

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Public Meeting held December 7, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chairman
Ralph V. Yanora
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.

PECO Energy Company Universal Service and
Energy Conservation Plan for 2019-2028

Docket No. M-2018-3005795

PECO Energy Company Petition to Amend
Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan
for 2019-2028

Docket No. P-2023-3044165

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

The 2019-2028 Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan (2019 USECP) for PECO Energy Company (PECO) was conditionally approved by Commission Order entered on June 16, 2022 (June 2022 Order) at Docket No. M-2018-3005795. PECO filed a 2019 USECP consistent with the June 2022 Order on August 18, 2022, which was approved by Secretarial Letter issued on August 23, 2022.¹ The 2019 USECP will remain in effect, as may be modified from time to time, until replaced. By Petition filed and served on October 30, 2023, at Docket Nos. P-2023-3044165 and M-2018-3005795 (October 2023 Petition), PECO proposes to increase the amount of time a household can maintain its Customer Assistance Plan (CAP) eligibility when transferring service from

¹ The link to the 2019 USECP is: https://www.puc.pa.gov/media/2172/peco_2019-2024_usecp_v3_120722.pdf

one residence to another from 60 days to 180 days. The October 2023 Petition includes a Revised 2019 USECP reflecting the proposed modifications. There is no opposition to the October 2023 Petition. This Order grants the October 2023 Petition.

Discussion

In its 2019 USECP, PECO states that customers can remain in CAP without reapplying for service if they transfer service to another property within 60 days of the previous service address' disconnection date. 2019 USECP at 8. In its October 2023 Petition, PECO proposes to revise its 2019 USECP to increase the timeframe in which a household will maintain its CAP enrollment status when transferring service to another residence from 60 days to 180 days of the previous service address disconnection date. PECO proposes to implement this change no later than the first quarter of 2024 (*i.e.*, by March 31, 2024). October 2023 Petition at 1, 3; Revised 2019 USECP at 8, 12.

PECO reports that it shared its proposal and proposed revisions to the 2019 USECP with the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), the Tenant Union Representation Network (TURN), and the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (CAUSE-PA). PECO reports that TURN and CAUSE-PA support the revision and that OCA is not opposed. October 2023 Petition at 1. No answers to the Petition have been filed.

Discussion and Resolution: We note that PECO's proposed revisions to its 2019 USECP seek to expand CAP access for PECO's CAP customers who transfer service from one property to another. An increased transfer window for CAP customers above what was previously approved could be beneficial as it may reduce instances of customer removal from CAP as well as the costs to the program and the burden on households associated with reapplying for CAP. This change does not impact any other existing policies and procedures of PECO's CAP or its projected program enrollments, budget

expenses, or other ratepayer-recovered costs for the duration of its 2019 USECP. We have received no filings opposing the October 2023 Petition. Therefore, the Commission finds this proposal reasonable and in the public interest. The new interval for the CAP portability window will be 180 days, a change from the previous 60 days.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, the Commission hereby approves PECO's October 2023 Petition to amend its 2019 USECP; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Petition to Amend PECO Energy Company's Universal Service and Energy Conservation Plan for 2019-2028 filed on October 30, 2023, at Docket Nos. P-2023-3044165 and M-2018-3005795 is granted and PECO shall change its Customer Assistance Program portability window from 60 days to 180 days.

2. That PECO Energy Company shall implement the change in its Customer Assistance Program portability window from 60 days to 180 days as approved in this order by or before March 31, 2024, and shall file and serve a status update at Docket Nos. P-2023-30444165 and M-2018-3005795 when this change is implemented.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosemary Chiavetta

Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: December 7, 2023

ORDER ENTERED: December 7, 2023