Line	3.5	4.2
-Blue Chip Consensus	3.5	3.7
-Merrill Lynch	3.4	3.4
-Citicorp Information Services	3.5	4.4
-Dr. Walter W. Heller, U.of Minn	3.4	4.0
-Dr. Murray Weidenbaum, Wash. U., St. L.	3.5	4.3

Source: Blue Chip Economic Indicators December 10, 1985;
The Value Line Investment Survey, "Selection and
Opinion", December 20, 1985.

INTEREST RATE TRENDS
(JAN. 1981 TO NOV. 1985)



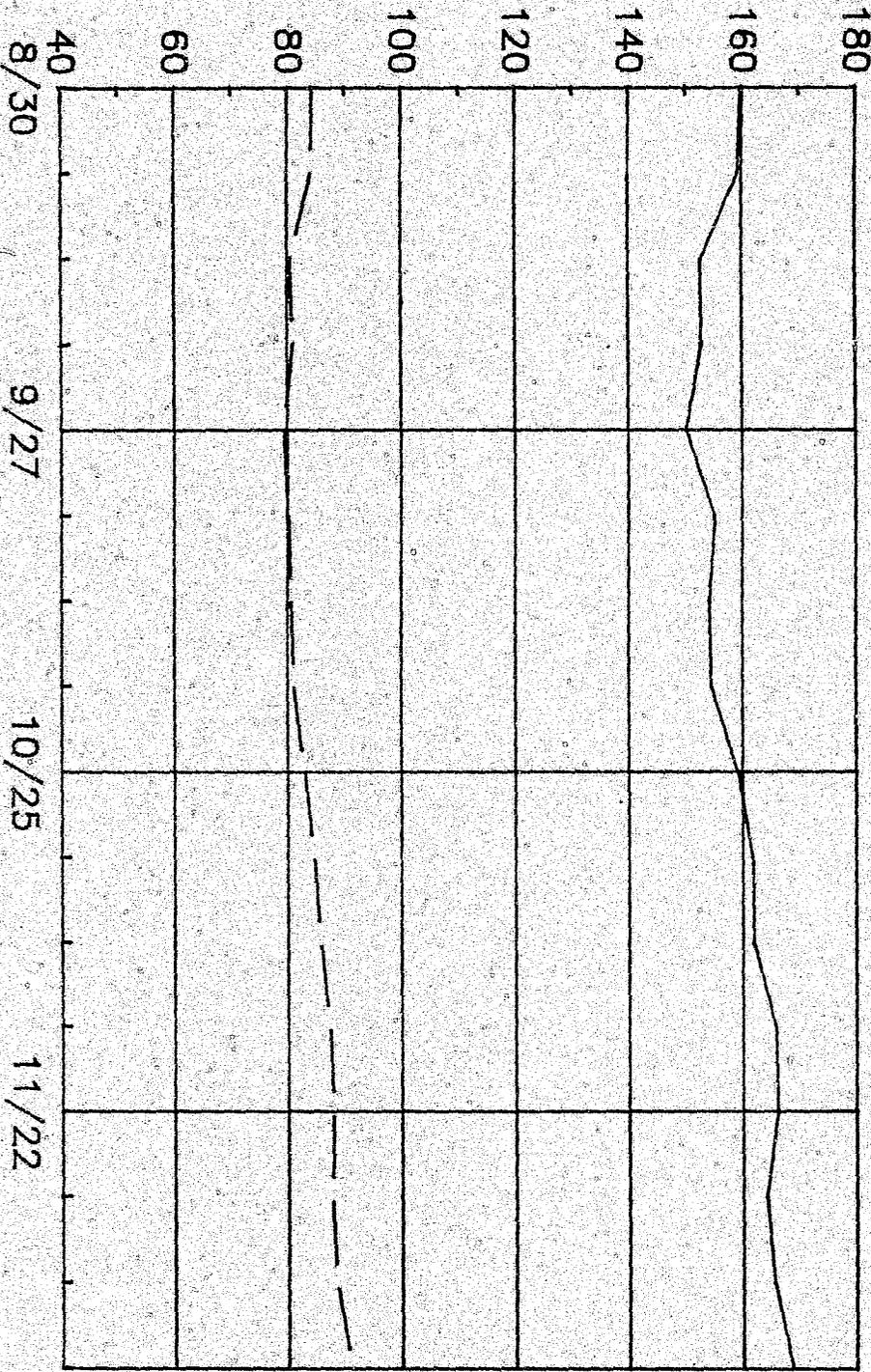
RECENT UTILITY INDEX PRICE TRENDS

AUG. 30 TO DEC. 13, 1985

SP 40U

DJ 15

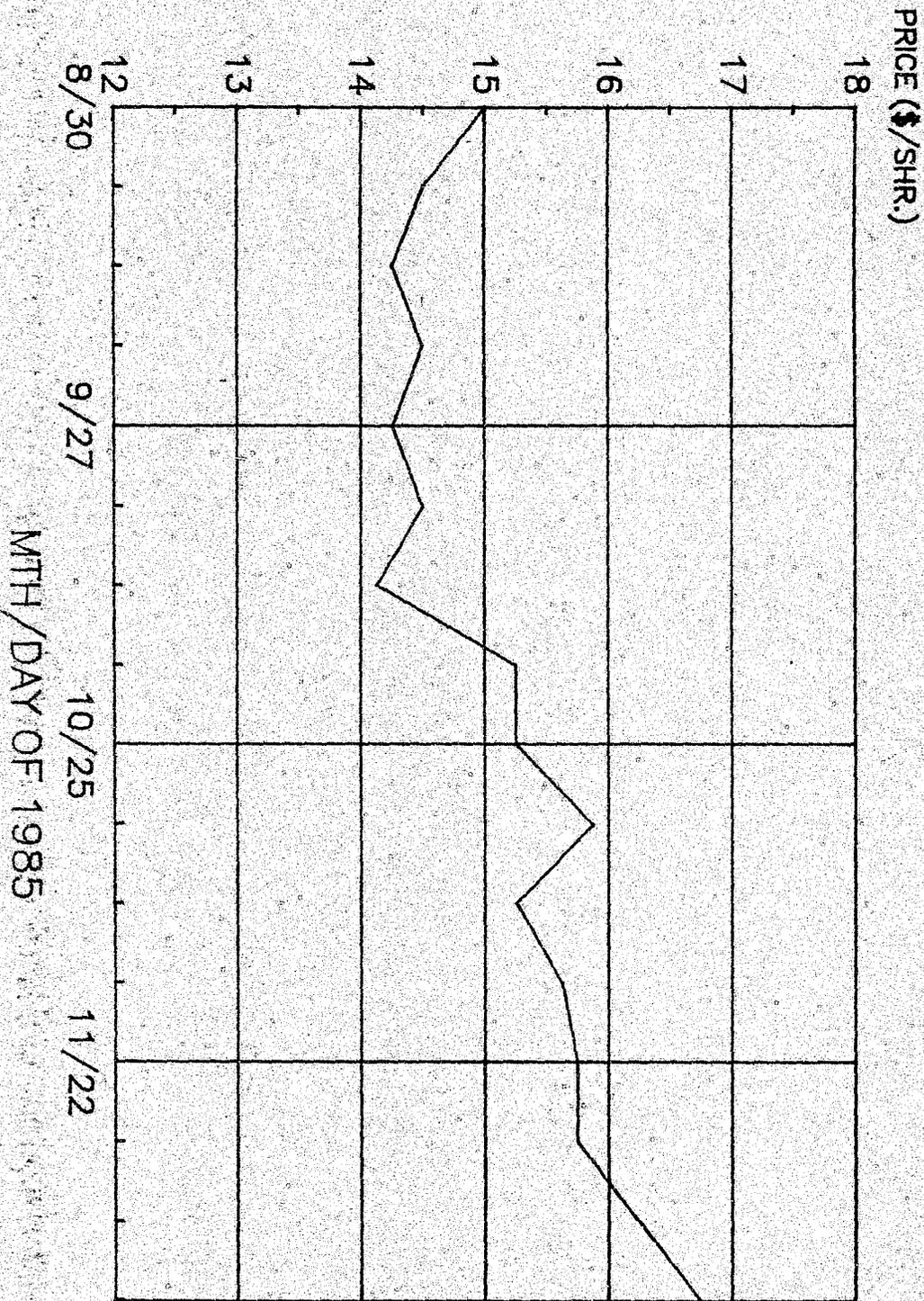
PRICE (\$)



MTH/DAY OF 1985

PECO'S RECENT STK PRICE TRENDS

AUG. 30 TO DEC. 13, 1985



Comparison of Net Profit Margins and
Return on Equity Trends for PECO, Moody's Electric
Utility Index, and Large Corporations
1981-1984

Part I:

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
After-Tax Profit				
Margin (%):				
PECO	11.4	12.7	15.0	16.5
Moody's Electric	11.0	11.9	13.3	12.7
Large Corporations	4.9	4.1	4.5	4.9
Return on Equity (%):				
PECO	11.4	12.3	12.5	14.1
Moody's Electric	11.9	12.6	13.7	14.5
Large Corporations	14.0	11.0	11.5	13.2

Source: Data on PECO and Moody's Electrics are from the Value Line Investment Survey, dated September 27, 1985 and June 7, 1985, respectively. Data on large corporations are from Business Week, dated March 15, 1982; March 14, 1983; March 21, 1984; and March 22, 1985.

Part II:

Fundamental Factors Contributing to Returns on Equity
for PECO in 1983 and 1984 and for Moody's Electrics in 1984.

	<u>Tot. Cap.</u> <u>Turnover</u>		<u>Leverage</u>		<u>Pre-Tax</u> <u>Prof. Margin</u>		<u>1-Tax Rate</u>		<u>ROE</u>
PECO (1983)	.3841	x	2.6316	x	.1594	x	.776	=	.125
PECO (1984)	.3797	x	2.7174	x	.1728	x	.791	=	.141
Moody's Electrics (1984)	.4847	x	2.4390	x	.1887	x	.650	=	.145
%Difference (PECO vs Moody)	-21.66		+11.41		-8.43		+21.69		-2.76
%Difference (PECO 1984 vs 1983)	-1.15		+3.26		+8.41		+1.93		+12.8

Source: All calculation are based on actual data contained in The Value Line Investment Survey, "Ratings & Reports", June 7, 1985 and September 27, 1985.

ALGEBRAIC RELATIONSHIP ASSUMED
IN THE DCF MODEL

(1) Infinite Model: $P_0 = D_1/(1+K_1) + D_2/(1+K_2)^2 + \dots + D_n/(1+K_n)^n + \dots$

Where: P_0 is the current price of the security
 D_i is the dividend received in year i , $i = 1$ to ∞ .
 K_i is the investor discount rate in year i , $i = 1$ to ∞ .

Under simplifying assumptions of constant dividend growth and investor discount rate, this method becomes:

(2) $P_0 = D_0(1+G)/(1+K) + D_0(1+G)^2/(1+K)^2 + \dots + D_0(1+G)^n/(1+K)^n + \dots$

Where: D_0 is the current dividend
 G is the assumed constant dividend growth rate.
 K is the assumed constant investor discount rate.

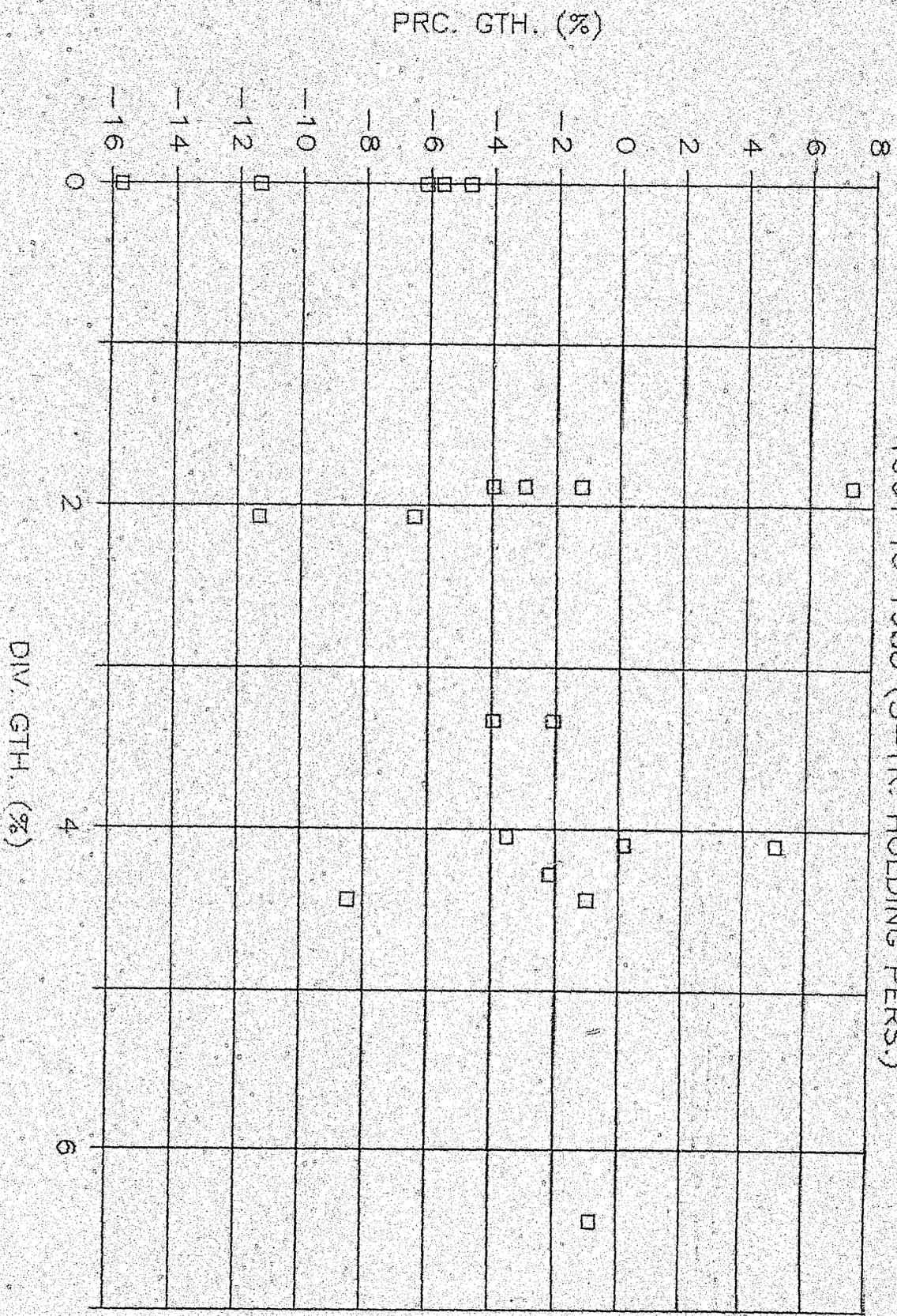
(3) Finite Model:

$$P_0 = D_0(1+G)/(1+K) + D_0(1+G)^2/(1+K)^2 + \dots + D_0(1+G)^n/(1+K)^n + P_n/(1+K)^n.$$

Where: P_n is expected stock price at end of a n -year finite period, and constant dividend growth and investor discount rate are assumed.

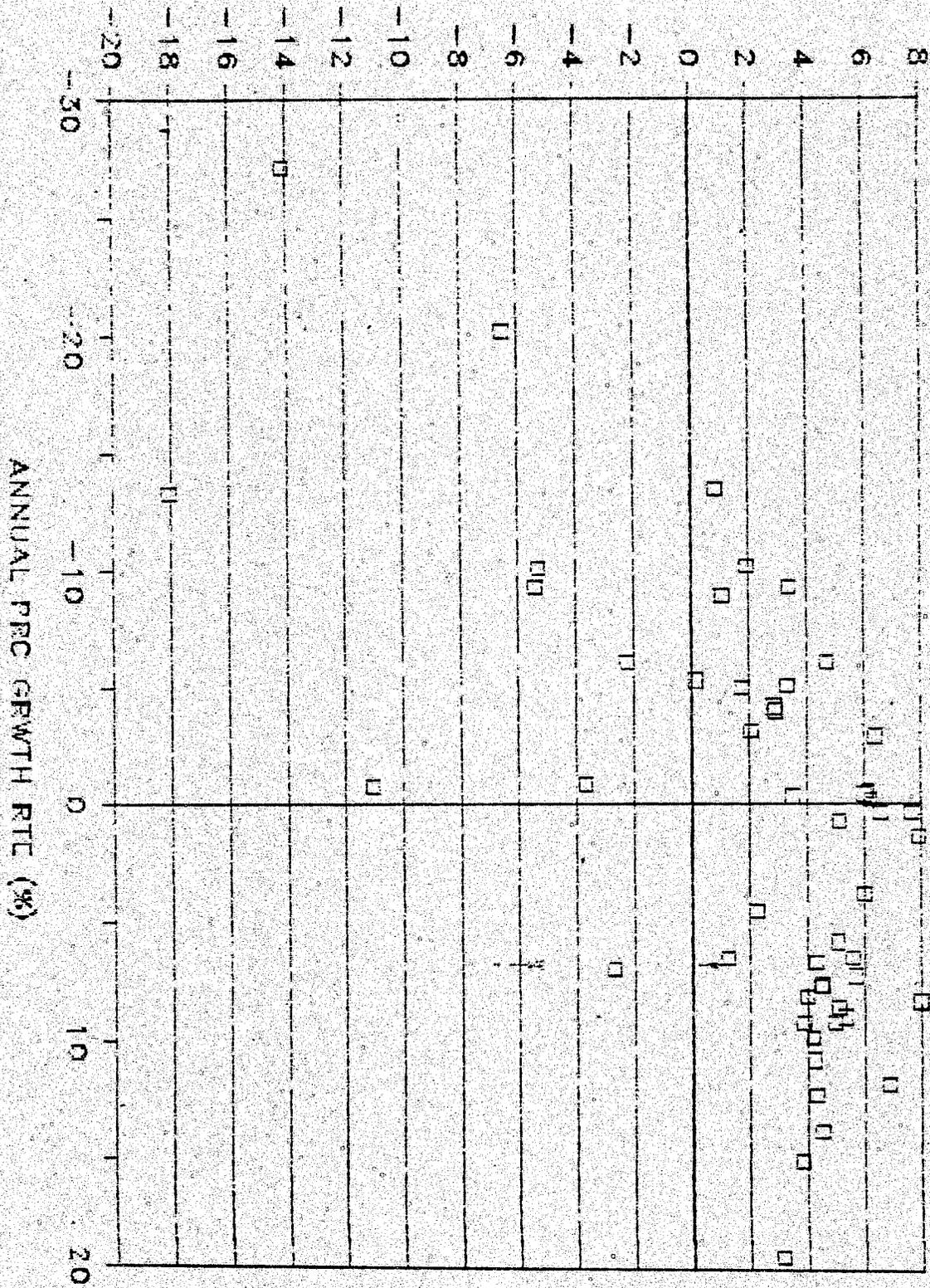
PECCO'S PRC. & DIV. GTH. HISTORY

1961 TO 1985 (5-YR. HOLDING PERS.)



MOODY'S UTIL PRC & DIV GRWTH HIST.

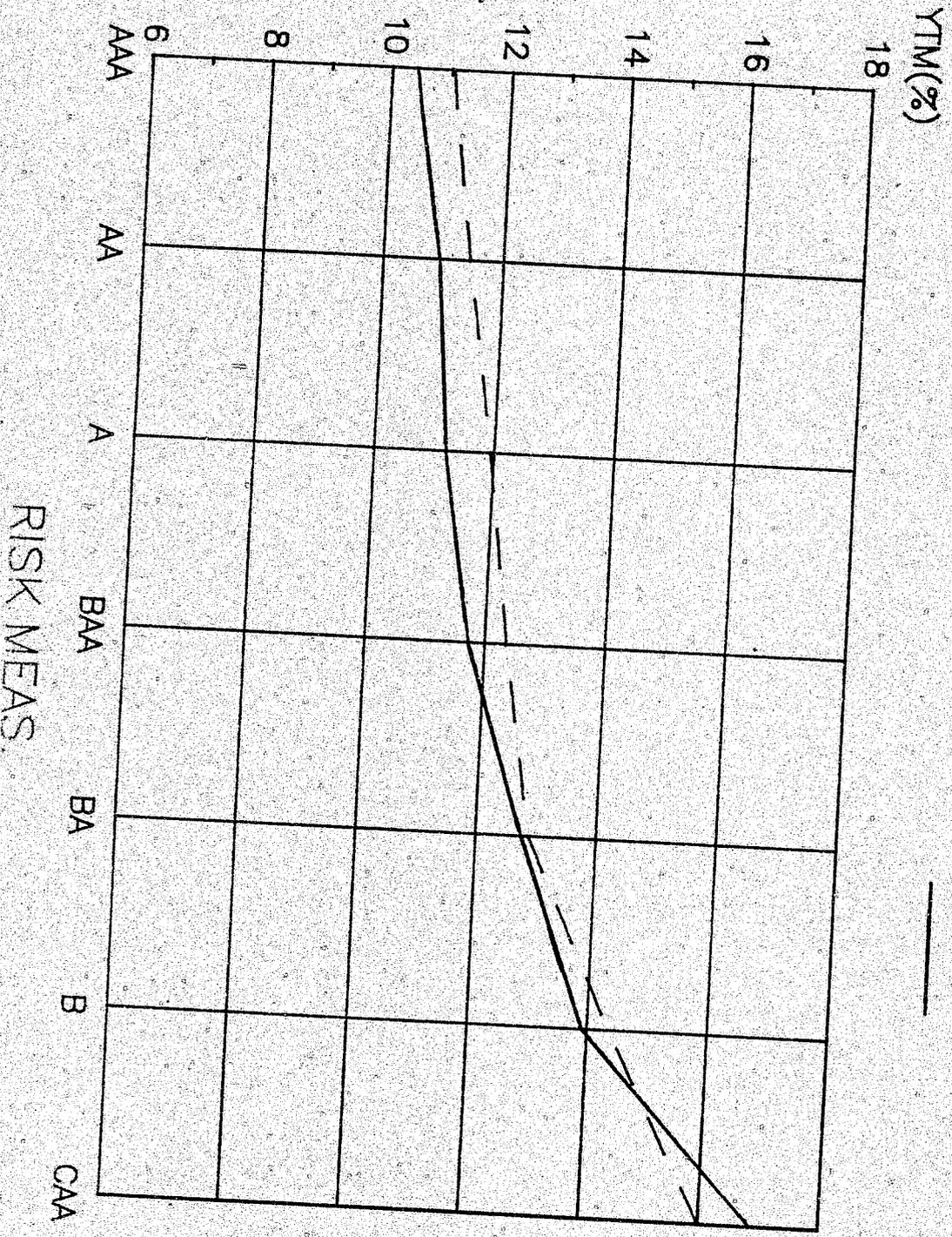
FOR 5-YEAR PERIODS 1929-1984



REQ. RETURN VS RISK

(OCTOBER 1985)
MOODY'S DATA

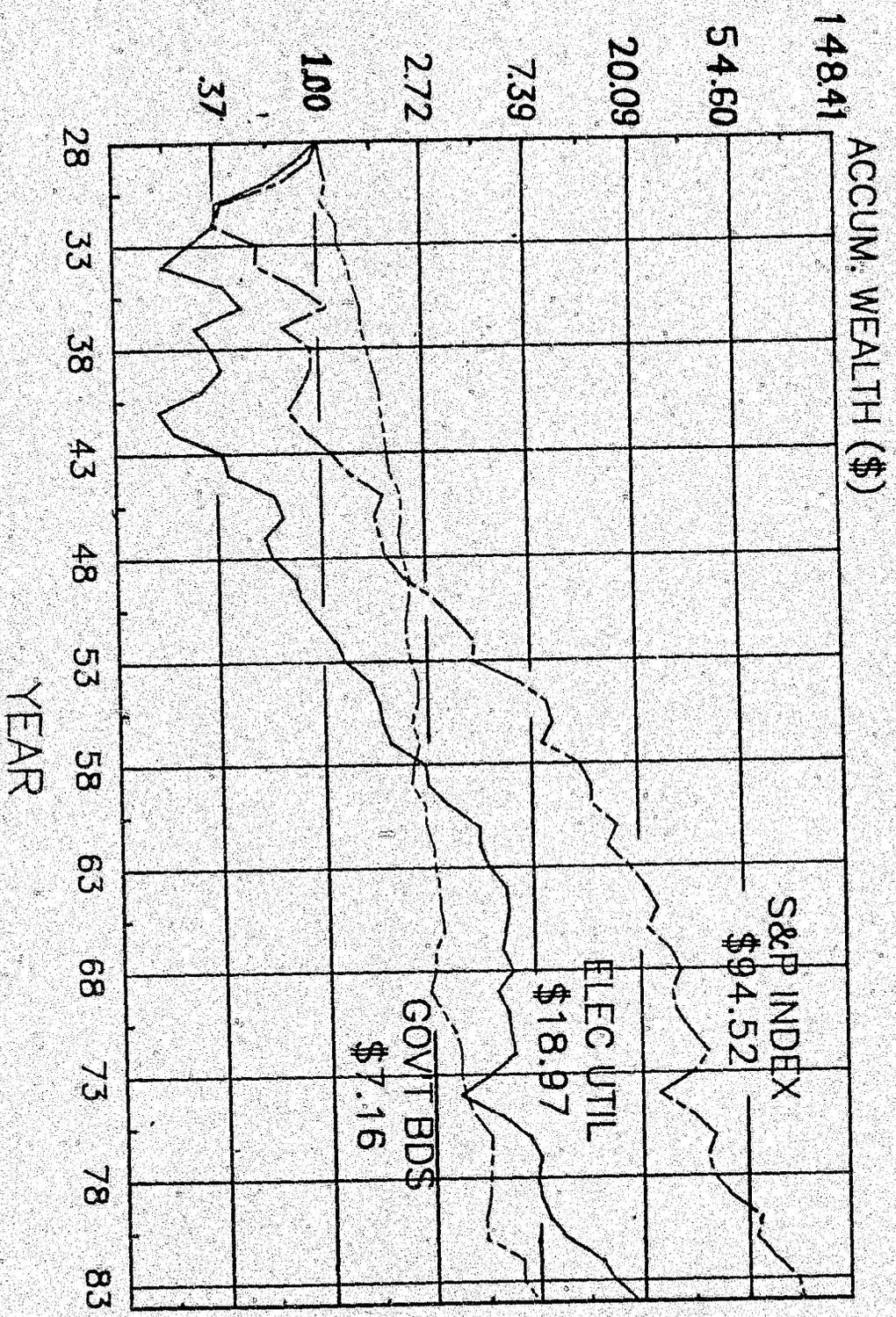
S & P DATA



MAJOR INVESTMENT FIRMS' RECENT
SHORT-TERM GROWTH EXPECTATIONS FOR PECO
DIVIDENDS AND EARNINGS

	<u>Expected Average Annual Growth Rates (%)</u>	
	<u>Dividends</u>	<u>Earnings</u>
Value Line	2.2	1.4
Prudential-Bache	0.0	0.0
Merrill Lynch	1.8	-2.3
Salomon Brothers	1.0	2.0
Duff and Phelps	0.0	1.9
E.F. Hutton	0.0	0.0
Dean Witter	<u>2.0</u>	<u>2.5</u>
Average	1.0%	0.8%

ACCUMULATED WEALTH FROM \$1.00 INVESTED AT THE BEGINNING OF 1929





January 16, 1986

Mr. Jerry Rich, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Room G-18, North Office Building
North & Commonwealth Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

RECEIVED
JAN 24 1986
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
Public Utility Commission

Dear Mr. Rich:

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al.
v.
Philadelphia Electric Company
Docket No. R-850152

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are three (3) copies of the Errata Sheet for Direct Testimony of Philip R. Winter, Cost of Capital, General Services Administration on behalf of the Federal Executive Agencies..

Sincerely,

MILDRED E.V. PITTS
Senior Trial Attorney
Information Resources & Utilities Division

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Joseph P. Matuschak
Administrative Law Judge
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Mr. Joseph Brennan
Associated Utility Services
155 Gaither Drive
Mt. Laurel, New Jersey 08054

All Parties

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission, et al.
v.
Philadelphia Electric Company
Docket No. R-850152

I hereby certify that I am, this 16th day of January, 1986 serving either by special messenger or by first-class mail, the foregoing document, Errata Sheet for Direct Testimony of Philip R. Winter, Cost of Capital, General Services Administration, upon the persons listed below:

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Administrative Law Judge
Pennsylvania Public Utility
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Public Utility Specialist
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Mildred E. V. Pitts

MILDRED E. V. PITTS

Errata Sheet
 for Direct Testimony of Philip R. Winter
 in
 Philadelphia Electric Company Docket #850152
 Before the Philadelphia Public Utility Commission

<u>References</u>	<u>Correction</u>
p. 19, lines 14 and 23	Change "Moody's" to: "Value Line's"
p. 20, line 1	Change "1.3" to: "1.2"
line 2	Change "Moody's" to: "Value Line's"
line 12	Change "Moody's Electrics." to: "Value Line's Electrics until 1984."
lines 12-15	Change "Some relative improvement in PECO's ROE was, however, recorded during this period with a 1984 shortfall from the Moody's average of 2.8%, compared with a shortfall in 1981 of 4.2%." to: "In 1984, PECO's ROE exceeded the Value Line average by 1.4%."
line 22 and 25	Change "Moody's" to: "Value Line's"
line 26	Change "2.8% below" to: "1.4% above"
p. 21, lines 1-4	Change "... Moody's average in 1984. This shortfall was due to a lower turnover rate (Revenues/Total Capital), and lower pre-tax profit margin (Pre-Tax Profits/Revenues) than that recorded for Moody's Electrics" to: "... Value Line average in 1984. This above average ROE was due to higher leverage (Total Capital/Book Equity) and a higher tax flow-through rate (1-tax rate) than that recorded for Value Line's Electrics."
lines 4 and 5	Change "PECO's turnover ratio is 21.7% below the Moody's figure." to: "PECO's ROE would be higher if not for their turnover ratio which is 23% below the Value Line figure."
lines 12 and 13	Change "PECO's pre-tax profit margin, which is 8.49% below the Moody's average, ..." to: "PECO's 1984 pre-tax profit margin, which is 4.74% below the Value Line average, ..."
Schedule 7	Change <u>all</u> references to: "Moody's Electrics" to: "Value Line's Electrics"
	In the column labeled "1984" of Part I, change "12.7" to: "13.5" and "14.5" to "13.9"
	In the row labeled "Moody's Electrics (1984)" of Part II, change ".4847 x 2.4390 x .1887 x .650 = .145" to: ".4932 x 2.4510 x .1814 x .634 = .139"
	In the row labeled "% Difference (PECO vs Moody)" of Part II, change "-21.66 +11.41 -8.43 +21.69 -2.76" to: "-23.01 +10.87 -4.74 +24.76 +1.44"

Trial Staff Statement ARO-1
Witness: A. R. O'Donnell

PT 1-22-86
Chil R-85015-2

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

v.

Philadelphia Electric Company (Docket No. R-850152)

RECEIVED

JAN 24 1986
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
Public Utility Commission

Direct Testimony

of

Andrew R. O'Donnell

DOCKETED

JAN 27 1986

Concerning

Fair Rate of Return

**DO NOT
FOLDE**

Philadelphia Electric Company
Staff Statement ARO-1
Table of Contents

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Education and Experience	1
Issues Addressed	1
Overview of Electric Utility Industry -- Economic changes and legal requirements that affect the estimation of the required rate of return on common equity	2
Barometer Group Selection	5
Rate of Return on Common Equity	10
Trend Analysis	10
Discounted Cash Flow Analysis	16
Risk Spread Method	18
Opportunity Rate Interest Coverage	21
Appendix A	

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND OCCUPATION.

2 A. My name is Andrew R. O'Donnell. My business address is:
3 Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, P. O. Box 3265,
4 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17120. I am a Fixed Utility
5 Financial Analyst assigned to the Rate of Return Section,
6 Finance Division, Bureau of Rates.

7 Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE,
8 AND THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUR CURRENT POSITION.

9 A. A brief description of my education, employment experience,
10 and the responsibilities of my current position are set
11 forth in Appendix A of this statement.

12
13 Q. WHAT ISSUE IS ADDRESSED IN THIS TESTIMONY?

14 A. The issue addressed in this testimony is the required rate
15 of return on common equity for Philadelphia Electric Company,
16 Electric Operations (PECO). PECO's claimed capital structure
17 and effective cost rates of debt and preferred stock are not
18 issues in this case for I have found those claims to be
19 properly calculated. I have provided a summary of PECO's
20 claimed capital structure and effective cost rates of
21 debt and preferred stock, as well as my recommended common
22 equity return rate requirement, on Schedule 1.

23 PECO's rate of return witness, Joseph F. Brennan, has
24 indicated that he will be providing updated schedules
25 regarding newly issued debt used to purchase high-coupon
26 first mortgage bonds (Tr. p. 7-8). There will likely be

1 changes to the company's claimed capital structure and effective
2 cost rate of long-term debt. Therefore, I will, at a
3 later date, be providing an updated Schedule 1 that reflects
4 the company's changes.

5
6 Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITY
7 INDUSTRY THAT FOCUSES ON THE ECONOMIC CHANGES THAT HAVE
8 AFFECTED AND ARE EXPECTED TO AFFECT THE REQUIRED RATE OF
9 RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY?

10 A. Yes. Prior to the mid-1960s utilities operated in an
11 economic environment characterized by low inflation and low
12 interest rates. Nominal interest rates on long-term high
13 corporate bonds exceeded five percent in only two years
14 (1920 and 1921) from 1901 through 1965. From 1966 to 1982
15 interest rates on high grade corporates began an upward
16 spiral from 5.5 to 16.2 percent. Since 1982 there has been a
17 retraction to about 11 percent. Interest rates are continu-
18 ing to decline as it is evident that inflation has remained
19 relatively low and stable for the past few years. Interest
20 rates are expected to continue their downward trend.

21 Utilities, especially electric utilities, were hit hard
22 by the rising inflation and interest rates. Already highly
23 leveraged, electric utilities found themselves in the dilemma
24 of participating in record construction programs at a time
25 when operating and financing costs were escalating beyond
26 managerial expectations. To compound matters demand declined

1 as a result of reduced industrial production and consumer
2 conservation. Presently, most electric utilities have
3 completed their nuclear construction programs. The
4 combination of completed construction and falling interest
5 rates has resulted in improved financial condition for the
6 electric utility industry. There is a minority group of
7 electric utilities, however, that have not completed their
8 construction programs. Although that minority group has
9 clearly benefited from declining interest rates, problems
10 associated with cost overruns, phase-ins, excess capacity,
11 etc., have hampered improvements in their financial
12 condition.

13 The news has not been all bad for electric utilities.
14 In Pennsylvania, for example, the automatic fuel adjustment
15 clause permitted escalating energy costs to be passed
16 through, thereby removing such increases from the general
17 rate case proceedings. The result was decreased regulatory
18 lag. Other changes that decreased regulatory lag include
19 a mandatory 7 month suspension and the future test year.
20 The Pa. P.U.C. also improved staffing and processed record
21 rate increases. Rates of return on common equity and rate
22 base were permitted to increase as interest rates rose.
23 Further, the present Commission has continued to allow
24 relatively high rates of return on common equity as interest
25 rates have declined substantially.

26 Q. WHAT IS THE PROSPECT FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PECO'S FINANCIAL
27 CONDITION IN THE NEAR-TERM FUTURE?

1 A. PECO's financial condition will benefit from the inclusion
2 of Limerick Unit No. 1 in the rate base. PECO's financial
3 condition will also benefit from declining interest rates,
4 especially taking into consideration the company's expected
5 external financing requirements. The achilles heel of the
6 company, however, is the resumption of Limerick Unit No. 2
7 construction. Regardless of the rate treatment of the
8 current case, resumption of construction of Unit No. 2
9 assures a continuation of the burdensome construction
10 requirements that have saddled PECO in recent years. There-
11 fore, the prospect for improvement in PECO's financial
12 condition in the near-term is not good.

13
14 Q. ARE THERE LEGAL DECISIONS THAT PROVIDE REGULATORS WITH
15 GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE A FAIR RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON
16 EQUITY FOR A PUBLIC UTILITY?

17 A. Yes. The well-known Bluefield and Hope Supreme Court deci-
18 sions provide guideposts that aid in the determination of a
19 common equity return rate for a public utility:

20 A public utility is entitled to such
21 rates as will permit it to earn a return on
22 the value of the property which it employs
23 for the convenience of the public equal to
24 that generally being made at the same time
25 and in the same general part of the country
26 on investments in other business undertakings
27 which are attended by corresponding risks and
uncertainties; but it has no constitutional
right to profits such as are realized or
anticipated in highly profitable enterprises
or speculative ventures. The return should be
adequate, under efficient and economic
management, to maintain and support its
credit and enable it to raise the money
necessary for the proper discharge of its

1 public duties. A rate of return may be
 2 reasonable at one time and become too high
 3 or too low by changes affecting opportu-
 4 nities for investment, the money market and
 5 business conditions generally.

6 Bluefield Water Works & Improvement Co. v.
 7 Public Service Comm. of West Virginia, 262
 8 U.S. 679, 692-93 (1923).

9 ... It is important that there be enough revenue
 10 not only for operating expenses but also for
 11 the capital costs of the business. These in-
 12 clude service on the debt and dividends on the
 13 stock.

14 ... By that standard the return to the equity
 15 owner should be commensurate with risks on
 16 investments in other enterprises having cor-
 17 responding risks. That return, moreover,
 18 should be sufficient to assure confidence in
 19 the financial integrity of the enterprise, so
 20 as to maintain its credit and to attract
 21 capital.

22 FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co., 320 U.S. 591,
 23 603 (1944).

24 The approach I have utilized in this testimony is
 25 consistent with the guidelines set forth in the Bluefield
 26 and Hope decisions and with financial theory set forth in
 27 well-known financial texts.

28 Barometer Group Selection

29 Q. WHAT CRITERIA DID YOU EMPLOY IN THE SELECTION OF A BAROMETER
 30 GROUP?

31 A. My primary selection criteria were as follows:

32 . Value Line safety rank of 4

33 . Publicly traded common stock which
 34 currently pays dividends

35 . Close general geographic proximity

36 . A first mortgage bond with a similar
 37 nominal rate and maturity date

1 I was able to select four companies that met all the
2 above criteria. Those companies are as follows:

- 3 . Dayton Power & Light Company
- 4 . Duquesne Light Company
- 5 . Ohio Edison Company
- 6 . Toledo Edison Company

7
8 Q. OF WHAT IMPORTANCE IS VALUE LINE'S SAFETY RANK?

9 A. In my opinion, the best indicator of the riskiness of a
10 company's common stock is the behavior of its market
11 price per share. Value Line describes safety rank as
12 follows:

13 Safety rank is a measurement of the
14 total risk entailed in owning a particular
15 stock. It is derived primarily from the
16 standard deviation of the weekly percent
17 changes in the price of a stock during
18 the past five years. The smaller the
19 standard deviation, the more stable the
20 stock. All stocks are ranked for safety
21 from 1 (highest) to 5 (lowest).

22 Some allowance is made for less
23 quantifiable factors (such as diversity of
24 market, quality of earnings and balance
25 sheet condition) by permitting a shift of
26 one grade from that determined in the
27 standard deviation alone. For example, a
stock that might rate a 1 on the basis of
Price Stability alone but has questionable
earnings quality would be assigned a
safety grade of 2. The top 100 are assigned
a safety grade of 1, the next 300 a grade
of 2, the next 830 are in grade 3, the next
300 in 4 and the lowest 100 in grade 5.

The total risk in a security as
expressed by Value Line Safety Ranking
encompasses both the inherent volatility
of the stock--independent of the market as a
whole--and the stock's sensitivity to
market changes as measured by the beta
factor.

1 Value Line's safety rank measures recent stock price
 2 behavior, among other things. What I like about the safety
 3 rank is that it measures the total risk entailed in owning
 4 a particular stock rather than that of a company's bonds,
 5 such as, bond rating. Please observe, however, that the
 6 bond ratings of the barometer group companies and PECO are
 7 similar:

	<u>Bond Rating</u>	
	<u>Moody's</u>	<u>S&P</u>
8		
9		
10	Dayton Power & Light	Baa1 BBB-
11	Duquesne Light	Baa1 BBB+
12	Ohio Edison	Baa3 BBB-
13	Toledo Edison	Baa3 BB+
14	Philadelphia Electric	Baa3 BBB-

15 Q. WHAT ANALYSIS HAVE YOU PERFORMED THAT ASSURES THE SAFETY RANK
 16 IS IN FACT A VALID CRITERIA TO USE IN THE SELECTION OF
 17 SIMILAR RISK COMPANIES?

18 A. In the description of safety rank that I provided above,
 19 several key ratios such as price stability, quality of
 20 earnings, financial condition, and beta were said to be used
 21 by Value Line to determine the safety rank. On Schedule 2 I
 22 have provided key measurements of the stock price behavior,
 23 financial condition, and quality of earnings.

24 The index of price stability, as previously described,
 25 is based upon a ranking of the standard deviation of weekly
 26 percent changes in price of a stock over the last five years.
 27 The lower the standard deviation the more stable the stock.

1 The top 5% (lowest standard deviations) carry a Price
2 Stability Index of 100, the next 5% 95, and so on down to 5.

3 The Barometer group average price stability index is 93.
4 PECO has a price stability index of 100. Based on that
5 statistic alone, one would expect PECO to have a similar
6 safety rank to the barometer group companies.

7 Value Line also provides an index of Growth Persistence,
8 which is a measurement of the consistency of relative price
9 growth. Using each year of the past 10 (or fewer) as a base,
10 a count is made of the number of subsequent years in which
11 the relative price of the stock was higher than in the base
12 period. The sum of these counts is the basis for the index.
13 The highest possible sum is 45. These sums are then ordered
14 from 100 down to 5, the top 5% scoring 100, the next 5%, 95
15 and so on. Observe that PECO's growth persistence index of
16 10 is slightly higher but relatively similar to the barometer
17 group average of 5.

18 The next price measurement on Schedule 2 is Value Line's
19 Beta. The Beta is a measure of the sensitivity of a stock's
20 price to overall market fluctuations. A Beta of 1.50
21 indicates that a stock will normally rise (or fall) 15% for
22 each 10% rise (or fall) in the New York Stock Exchange
23 Composite Index. A beta of .50 indicates a stock tends to
24 rise (or fall) half as much as a rise (or fall) in the New
25 York Stock Exchange.

26 PECO has a Beta of .60; the barometer group average Beta
27 is .61. PECO's stock price, therefore, has a tendency to
28 experience fluctuation similar to the average of the baro-

1 meter group.

2 Having examined Value Line's price behavior
3 measurements, it can be readily observed that the barometer
4 group companies are similar in risk to PECO. Value Line
5 also, however, factors financial condition and quality of
6 earnings into the safety rank. On Schedule 2 I have
7 presented the capital structures for PECO and each of the
8 barometer group companies. I have used capital structure as
9 one indicator of financial condition. Observe that the
10 average capital structure of the barometer group is
11 essentially the same as that of Philadelphia Electric
12 Company.

13 Another indicator of a company's financial condition is
14 its interest coverage. Observe on Schedule 2 that PECO's
15 pre-tax coverage was 3.0 times, including AFUDC, and 2.1
16 times, excluding AFUDC, at June 30, 1985. The barometer
17 group of four electrics experienced a somewhat lower but
18 similar average pre-tax coverages of 2.6 and 1.8 times,
19 including and excluding AFUDC, respectively.

20 Finally, on Schedule 2, I have provided the percentage
21 of AFUDC to net earnings, which is a measurement of earnings
22 quality that is considered essential to Value Line's safety
23 ranking process. PECO has a somewhat inferior but similar
24 quality of earnings versus the average of the four electrics
25 (92.0 v. 82.8 percent).

26 The price measurements shown on Schedule 2 are
27 indicative of what has occurred over the past 5 to 10 years.

1 The capital structure, AFUDC as a percent of net earnings and
2 pre-tax interest coverages are ratios that indicate the
3 position the companies will be in in the near term, and
4 perhaps long term, future. I believe the information
5 contained in Schedule 2 supports Value Line's Safety Rank as
6 a reasonable criteria for selecting similar risk companies.
7

8 Rate of Return on Common Equity

9 Q. WHAT METHODS DID YOU EMPLOY TO ESTIMATE THE REQUIRED RATE OF
10 RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY FOR PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY?

11 A. I began my estimation process by first applying the DCF
12 method to PECO and my selected barometer group of four
13 electric companies. I then applied the risk spread method to
14 more accurately reflect the differences that exist between
15 PECO and the barometer group. I will provide a detailed
16 description of each of my common equity return rate
17 estimation methodologies directly. Before doing so I believe
18 it is necessary to discuss the trend of certain key ratios
19 that directly affect the required rate of return on common
20 equity. Those ratios are as follows:

- 21 . Market Price Index
- 22 . Dividend Yield
- 23 . Compound Dividend Growth Rate
- 24 . Dividend Payout Ratio

25
26 Q. OF WHAT IMPORTANCE IS THE MARKET PRICE INDEX?

1 A. The market price index is calculated by dividing the average
2 of each year's high and low stock price by a base year's
3 average high-low stock price and multiplying the result by an
4 adjustment factor. The adjustment factor adjusts for stock
5 splits. Once calculated the market price index can be
6 plotted so that the trend can more easily be observed. Since
7 stock price is generally thought of as the common denominator
8 in return on equity estimation methods, its trend indicates
9 the direction of the required rate of return on common
10 equity. I have provided the market price index trend lines
11 for PECO, the four electric, and the Moody's 24 on Schedule
12 3, Page 1. The raw data used in the plot is shown on page 2
13 of Schedule 3. The base year is 1974. Please observe the
14 continually widening gap between the trend line of the
15 Moody's 24 and the trend lines of PECO and the barometer
16 group of four electric companies. One can clearly see that
17 declining construction and falling interest rates have
18 resulted in considerable improvement since 1981 for the
19 electric utility industry as represented by the Moody's 24
20 Public Utilities. PECO and each of the four electric have
21 not been so fortunate. Their construction programs have not
22 yet been completed. In addition, these companies are
23 experiencing problems associated with conversions, phase-ins,
24 excess capacity and/or possible cancellations. Such
25 expectations induce fear of low or negative dividend growth
26 prospectively. The result is a negative effect on the market
27 value of the stock. Fortunately, for PECO and each of the

1 four electrics, interest rates have declined in recent years.
2 As can be observed from the graph depicted on page 1 of
3 Schedule 3, investors have responded in a positive manner to
4 declining interest rates, despite all the unsolved
5 construction problems.

6 The market price index is useful for at least one other
7 purpose. It clearly indicates the comparability of PECO to
8 the barometer group of four electrics, which is supportive of
9 my selection criteria.

10 Q. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINING THREE RATIOS:
11 DIVIDEND YIELD, COMPOUND DIVIDEND GROWTH RATE AND DIVIDEND
12 PAYOUT RATIO?

13 A. I have depicted the trends of the dividend yield, the moving
14 average compound dividend growth rate and the dividend payout
15 ratio of PECO, the Four Electrics and the Moody's 24 on
16 Schedule 4, Pages 1-6. All three ratios provide insight into
17 the dividend policy. Knowledge of a firm's past long-term
18 dividend policy is essential to the rate of return estimation
19 process.

20 On Schedule 4, Page 1, I have provided the trend lines
21 for the dividend yield for the past ten-years, 1975-1984, and
22 spot at December 17, 1985. Page 2 of Schedule 4 contains the
23 dividend yields used to create the graph on Page 1. The
24 dividend yield is important because it is part of the general
25 DCF equation: $k = D/P + G$. The D/P is the dividend per share
26 divided by the market price per share, i.e., the dividend
27 yield.

1 The direction of dividend yields for electric utilities,
2 as represented by the Moody's 24, is clearly downward. This
3 downward movement is consistent with the upward movement of
4 the market price index observed on Schedule 3. The
5 explanation of this inverse downward movement is identical to
6 that of my market price index, i.e., declining construction
7 programs and lower interest rates. Unfortunately, for PECO
8 and the barometer group companies, yields remain high, which
9 is consistent with the problems associated with their ongoing
10 heavy construction programs, i.e., phase-ins, expectations of
11 excess capacity adjustments and/or possible regulatory
12 problems associated with plant cancellations. The situation
13 was extreme in early to mid-1984. Panic selling of stock of
14 companies with nuclear construction occurred. The result was
15 sharp declines in stock prices and a sharp rise in dividend
16 yields. The panic selling abated shortly thereafter and
17 prices and dividend yields of those utility stocks have
18 trended toward more realistic values. The dividend yields
19 are currently reflecting, in my opinion, the near-term risks.

20 On page 3 of Schedule 4, I have depicted the trend of
21 the moving average compound growth rate of dividends for
22 PECO, the barometer group of four electrics and the Moody's
23 24 Public Utilities. The raw data used to create the graphs
24 is shown on Schedule 4, page 4.

25 The dividend growth rate makes up the second portion of
26 the DCF method equation, "G". The ten-year moving average
27 flattens out wide variations that tend to exist in a shorter

1 period analysis. I believe it is also important to observe
2 shorter period trend lines in order to obtain a firmer grasp
3 of what may occur prospectively. The combination of the long
4 and short-run trends, together with cognizance of future
5 expectations, arms the analyst with the knowledge necessary
6 to exercise informed judgment that is essential in the
7 estimation of a prospective growth rate to be used in the DCF
8 calculation.

9 Observe from the graphs shown on page 3 of Schedule 4
10 that PECO and the barometer group have underperformed the
11 industry average. This behavior is consistent with the
12 fact that PECO and the barometer group have experienced
13 higher relative dividend yields than the industry average.
14 Presently, at December 17, 1985, PECO's dividend yield was
15 12.8 percent. The average dividend yield for the barometer
16 group and the Moody's 24 at December 17, 1985 was 11.2 and
17 8.8 percent, respectively (See Schedule 4, Page 2). The
18 clear message is that investors are expressing a great degree
19 of uncertainty relative to PECO's dividend growth prospects.
20 There is little doubt that investors expect a lower growth
21 rate for PECO than for the barometer group and/or the Moody's
22 24.

23 Before moving on to the common equity return rate
24 estimation methods, I would like to review one more important
25 ratio relative to the dividend policy. On page 5 of Schedule
26 4, I have provided the 1975 - 1984 dividend payout ratio for
27 PECO, the barometer group of four electric, and the Moody's

1 24 Public Utilities. Both PECO and the barometer group have
2 experienced much higher payout ratios than the electric
3 industry average. The reason for this phenomenon is that
4 both PECO and the barometer group have been paying out a
5 greater percentage of their earnings as dividends primarily
6 because of their ongoing construction programs. The higher
7 payout ratios are necessary to maintain a high yield to
8 insure a certain degree of integrity necessary for capital
9 attraction. It is clear that investors are requiring their
10 cash up front in the form of high dividend yield as opposed
11 to expectations of prospective growth.

12 To summarize PECO's past dividend policy, the company
13 has had a relatively high dividend yield in comparison to the
14 electric industry. In turn, the growth in dividends has been
15 relatively lower than that of the industry. To maintain
16 capital attraction, PECO has had to pay out a higher
17 percentage of its earnings in dividends. PECO's current
18 dividend yield is 12.8 percent which is the highest in the
19 electric utility industry. Whereas it is expected that PECO
20 will maintain its dividend through adjustments to the payout
21 ratio, the company's high yield relates to very low
22 expectations of dividend growth in the next few years. Also,
23 one cannot rule out the possibility of a dividend cut. In
24 recent years we have seen major electric utilities cut their
25 dividends as a result of problems associated with nuclear
26 power plant cost overruns and cancellations. According to
27 Salomon Brothers, Inc. and Value Line, Limerick Unit No. 2 is
28 still a cancellation candidate.

1 Q. WOULD YOU NOW PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF EACH OF YOUR COMMON
 2 EQUITY ESTIMATION METHODS, THE DETAILS OF YOUR INPUTS, AND
 3 THE RESULTANT INDICATED REQUIRED RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON
 4 EQUITY FOR PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY?

5 A. Yes. The first common equity estimation method that I
 6 employed was the DCF method. Pure DCF theory requires that
 7 the indicated dividend be divided by the current stock price,
 8 plus an expected dividend growth rate, represented by the
 9 formula:

$$10 \quad K = \frac{D_1}{P_0} + G$$

11 where: K = indicated rate of return on common equity
 12

13 D_1 = indicated dividend per share

14 P_0 = current stock price per share

15 G = expected dividend growth rate

16 There are several variations of the above formula,
 17 particularly in the time periods used in the inputs. In the
 18 past few years, utility stocks have experienced variations
 19 that have necessitated the use of other than current (spot)
 20 yield in the formula. In the past I have used some variation
 21 of spot, 6-month and/or 12-month yields in the DCF formula,
 22 for jurisdictional electric utilities depending largely upon
 23 my judgment relative to the trend in the market place.

24 In this case, I have used an average of spot and 6-month
 25 dividend yields to compute the DCF. Use of a longer period
 26 yield, at this point in time, may not adequately reflect the
 27 downward trend of dividend yields that I previously discussed
 28 (see Schedule 4, Pages 1 and 2).

1 I have provided a summary of my recent dividend yield
2 analysis on Schedule 5, Page 1. Observe that at December 17,
3 1985, both PECO's and the Barometer Group's dividend yields
4 of 12.8 and 11.2 percent, respectively, are lower than the 6-
5 months average of 14.7 and 12.2, respectively. The 12-months
6 average ended November 30, 1985 are identical to the 6-months
7 average for both PECO and the barometer group. The average
8 of the spot December 17, 1985 yield, plus 6 months-ended
9 November 30, 1985 for PECO and the Barometer Group is 13.7
10 and 11.7 percent, respectively. I have given equal weight to
11 spot data and historic data. The weight given to spot data
12 in this case is reflective of the downward trend of dividend
13 yields. The equal weight given to the higher six month
14 average gives recognition to the possibility of things not
15 turning out quite as expected.

16 On Page 2 of Schedule 5, I have provided growth rate
17 estimates from sources available to me. Growth estimates for
18 PECO's dividends range from 1 to 2 percent, far below the
19 recently experienced five and ten-year historic growth rate
20 of 4 and 3 percent, respectively. The reason for such low
21 growth estimates is clear. Based on the sources available to
22 me, investors can expect earnings growth ranging from -2.3 to
23 2.0 percent. The midpoint is less than zero. Low earnings
24 growth estimates generally indicate low dividend growth
25 estimates. For purposes of the DCF calculation, however, I
26 will use the optimistic range of 1.0 to 2.0 percent. For
27 the barometer group I will use .9-2.5

1 percent, recognizing of course, the unavailability of Merrill
2 Lynch data on Duquesne Light.

3 Q. WHAT IS THE END RESULT OF YOUR DCF ANALYSIS?

4 A. The results of my DCF analysis are contained on Schedule 5,
5 Page 3. The DCF indicated required rate of return on common
6 equity range for PECO is 14.7 to 15.7 percent. The range for
7 the barometer group of four electric is between 12.6 and
8 14.1 percent.

9
10 Q. THE SECOND METHOD EMPLOYED WAS THE RISK SPREAD METHOD. WOULD
11 YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE THEORY AND APPLICATION OF THE METHOD?

12 A. Yes. The theory behind the method is that risk can be more
13 accurately quantified by computing the spread that exists
14 between a firm and other companies. That quantification can
15 be approximated by comparing the yield to maturity of a
16 company's seasoned first mortgage bond to another company's
17 bond with a similar coupon, maturity date and call feature.
18 That spread is then added to the barometer group DCF results
19 to arrive at the indicated rate of return on common equity.

20 I have provided a summary of my risk spread analysis on
21 Schedule 6, Page 1. The average risk spread that was added
22 to the 12.6-14.2 percent DCF result range of the barometer
23 group of four electric is approximately .1 percent. The
24 resultant risk spread method indicated rate of return is in
25 the range of 12.5-14.1 percent.

26

27

1 The summary of my risk spread computations are found on
2 Schedule 6, Page 2. As can be observed, both Standard and
3 Poor's and Moody's calculate yields to maturity that
4 generally result in a negative spread between PECO and the
5 average for the four electric. Those yields to maturity
6 together with other pertinent information are contained in
7 Schedule 6, Pages 3 and 4. Page 3 of Schedule 6 contains the
8 yields, spreads and other pertinent information that was
9 extracted from the S&P Bond Guide. Page 4 contains the
10 yields, spreads and other pertinent information extracted
11 from Moody's Bond Record. It can be observed that the
12 yields-to-maturity often differ from one agency to another.
13 The reason for this phenomenon is that each agency utilizes a
14 different pricing service to arrive at bid prices. I have
15 taken note of these imperfections. That is why I provided
16 the spreads based on the yield-to-maturity of both agencies
17 and averaged them. Also observe that I calculated the
18 current and the six-month average spreads. I then averaged
19 those spreads on page 2. The use of the average of the spot
20 and the six-month average is consistent with the yield time
21 period used in my DCF analysis.

22
23 Q. WHAT IS THE RANGE OF THE INDICATED RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON
24 EQUITY FOR PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY?

25 A. The range of the indicated rate of return on common equity
26 for Philadelphia Electric Company is between 12.5 and 15.7
27 percent. This range

1 is based upon the results of my DCF and risk spread analyses.
2 Those statistics are summarized as follows:

	<u>Range (%)</u>
3	
4 DCF	
5 PECO	14.7-15.7
6 Four Electric	12.6-14.1
7 Risk Spread	12.7-14.2

8 Please observe that the PECO specific DCF result is in
9 the higher segment of the range. I believe the DCF result
10 should be viewed as a more credible method than the risk
11 spread. There are at least two important indicators relative
12 to the direction of capital cost rates in the risk spread
13 method that should not be ignored. The first indicator is
14 the fact that interest rates have fallen significantly. The
15 second indicator is the fact that PECO's yield to maturity
16 for a similar bond is lower than the average of the barometer
17 group of four electric. A lower yield to maturity suggests
18 lower relative risk. When the indication of lower relative
19 risk and the 12.6-14.2 percent DCF result for the barometer
20 group of four electric are viewed with PECO's 14.7-15.7 DCF
21 results, one begins to question the inputs to PECO's DCF
22 calculation. I believe the answer lies in the 14.7 percent
23 six-month average dividend yield to which 50 percent
24 weighting was given. If the spot yield of 12.8 percent was
25 used with the mid-point dividend growth rate of 1.5 percent,
26 the result would be 14.3 percent. There are many possible
27 combinations one could consider. Ultimately, judgment must

1 enter the determination of a common equity return rate
2 calculation at some point. Based upon my judgement, the
3 the indicated required rate of return on common equity for
4 Philadelphia Electric company is between 14.0-15.0 percent.
5

6 Q. WHAT TESTS HAVE YOU PERFORMED THAT INDICATES THAT YOUR
7 JUDGMENTAL 14.0-15.0 PERCENT RANGE IS SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE
8 RESPONDENT WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAINTAIN ITS CREDIT RATING
9 NECESSARY TO CAPITAL ATTRACTION?

10 A. Please observe the calculation of pre-tax opportunity rate
11 interest coverage on Schedule 7. My 14.0-15.0 common equity
12 return rate range results in a pre-tax opportunity rate
13 coverage range of 3.0-3.1 times. In calculating the
14 opportunity rate interest coverage I assumed a 40 percent
15 effective tax rate. At June 30, 1985 PECO had a 41 percent
16 effective tax rate. The electric industry composite median
17 tax rate at June 30, 1985 was 39 percent. Therefore, a 40
18 percent tax rate fits well within the range of current
19 effective tax rates.

20
21 The 3.0-3.1 times coverage is at the top to slightly
22 exceeding PECO's five-year and June 30, 1985 pre-tax
23 coverages of 2.5 and 3.0 times, respectively. PECO's 3.0-3.1
24 opportunity rate coverage is at the lower end of the industry
25 average spot and historic coverage range of 3.3 and 3.0
times, respectively.

1 Since interest coverage is a major determining factor
2 relative to capital attraction, I believe my opportunity rate
3 pre-tax interest coverage range of 3.0-3.1 times indicates
4 that my recommended 14.0-15.0 percent rate of return on
5 common equity range is sufficient to provide the company an
6 opportunity to maintain the credit and provide for capital
7 attraction.
8

9 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

10 **A. Yes, it does.**
11
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27

Trial Staff Statement ARO-1
Appendix A
Witness: A. R. O'Donnell

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

v.

Philadelphia Electric Company (Docket No. R-850152)

Appendix A

to

Direct Testimony

of

Andrew R. O'Donnell

Concerning

Fair Rate of Return

Andrew R. O'Donnell
Educational and Professional Background

Current: Fixed Utility Financial Analyst, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. Responsible for advising the Commission through direct testimony as to the required rate of return in fixed utility rate cases. I have worked in the Rate of Return Section since March, 1976.

Previous: Assistant Controller, Harrisburg Dairies, Inc. and Subsidiaries, 1973.

Accountant, Modjeski and Masters, Consulting Engineers, 1974.

Accountant, Pa. Dept. of Agriculture, 1974-1976.

Education: Bachelor of Science, Major in Accounting, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA, 1973.

Associate in Science, Business Administration, Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA, 1971.

OTHER EDUCATION:

Shippensburg State College, Graduate School of Business Administration, Managerial Finance, 1980. Studies focused primarily on the use of the Capital Asset Pricing Model in the formation of financial policy.

Pennsylvania State University, Continuing Education Program, Report Writing Seminar, 1979.

University of Toronto, Graduate School of Business Administration, Workshop in Public Utility Management, 1978. Studies included the DCF Theory and the use of the Capital Asset Pricing Model in the determination of required rate of return.

Michigan State University, Graduate School of Business Administration, Annual Regulatory Studies Program, 1976.

Pennsylvania State University, Continuing Education Program, Regulatory Studies Program, 1976.

Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA, various Accounting, Finance and Management courses, 1972.

Rate of Return Testimony: Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission --

- R-78010545, Peoples Natural Gas Company
R-78040598, Equitable Gas Company
R-78120724, Columbia Gas Company
R-79030781, Philadelphia Electric Co., Gas Operations
R-79040785, Philadelphia Electric Co., Steam Heat Operations
R-79100972, Apollo Gas Company
R-79100981, Carnegie Natural Gas Company
R-79090956, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation
R-80041169, Equitable Gas Company
R-80061221, Western Pa. Water Co., Pittsburgh Suburban Dist.
R-80061743, South Penn Gas Company, Shippensburg District
R-80111375, North Penn Gas Company
R-811488, UGI Corporation - Gas Utility Division
R-811615, T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil Company
R-821966, Chartiers Natural Gas Company, Inc.
R-821906, Peoples Natural Gas Company
R-822133, Equitable Gas Company
R-822169, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company
R-832315, Peoples Natural Gas Company
R-832409, Pennsylvania Power Company
R-832448, R-832449, R-832450, South Penn Gas Company
R-842651, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company
R-842632, West Penn Power Company
R-842770, Metropolitan Edison Company
R-842771, Pennsylvania Electric Company
R-850021, Duquesne Light Company

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PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

v.

Philadelphia Electric Company (Docket No. R-850152)

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Exhibit to the
Direct Testimony
of

Andrew R. O'Donnell

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Concerning

Fair Rate of Return

Philadelphia Electric Company
Index to Exhibit ARO-1

Subject	Schedule No.
Summary of Fair Rate of Return Recommendation	1
The Barometer Group of Four Electrics -- Comparative Statistics	2
Market Price Index	3, Pages 1 & 2
Dividend Yield	4, Pages 1 & 2
Compound Dividend Growth Rates -- 5 & 10-Year Moving Average	4, Pages 3 & 4
Dividend Payout Ratio	4, Pages 5 & 6
Dividend Yield Analysis	5, Page 1
Growth Rate Analysis	5, Page 2
Summary of Discounted Cash Flow Analysis (DCF)	5, Page 3
Summary of Risk Spread Analysis	6, Pages 1 & 2
Risk Spread Analysis -- Standard & Poor's	6, Page 3
Risk Spread Analysis -- Moody's	6, Page 4
Opportunity Rate Interest Coverage	7

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
SUMMARY OF FAIR RATE OF RETURN RECOMMENDATION
JUNE 30, 1986 AND PROSPECTIVE

	CAPITAL STRUCTURE RATIO (%)	REQUIRED COST/ RETURN RATE (%)	WEIGHTED AVERAGE REQUIRED COST/ RETURN RATE (%)
	-----	-----	-----
LONG-TERM DEBT	50.70	10.84	5.50
PREFERRED STOCK	10.80	10.54	1.14
COMMON EQUITY	38.50	14.0-15.0	5.39-5.78
	-----		-----
TOTAL	100.00		12.03-12.42
	=====		=====

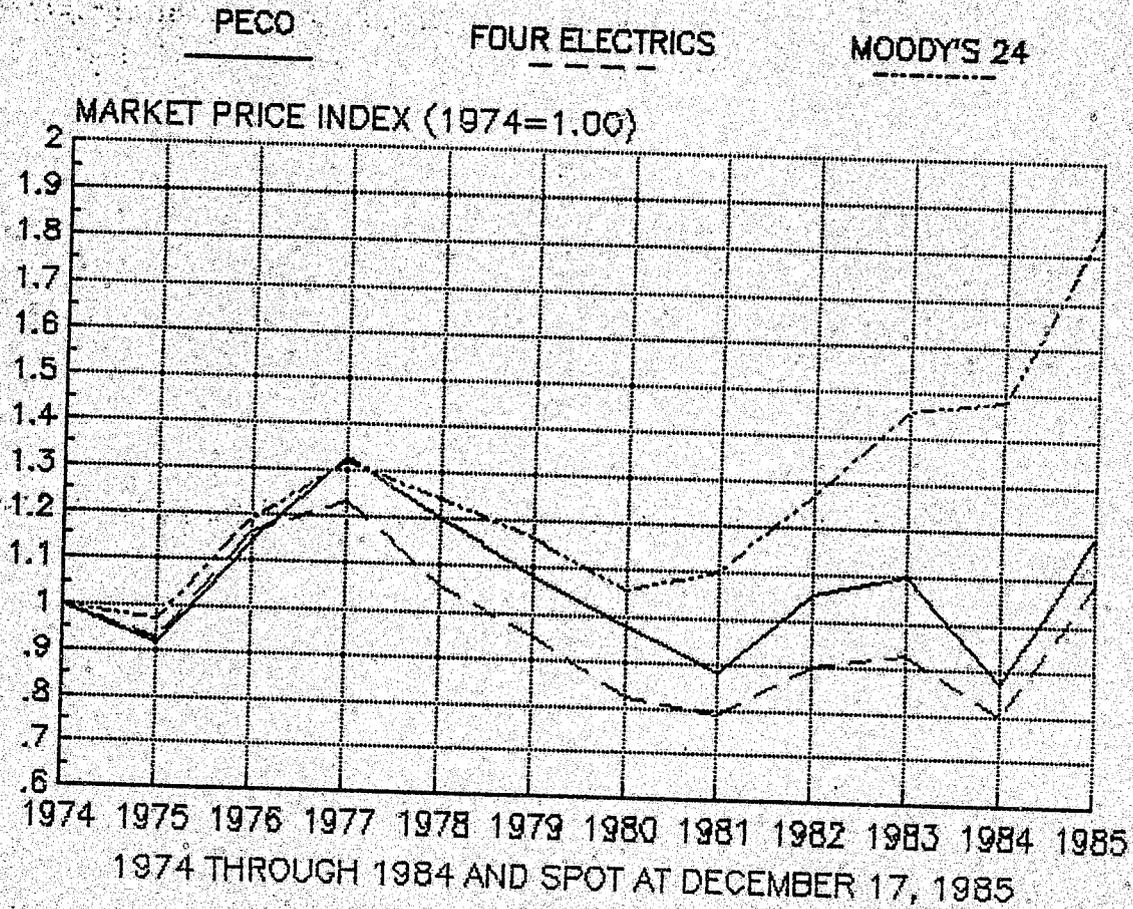
PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 THE BARDMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS
 COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	SAFETY RANK	PRICE STABILITY INDEX	PRICE GROWTH PERSISTENCE INDEX	BETA	CAPITAL STRUCTURE(1)			PRE-TAX INTEREST COVERAGE	PRE-TAX INTEREST COVERAGE	AFUDC AS A PERCENT OF NET EARN- INGS(1)
					LTD (%)	PS (%)	CEQ (%)	INCLUDING AFUDC(1) (TIMES)	EXCLUDING AFUDC(1) (TIMES)	
PHILA. ELECTRIC	4	100	10	0.60	51.0	11.0	36.0	3.0	2.1	92.0
DAYTON P&L	4	85	5	0.65	47.0	11.0	42.0	2.9	2.3	66.0
DUQUESNE LIGHT	4	100	5	0.60	51.0	10.0	39.0	2.6	2.0	91.0
OHIO EDISON	4	85	5	0.65	49.0	12.0	39.0	2.1	1.4	65.0
TOLEDO EDISON	4	100	5	0.55	50.0	14.0	36.0	2.3	1.4	109.0
AVERAGE	4	93	5	0.61	49.3	11.8	39.0	2.5	1.8	82.8

NOTES: 1. AS OF JUNE 30, 1985

SOURCE: THE VALUE LINE INVESTMENT SURVEY
 ELECTRIC UTILITY QUALITY MEASUREMENTS, SALOMON BROS., INC., OCTOBER 14, 1985

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS. THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS AND THE MOODY'S 24

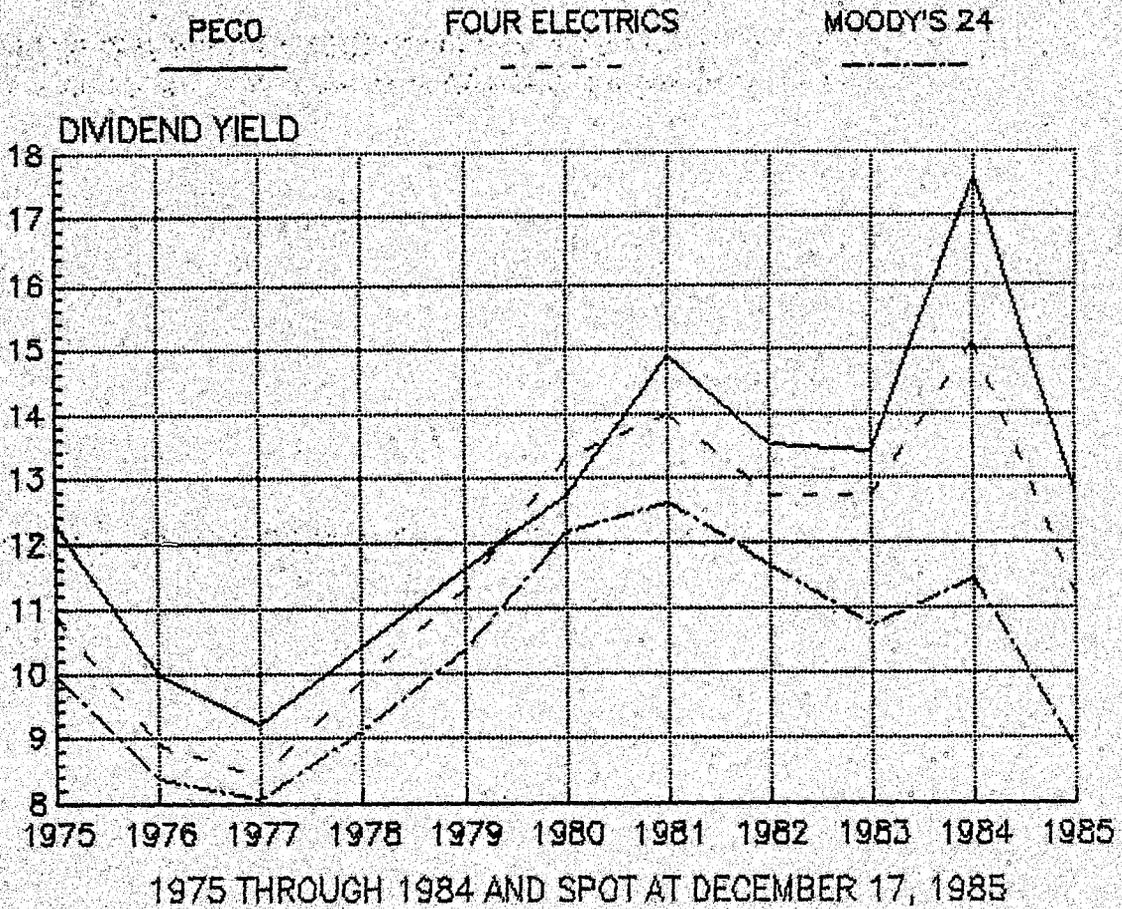


PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS.
 THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS AND THE MOODY'S 24
 1974 THROUGH 1984 AND SPOT AT DECEMBER 17, 1985
 MARKET PRICE INDEX (1974=1.00)

	PECO	FOUR ELECTRICS	MOODY'S 24
1974	1.00	1.00	1.00
1975	0.92	0.93	0.97
1976	1.14	1.16	1.19
1977	1.33	1.23	1.32
1978	1.20	1.06	1.24
1979	1.08	0.95	1.16
1980	0.98	0.82	1.06
1981	0.88	0.79	1.10
1982	1.06	0.90	1.27
1983	1.10	0.93	1.46
1984	0.87	0.80	1.48
12/17/85	1.19	1.09	1.86

SOURCE: STANDARD & POOR'S COMPUSTAT DATA BASE
 WALL STREET JOURNAL, DECEMBER 18, 1985

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS. THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS AND THE MOODY'S 24

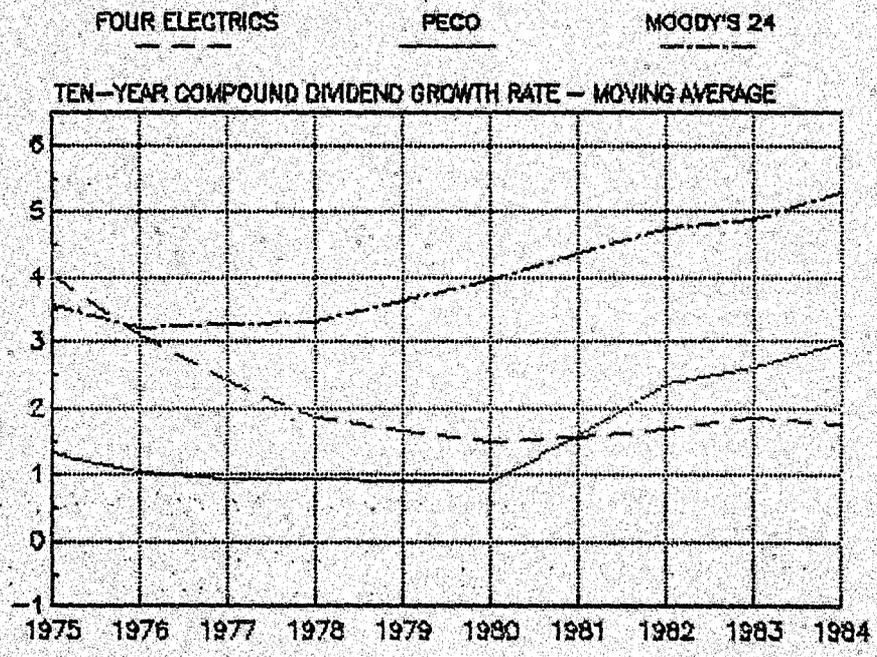
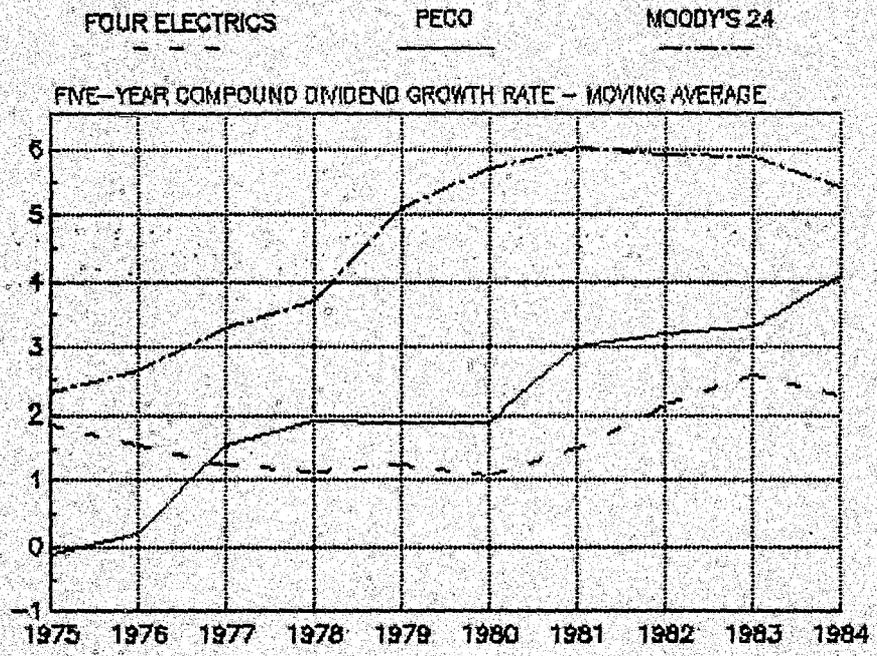


PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS.
 THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS
 AND THE MOODY'S 24 PUBLIC UTILITIES
 DIVIDEND YIELD
 1975 - 1984 AND SPOT AT DECEMBER 17, 1985

	PECO	FOUR ELECTRICS	MOODY'S 24
1975	12.3	10.9	10.0
1976	10.0	8.9	8.4
1977	9.2	8.4	8.1
1978	10.4	9.9	9.1
1979	11.6	11.3	10.4
1980	12.7	13.3	12.2
1981	14.9	14.0	12.6
1982	13.5	12.7	11.7
1983	13.4	12.7	10.7
1984	17.6	15.1	11.5
12/17/85	12.8	11.2	8.8

SOURCE: S&P COMPUSTAT DATA BASE

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS. THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS AND THE MOODY'S 24



PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY,
 THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS,
 AND THE MOODY'S 24 PUBLIC UTILITIES
 COMPOUND DIVIDEND GROWTH RATE
 FIVE AND TEN-YEAR MOVING AVERAGE

	YEAR	PHILA. ELECTRIC	FOUR ELECTRICS	MOODY'S 24
	-----	-----	-----	-----
FIVE-YEAR:	1975	-0.09	1.86	2.29
	1976	0.19	1.55	2.63
	1977	1.56	1.24	3.33
	1978	1.91	1.16	3.72
	1979	1.88	1.27	5.10
	1980	1.90	1.08	5.71
	1981	3.00	1.54	6.03
	1982	3.21	2.13	5.92
	1983	3.32	2.56	5.88
	1984	4.09	2.25	5.42
TEN-YEAR:	1975	1.32	4.04	3.57
	1976	1.05	3.12	3.20
	1977	0.93	2.39	3.27
	1978	0.93	1.86	3.30
	1979	0.90	1.65	3.64
	1980	0.90	1.47	3.97
	1981	1.59	1.54	4.37
	1982	2.38	1.68	4.72
	1983	2.61	1.86	4.88
	1984	2.98	1.76	5.32

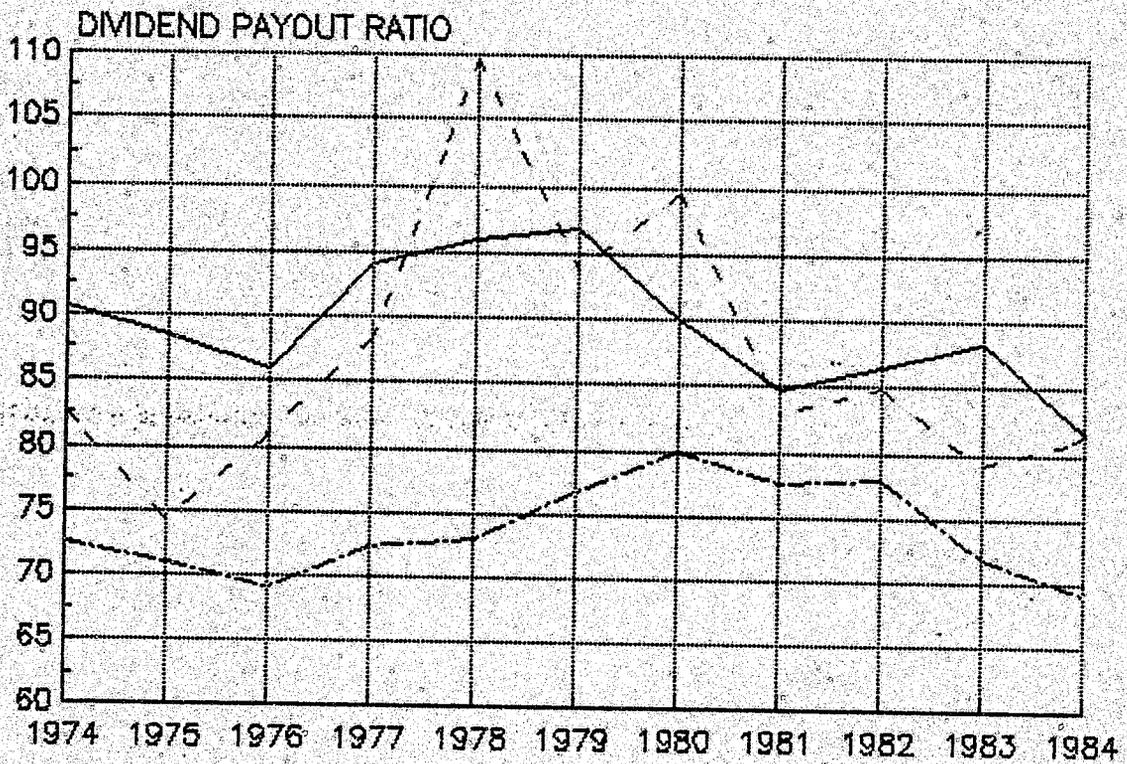
SOURCE: STANDARD & POOR'S COMPUSTAT DATA BASE

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY VS. THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS AND THE MOODY'S 24

PECO

FOUR ELECTRICS

MOODY'S 24



PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY,
THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS,
AND THE MOODY'S 24 PUBLIC UTILITIES
DIVIDEND PAYOUT RATIO
1975 - 1984

	PECO	FOUR ELECTRICS	MOODY'S . 24
	-----	-----	-----
1975	88.45	74.26	71.09
1976	85.74	81.17	69.05
1977	94.09	88.21	72.36
1978	95.99	109.69	73.01
1979	96.85	93.68	76.78
1980	89.98	99.66	80.04
1981	84.68	82.94	77.55
1982	86.31	84.82	77.99
1983	88.15	79.05	71.91
1984	81.50	81.28	69.20

SOURCE: S&P COMPUSTAT DATA BASE

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
AND THE BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS
SUMMARY OF DIVIDEND YIELD ANALYSIS

	SPOT AT DEC. 17, 1985 (%)	6-MONTHS ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	12-MONTHS ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	AVERAGE OF 12/17/85 SPOT PLUS 6-MONTH ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	AVERAGE OF 12/17/85 SPOT PLUS 12-MONTH ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC	12.8	14.7	14.7	13.7	13.7
FOUR ELECTRICS	11.2	12.2	12.2	11.7	11.7

SOURCE: STANDARD & POOR'S STOCK GUIDE (JAN. 1985 - DEC. 1985)
WALL STREET JOURNAL, DECEMBER 18, 1985

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS
 GROWTH RATE ANALYSIS

	VALUE LINE'S '82 - '84 '88 - '90		SALOMON BROS. PROJECTED 5-YEAR	MERRILL LYNCH 5-YEAR	
	EPS (%)	DPS (%)	DPS (%)	EPS (%)	DPS (%)
PHILA. ELECTRIC	2.0	2.0	1.0	-2.3	1.8
DAYTON P&L	0.5	3.5	3.0	4.2	0.0
DUQUESNE LIGHT	3.5	2.5	1.5	N/A	N/A
OHIO EDISON	2.0	2.0	3.0	-2.0	1.8
TOLEDO EDISON	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.4	0.9
AVERAGE	2.0	2.5	2.4	0.9	0.9

SOURCE: THE VALUE LINE INVESTMENT SURVEY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1985
 (EAST) AND OCTOBER 25, 1985 (CENTRAL).
 ELECTRIC UTILITY MONTHLY, SALOMON BROS., INC., DEC. 18, 1985.
 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS, MERRILL LYNCH, SEPTEMBER, 1985

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
BAROMETER GROUP OF FOUR ELECTRICS
SUMMARY OF DISCOUNTED CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

	DIVIDEND YIELD (%)	GROWTH RATE (%)	DCF (%)
	-----	-----	-----
PHILA. ELECTRIC	13.7	1.0-2.0	14.7-15.7
FOUR ELECTRICS	11.7	.9-2.5	12.6-14.2

SOURCE: SCHEDULE 5, PAGE 1 (YIELD)
SCHEDULE 5, PAGE 2 (GROWTH)

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
SUMMARY OF RISK SPREAD ANALYSIS

DCF INDICATED RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY (FOUR ELECTRICS) (%)	AVERAGE RISK SPREAD (%)	INDICATED RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY (PECO) (%)
12.6-14.2	-.1	12.5-14.1

SOURCE: SCHEDULE 5, PAGE 3
SCHEDULE 6, PAGE 2

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 SUMMARY OF RISK SPREAD ANALYSIS
 NOVEMBER 30, 1985 AND FOR THE SIX MONTHS-ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 1985

	STANDARD & POOR'S		MOODY'S		AVERAGE (%)
	SIX MONTH AVERAGE ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	SIX MONTH AVERAGE ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	SIX MONTH AVERAGE ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	SIX MONTH AVERAGE ENDED NOV. 30, 1985 (%)	
DAYTON P&L	-0.15	0.13	0.10	-0.10	-0.01
OHIO EDISON	0.10	0.11	0.01	-0.08	0.04
DUQUESNE LIGHT	-0.17	-0.07	0.08	-0.17	-0.08
TOLEDO EDISON	-0.88	-0.56	-0.25	-0.32	-0.50
AVERAGE	-0.28	-0.10	-0.02	-0.17	-0.14

SOURCE: SCHEDULE 6, PAGES 3 AND 4

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 RISK SPREAD ANALYSIS - STANDARD & POOR'S

COMPANY NAME	NOMINAL INTEREST RATE (%)	MATURITY DATE (%)	YIELD TO MATURITY							6-MONTH AVERAGE (%)
			NOVEMBER 1985 (%)	OCTOBER 1985 (%)	SEPTEMBER 1985 (%)	AUGUST 1985 (%)	JULY 1985 (%)	JUNE 1985 (%)		
PHILA. ELECTRIC	8.63	2007	11.37	11.99	12.33	11.92	12.38	11.79	11.96	
DAYTON P&L	8.50	2007	11.52	11.60	11.90	11.65	12.06	12.25	11.83	
DUQUESNE LIGHT	8.38	2007	11.27	11.56	12.19	11.82	12.27	12.01	11.85	
OHIO EDISON	8.38	2007	11.54	12.01	12.16	11.92	12.37	12.19	12.03	
TOLEDO EDISON	9.65	2006	12.25	11.99	12.12	12.71	13.10	12.94	12.52	

SPREAD (PECO - FOUR ELECTRICS)

DAYTON P&L	-0.15	0.39	0.43	0.27	0.32	-0.46	0.13
OHIO EDISON	0.10	0.43	0.14	0.10	0.11	-0.22	0.11
DUQUESNE LIGHT	-0.17	-0.02	0.17	0.00	0.01	-0.40	-0.07
TOLEDO EDISON	-0.88	0.00	0.21	-0.79	-0.72	-1.15	-0.56
AVERAGE	-0.28	0.20	0.24	-0.11	-0.07	-0.56	-0.10
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

SOURCE: S&P BOND GUIDE (JAN. 1985 - DEC. 1985)

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 RISK SPREAD ANALYSIS - MOODY'S

COMPANY NAME	NOMINAL INTEREST RATE (%)	MATURITY DATE (%)	YIELD TO MATURITY							6-MONTH AVERAGE (%)
			NOVEMBER 1985 (%)	OCTOBER 1985 (%)	SEPTEMBER 1985 (%)	AUGUST 1985 (%)	JULY 1985 (%)	JUNE 1985 (%)		
PHILA. ELECTRIC	8.63	2007	11.62	11.99	12.33	12.04	12.39	11.79	12.03	
DAYTON P&L	8.50	2007	11.52	12.16	12.81	12.13	12.37	11.79	12.13	
DUQUESNE LIGHT	8.38	2007	11.61	12.29	12.19	12.39	12.10	12.03	12.10	
OHIO EDISON	8.38	2007	11.54	12.19	12.34	12.35	12.53	12.20	12.19	
TOLEDO EDISON	9.65	2006	11.87	11.99	12.12	12.61	12.54	12.92	12.34	
SPREAD (PECO - FOUR ELECTRICS)										
DAYTON P&L			0.10	-0.17	-0.48	-0.09	0.02	0.00	-0.10	
DUQUESNE LIGHT			0.01	-0.30	0.14	-0.35	0.29	-0.24	-0.08	
OHIO EDISON			0.08	-0.20	-0.01	-0.31	-0.14	-0.41	-0.17	
TOLEDO EDISON			-0.25	0.00	0.21	-0.57	-0.15	-1.13	-0.32	
AVERAGE			-0.02	-0.17	-0.04	-0.33	0.01	-0.45	-0.16	

SOURCE: MOODY'S BOND RECORD (JAN. 1984 - DEC. 1985)

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
 OPPORTUNITY RATE INTEREST COVERAGE

	CAPITAL STRUCTURE RATIOS (%)	REQUIRED COST/ RETURN RATES (%)	WEIGHTED REQUIRED COST/ RETURN RATES (%)	EFFECTIVE TAX RATE COMPLEMENT (%)	PRE-TAX RATE OF RETURN (%)
LONG-TERM	50.70	10.84	5.50		5.50
PREFERRED	10.80	10.54	1.14	0.60	1.90
COMMON EQUITY	38.50	14.0-15.0	5.39-5.78	0.60	8.98-9.63
TOTAL	100.00		12.03-12.42		16.38-17.03

PRE-TAX OPPORTUNITY RATE INTEREST COVERAGE: 3.0-3.1 TIMES

PRE-TAX INTEREST COVERAGE:	JUNE 1985	1980-1984 AVERAGE
PECO ELECTRIC COMPOSITE MEDIAN	3.0 3.3	2.5 3.0

EFFECTIVE TAX RATE:	
PECO ELECTRIC COMPOSITE MEDIAN	41.0 39.0

SOURCE: ELECTRIC UTILITY QUALITY MEASUREMENTS, SALOMON BROS., INC.,
 OCTOBER 14, 1985.