

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

PECO Energy Company - Electric

**Public Meeting October 28, 2021
3020555-LAW**

Docket No. P-2020-3020555

M-2015-2507139

M-2018-3005795

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE

Before the Commission for consideration and disposition is the Petition of PECO Energy Company filed on June 26, 2020, seeking expedited approval of temporary universal service measures to address economic hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as additional opportunities for electric usage reduction. Specifically, PECO requests permission to (1) provide a \$50 bill credit for all of its Customer Assistance Program (CAP) customers, (2) implement a temporary expedited CAP enrollment and recertification process that waives certain income verification requirements, and (3) implement a temporary Summer Cooling Initiative which would utilize unused funds from PECO's 2020 Low Income Usage Reduction Program (LIURP) to install energy efficient cooling units in low-income households.

Because the passage of time has rendered the requested relief moot, and the information submitted to support the Petition stale, it is not appropriate to grant the Petition today. I nonetheless wish to thank PECO for taking appropriate steps to assist their at-risk customers.

Although the timing of the instant Petition did not work out, I wish to call attention to the fact that a large number of households remain at-risk of utility shut-offs as we move into the fall season and that there are millions of dollars in financial assistance currently available for customers experiencing payment difficulties. There are national programs like the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) which is now up and running in Pennsylvania for the 2021 heating season, and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program which provides funding for housing and utility costs.

Utilities understand the assistance programs available in their communities for income-qualified consumers including utility-run Customer Assistance Programs (CAP) and various hardship fund programs operated by utilities and non-profit organizations. Please **CALL UTILITIES NOW** to review the many resources available to stay connected and secure through the coming fall and winter season.



October 28, 2021

Date

Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman