

April 21, 2023

VIA E-MAIL

Administrative Law Judge Conrad A. Johnson Administrative Law Judge Emily I. DeVoe Office of Administrative Law Judge 301 Fifth Avenue Piatt Place, Suite 220 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 cojohnson@pa.gov edevoe@pa.gov

Re: Joint Application of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, West Penn Power Company, Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC, and FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company for All of the Necessary Authority, Approvals, and Certificates of Public Convenience

Docket Nos. A-2023-3038771, A-2023-3038792, A-2023-3038793, A-2023-3038794, A-2023-3038795, A-2023-3038807, A-2023-3038808, G-2023-3038818, G-2023-3038819, G-2023-3038820, G-2023-3038821, G-00020956

Prehearing Memorandum of CAUSE-PA

Your Honors:

Please find the attached Prehearing Memorandum of the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (CAUSE-PA) in the above noted proceeding.

As indicated on the attached Certificate of Service, service on the parties was accomplished by email only.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ria Pereira, Esq.

Counsel for CAUSE-PA

CC: Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta (via E-file) Nicholas Miskanic, <u>nmiskanic@pa.gov</u> (via E-mail)

Certificate of Service

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Joint Application of Metropolitan Edison :

Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Docket Nos. A-2023-3038771 Pennsylvania Power Company, West Penn A-2023-3038792 Power Company, Keystone Appalachian A-2023-3038793 Transmission Company, Mid-Atlantic A-2023-3038794 Interstate Transmission, LLC, and A-2023-3038795 FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric A-2023-3038807 Company for All of the Necessary A-2023-3038808 Authority, Approvals, and Certificates of G-2023-3038818 Public Convenience G-2023-3038819 G-2023-3038820 G-2023-3038821

PREHEARING MEMORANDUM OF THE COALITION FOR AFFORDABLE UTILITY SERVICES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT

G-00020956

Counsel for CAUSE-PA

Ria M. Pereira, Esq., PA ID: 316771 Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq., PA ID: 309014 John W. Sweet, Esq., PA ID: 320182 Lauren N. Berman, Esq., PA ID: 310116

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pulp@pautilitylawproject.org

April 21, 2023

On April 13, 2023, a Prehearing Conference Order was issued by the Honorable Administrative Law Judge Conrad A. Johnson and the Honorable Administrative Law Judge Emily I. DeVoe setting a telephonic prehearing conference for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., and requiring parties to file a Prehearing Memorandum no later than Friday, April 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. In response, the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (CAUSE-PA), through its counsel at the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, hereby files this Prehearing Memorandum.

I. <u>Background/ Brief History of Proceeding</u>

On March 6, 2023, Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, West Penn Power Company, Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC, and FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company (hereafter, Joint Applicants) filed a Joint Application, in which the Joint Applicants requested authority, approvals, and certificates of public convenience for, what includes but is not limited to: (1) agreements and plans for merger of the Joint Applicants; (2) establishment of FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Holding Company LLC (FE PA); (3) merger of Met-Ed, Penelec, Penn Power, and West Penn with and into FE PA; (4) the initiation by FE PA of electric service in all territories in this Commonwealth where Met-Ed, Penelec, Penn Power, and West Penn do or may provide electric service; and (5) the abandonment by Met-Ed, Penelec, Penn Power, and West Penn of all electric service in this Commonwealth.

In their Joint Application, the Joint Applicants further requested the adoption by FE PA of Met-Ed, Penelec, Penn Power, and West Penn's existing tariffs within new service and rate districts of FE PA corresponding with certain existing service territories. Finally, the Joint Applicants requested the transfer of certain membership interests held by Met-Ed and Penelec to

FirstEnergy Corp.; the transfer of West Penn's Transmission Assets to KATCo; and a certificate of public convenience which would confer on KATCo the status of a Pennsylvania public utility pursuant to 66 Pa.C.S. § 102.

On March 16, 2023, CAUSE-PA filed a Petition to Intervene and Answer, requesting full intervenor status as an active party to the proceeding. On April 13, 2023, Administrative Law Judge Conrad A. Johnson and Administrative Law Judge Emily I. DeVoe entered a Prehearing Conference Order scheduling an initial telephonic prehearing conference in this matter for Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. and requiring parties to file a prehearing memorandum no later than Friday, April 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

II. Issues to be Presented

CAUSE-PA has conducted an initial review of the Joint Application and has identified a number of issues presented in the filing that require further investigation and hearing to ensure that the requested consolidations and relief in the Joint Application will not adversely impact FirstEnergy's low and moderate income customers or result in unjust and unreasonable impacts for FirstEnergy residential customers. CAUSE-PA identifies the following specific issues of concern, which must be addressed in this proceeding, though it reserves the right to raise additional issues which may arise through the course of this proceeding:

- Whether the quality of service for FirstEnergy customers will be impacted as a result of the requests contained in the Joint Application;
- 2. Whether the requests contained in the Joint Application will affect FirstEnergy's rates, terms, and/or conditions of service;
- 3. Whether the requests contained in the Joint Application will impact FirstEnergy's

existing universal service and energy conservation programs;

4. Whether there are actual and meaningful affirmative benefits to low income ratepayers that will result from the requests in the Joint Application.

III. Witnesses and Testimony

CAUSE-PA intends to present the following witness to testify in this matter, but reserves the right to call additional or substitute witnesses as may be warranted upon proper notice to Your Honors and the parties:

Mitchell Miller
Mitch Miller Consulting LLC
60 Geisel Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112
717-903-2196
Mitchmiller77@hotmail.com

Mr. Miller will address the issues identified above, as well as other issues that may arise throughout this proceeding, through the presentation of prepared written direct, rebuttal, and/or surrebuttal testimony – as informed by any related evidence, data, or information identified through discovery.

IV. <u>Discovery</u>

CAUSE-PA supports the discovery modifications proposed by the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) in its Prehearing Memorandum.

V. Settlement

CAUSE-PA is willing and ready to engage in settlement discussions in an attempt to resolve or narrow the issues in this proceeding with any and all parties, and encourages the parties to engage in settlement discussions early in the process.

VI. Service on CAUSE-PA

CAUSE-PA is represented by the attorneys at the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project. All documents should be served on CAUSE-PA as follows:

Ria M. Pereira, Esq.
Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq.
John W. Sweet, Esq.
Lauren N. Berman, Esq.
PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT
118 Locust Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102 Telephone: 717-236-9486 Facsimile: 717-233-4088

E-mail: pulp@pautilitylawproject.org

CAUSE-PA requests that parties agree to electronic service in this proceeding.

VII. Representation of CAUSE-PA at Prehearing Conference

At the Prehearing Conference, CAUSE-PA will be represented by Ria Pereira, Esq.

VIII. <u>Litigation Schedule</u>

CAUSE-PA is currently involved in discussions with FirstEnergy and other parties to reach a mutually agreeable litigation schedule. CAUSE-PA proposes the following procedural schedule based on its ongoing discussions with parties to the proceeding:

| Event | Proposed Dates |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Joint Application Filed with | March 6, 2023 |
| the Commission | |
| Publication in Pennsylvania | March 18, 2023 |
| Bulletin | |
| Pre-hearing Conference | April 25, 2023 |
| Intervenor's Direct | June 15, 2023 |
| Testimony | |
| Rebuttal Testimony | July 14, 2023 |
| Surrebuttal Testimony | August 1, 2023 |
| Oral Rejoinder and Hearings | August 8-9, 2023 |
| Main Briefs | August 30, 2023 |

Due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the cost and expense associated with in-person hearings, CAUSE-PA supports telephonic hearings.

WHEREFORE, CAUSE-PA respectfully submits this Prehearing Conference Memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,
PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT
Counsel for CAUSE-PA

Ria M. Pereira, Esq., PA ID: 316771 Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq., PA ID: 309014 John W. Sweet, Esq., PA ID: 320182 Lauren N. Berman, Esq., PA ID: 310116 118 Locust Street

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April 21, 2023

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

| Joint Application of Metropolitan Edison | : | | |
|---|---|-------------|----------------|
| Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, | : | Docket Nos. | A-2023-3038771 |
| Pennsylvania Power Company, West Penn | : | | A-2023-3038792 |
| Power Company, Keystone Appalachian | : | | A-2023-3038793 |
| Transmission Company, Mid-Atlantic | : | | A-2023-3038794 |
| Interstate Transmission, LLC, and | : | | A-2023-3038795 |
| FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric | : | | A-2023-3038807 |
| Company for All of the Necessary | : | | A-2023-3038808 |
| Authority, Approvals, and Certificates of | : | | G-2023-3038818 |
| Public Convenience | : | | G-2023-3038819 |
| | : | | G-2023-3038820 |
| | : | | G-2023-3038821 |
| | : | | G-00020956 |

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the **Prehearing Memorandum of the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania** upon the parties of record in the above captioned proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54.

Via Email Only

| Administrative Law Judge Conrad A. Johnson | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Administrative Law Judge Emily I. DeVoe | |
| Office of Administrative Law Judge | |
| 301 Fifth Avenue | |
| Piatt Place, Suite 220 | |
| Pittsburgh, PA 15222 | |
| cojohnson@pa.gov | |
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| cc: Nicholas Miskanic, nmiskanic@pa.gov | |
| Tori L. Giesler, Esq. | David B. MacGregor, Esq. |
| Darshana Singh, Esq. | Devin T Ryan, Esq. |
| FirstEnergy Service Company | Garrett P Lent, Esq. |
| 2800 Pottsville Pike | Megan E. Rulli, Esq. |
| PO BOX 16001 | Post and Schell, P.C. |
| Reading, PA 19612-6001 | 17 North Second Street |

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|---|--|
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Respectfully Submitted,
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Counsel for CAUSE-PA

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April 21, 2023 <u>pulp@pautilitylawproject.org</u>