

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

**Evaluation of Proposals  
To Select the Resource  
Adequacy Consultant**

**Public Meeting of December 4, 2025  
Agenda No. 3058496-TUS  
Docket No. M-2025-3058496**

**STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN STEPHEN M. DeFRANK**

Before us for consideration today is a preliminary selection for a consultant in response to the Commission's Request for Proposals for a Resource Adequacy Consultant. First, I would like to commend Vice Chair Barrow for her foresight in convening a series of stakeholder conversations on resource adequacy last year. Since then, the Commission held its resource adequacy technical conference and its *en banc* hearing on large load tariffs. The proposal today is another component of the Commission's ongoing efforts to ensure affordability and reliability in this time of unprecedented change to our electric grid.

The goal in seeking a consultant for these services is to ensure the Commission is working with the most accurate information available as we evaluate the explosive load growth coming from data centers and other large load customers. I am also focused on managing the resulting impact on prices for our existing customers and for the system at large.

As a restructured state, it has been decades since the Public Utility Commission had direct responsibility for performing state load forecasts or engaging in comprehensive resource planning. Moreover, in Act 45 of 2025 passed as part of the Commonwealth's budget, the General Assembly tasked the Public Utility Commission with exercising more oversight of electric load forecasts for the state. We have incredibly dedicated and talented staff here at the PUC, but the agency must now rebuild some skills that have been dormant for some time.

While we have already begun taking action to prepare the Commission for these renewed responsibilities, I believe it is extremely prudent to engage an outside expert. This consultant will bridge the gap until the Commission is fully prepared to carry out its new load forecasting responsibilities. It will also assist us in evaluating the current landscape and preparing for the challenges and opportunities to come.

This is merely an initial step to begin contract negotiations, but I look forward to having a consultant in place in short order to assist the Commission and Commission staff in meeting this moment for our energy system.

**December 4, 2025**  
**Date**

  
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**Stephen M. DeFrank**  
**Chairman**