

July 25, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Petition Requesting Initiation of a Proceeding on Federal Funding Opportunities
for Utilities under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
Docket No. P-2022-3032929

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania, Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance, Keystone Research Center, League of Women Voters Pennsylvania, Natural Resources Defense Council, Pennsylvania Solar Center, The Philadelphia Solar Energy Association, Pennsylvania Solar & Storage Industries Association, Sustainable Pittsburgh, and Vote Solar (Joint Commenters) appreciate the opportunity to file a letter of support to the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project's (OCA, OSBA and PULP) Petition to Initiate a Proceeding on Federal Funding Opportunities for Utilities under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("Petition") filed June 10, 2022, at the above-captioned proceeding. Joint commenters strongly support the petition requesting that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) initiate a proceeding to require utilities and allow interested parties to file reports and comments to the Commission related to obtaining federal funding under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in Pennsylvania.

IIJA passed by Congress and signed into law last November, represents an historic investment of federal funding designed to make transformative changes of counties infrastructure, including its utilities. 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 of 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 expand access to clean energy, improve grid resilience and security, and support innovation in energy technology in the Commonwealth.

Joint commenters urge the PUC to initiate a proceeding that will result in long-term guidance and transparency on utility IJIA programs outlined in the OCA, OSBA and PULP's petition. This proceeding would send a 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.

Sincerely,

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