

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

Public Meeting held April 25, 2024

Commissioners Present:

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

Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission

Docket Number:
R-2024-3047068

v.

FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric
Company

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On April 2, 2024, FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company (FE PA), Utility Code 1126015, filed Supplement No. 3 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 to become effective June 1, 2024, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$503,848,000 (34%) in additional annual revenues.

On a Rate District basis, the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations are calculated to produce revenues as follows:

- Met-Ed Rate District – proposed increase of \$146,332,000 (31%), residential customer’s bills using 1,000 kWh’s will increase from \$187.70 to \$205.00/month (9.2 %);
- Penelec Rate District – proposed increase of \$132,963,000 (28%), residential customer’s bills using 1,000 kWh’s will increase from \$200.96 to \$220.75/month (9.8 %);
- Penn Power Rate District – proposed increase of \$54,764,000 (43%), residential customer’s bills using 1,000 kWh will increase from \$180.59 to \$201.88/month (11.8 %); and
- West Penn Rate District – proposed increase of \$169,789,000 (40%), residential customer’s bills using 1,000 kWh will increase from \$156.36 to \$172.98/month (10.6 %).

On April 10, 2024, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a Formal Complaint. On April 15, 2024, the Office of Small Business Advocate filed a formal complaint. Various oppositions were also filed.

FE PA stated that the requested increase in its base rates is necessary to continue to provide safe and reliable electric service, to maintain and enhance the integrity of its distribution system, to attract additional capital at reasonable rates, and to have a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on its property that is used and useful in providing electric service across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. FE PA states the requested rate increase reflects the business environment the company currently faces, particularly its need to make significant capital investments to help ensure that its reliability performance remains strong for customers today and in the future.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until January 1, 2025, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date.

Investigation and analysis of this proposed tariff filing and the supporting data indicate that the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations may be unlawful, unjust, unreasonable, and contrary to the public interest. It also appears that consideration should be given to the reasonableness of FE PA's existing rates, rules, and regulations; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an investigation on Commission motion be, and hereby is, instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules, and regulations contained in the proposed Supplement No. 3 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 4.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 3 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 is suspended by operation of law until January 1, 2025, unless otherwise directed by Order of the Commission.

3. That pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §53.71 tariff supplements shall be filed with the Commission and posted at the company to announce that the aforementioned Original Tariff is suspended until the date stated in the Commission Order. Attached is a sample copy of a suspension supplement which shall be filed in triplicate or, if applicable, e-filed with the Commission within 10 days following the Order entry date.

4. That this investigation shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company's existing rates, rules, and regulations.

5. That the case be assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for the prompt scheduling of such hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a Recommended Decision.

6. That a copy of this Order shall be served upon FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and any persons who have filed Formal Complaints against the proposed tariff supplement.

BY THE COMMISSION,

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

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: April 25, 2024

ORDER ENTERED: April 25, 2024

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. _____ to

Pa. P.U.C. No. _____

(COMPANY'S NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

The application of rates proposed in Supplement No. _____ to Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective _____ (and voluntarily postponed to become effective _____, is hereby suspended until _____, at Docket No. _____). Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.

Issued:

Issued in compliance with

Title 66 PA C.S.