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**Letter of Support on the OCA, OSBA, and PULP petition before the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
Commission  
Docket No. P-2022-3032929  
July 25, 2022**

Dear Secretary Chiavetti:

Advanced Energy Economy ("AEE") appreciates the opportunity to file a letter of support to the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"), the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"), and the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project's ("PULP") Petition ("Petition") to Initiate a Proceeding on Federal Funding Opportunities for Utilities under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA") in the above-captioned proceeding.

AEE is a national association of businesses that are making the energy we use secure, clean, and affordable. We work to accelerate the move to 100% clean energy and electrified transportation in the U.S. Advanced energy encompasses a broad range of products and services that constitute the best available technologies for meeting our energy needs today and tomorrow. These include energy efficiency, demand response, energy storage, solar, wind, hydro, nuclear, electric vehicles, and the smart grid. AEE represents more than 100 companies in the \$238 billion U.S. advanced energy industry, which employs 3.2 million U.S. workers, including 94,000 Pennsylvanians.

This is a critical point in time for this conversation. The IIJA, passed by Congress and signed into law last November, represents an historic investment of \$80 billion in federal funding for the deployment of electric vehicle ("EV") charging infrastructure as well as rebuilding and updating the electric grid. This investment is designed to make transformative change to our nation's infrastructure, including its utility systems. As funding is distributed to the states it is critical that Pennsylvania is ready with a plan. A formal Commission proceeding focused on the IIJA and the funding opportunities it presents for the Commonwealth's public utilities will provide a focus for coordination by utilities, state agencies, and local governments regarding requests for competitive grants that will enhance the prospects of approval by the relevant federal agencies. This docket will make it easier for policymakers in Pennsylvania to advance and coordinate programs aimed to deploy EV infrastructure, expand access to clean energy, improve grid resilience and security, and support innovation in energy technology in the Commonwealth.

AEE urges the Commission to initiate a proceeding that will result in long-term guidance and transparency on utility IIJA programs outlined in the Petition. This proceeding would send a strong signal to the federal government that Pennsylvania is well situated to optimize these funds, thus also making the state a strong candidate for the billions of dollars in competitive grant funding for infrastructure investments. Federal agencies are preparing for the announcement of these competitive grant opportunities, making it all the more urgent that the Commission seriously consider the Petition and begin exploring the role of utilities in accessing this funding.

We look forward to working with you on this important topic. For any questions, please contact Leah Meredith at [lm Meredith@aee.net](mailto:lm Meredith@aee.net).

Sincerely,

*Leah Meredith*  
Policy Principal  
Advanced Energy Economy