

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Nieves Abad	:	
	:	
v.	:	C-2024-3047163
	:	
PPL Electric Utilities Corporation	:	

ORDER
GRANTING MOTION TO COMPEL ANSWERS TO THE INTERROGATORIES AND
REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS PROPOUNDED BY PPL
ELECTRIC UTILITIES CORPORATION TO NIEVES ABAD – SET I

This Order directs Nieves Abad to serve full and complete responses to PPL’s Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents – Set I, by **December 19, 2025**.

Relevant procedural history

On February 15, 2024, Nieves Abad (“Complainant”) filed a Formal Complaint with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission against PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (“PPL”). As I explained in my August 13, 2024, Order Clarifying Scope of Proceeding and Granting in Part and Denying in Part, Complainant’s Motion to Compel, the sole issue presented by the Formal Complaint was whether PPL has provided unreasonable service to Complainant for allegedly failing to relocate certain utility poles on or near his property at his request.

On February 11, 2025, Complainant filed an Amended Complaint in this matter which raised 5 arguments. On February 20, 2025, PPL filed an Answer with New Matter and Preliminary Objections to the Amended Complaint.

On June 27, 2025, the Commission issued my Order granting in part, and denying in part, PPL’s Preliminary Objections (“Order”). In my Order portions of the Amended

Complaint were stricken, and I highlighted the three issues to be addressed at a future evidentiary hearing in this matter. Those issues are the following:

- Whether Respondent has complied with the Commission’s regulations and its tariff regarding the relocation of poles located on Complainant’s property (as raised in the Formal Complaint and Amended Complaint Argument #4).
- Whether Respondent’s tree removal activities (vegetation management practices) on Complainant’s property were reasonable and adequate pursuant to the Code and applicable Commission regulations (as raised in Amended Complaint Argument #1 and Argument #2).
- Whether Respondent is responsible or accountable for the April 13, May 25, and June 6, 2023, incidents where utility wires fell onto Complainant’s property, causing power outages (as raised in Amended Complaint Argument #1).

Therefore, through the Amended Complaint, the scope of this proceeding has expanded from one issue to be addressed (pole relocation) to three issues to be addressed (pole relocation, vegetation management, and the three outage incidents).

On November 19, 2025, PPL filed a Motion to Compel Answers to the Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents Propounded by PPL Electric Utilities Corporation to Nieves Abad – Set I (“Motion”). In its Motion, PPL asserts that it served interrogatories and requests for production of documents (“discovery requests”) upon Mr. Abad on October 30, 2025, and that Mr. Abad served objections to all of PPL’s discovery requests on November 10, 2025. PPL seeks an Order compelling Mr. Abad to provide the answers and documentation requested through PPL’s discovery requests.

Pursuant to the Commission’s regulations, the party against whom the motion to compel is directed shall file an answer within 5 days of service of the motion absent good cause. 52 Pa. Code § 5.342(g)(1). Mr. Abad did not file an answer to the Motion.

Discussion

Pursuant to the Commission's regulations, a party is entitled to obtain discovery of any matter not privileged that is relevant to the pending proceeding, or any matter that is reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. 52 Pa. Code § 5.321(c).

On October 30, 2025, PPL served 36 discovery requests upon Mr. Abad, which it now seeks to compel responses thereto. As noted, Mr. Abad served objections to the discovery requests on November 10, 2025.¹

Having reviewed the propounded discovery requests, I find the discovery requests to be both relevant to the issues in this case and reasonable in scope.

Discovery requests #I-001 through #I-007 – Through these requests, PPL is seeking information from Mr. Abad concerning ownership of the property at issue in this case. These requests are relevant to the issues in this case and reasonable in scope.

Discovery requests #I-008 through #I-026 – Through these requests, PPL is simply trying to understand the specifics of an Amended Complaint which raises multiple allegations against PPL so that it can mount a meaningful defense at hearing. These requests are relevant to the issues in this case and reasonable in scope.

Discovery requests #I-027 through #I-036 – Through these requests, PPL seeks information concerning the documentation that Mr. Abad has relied on or intends to rely on at the evidentiary hearing to be held in this proceeding to support his allegations raised in his Amended Complaint. These requests are not vague, as Mr. Abad argues, because each of these requests is directed to a specific allegation that Mr. Abad raised in his Amended Complaint. For

¹ PPL also points out that Mr. Abad's Objections should be denied because they were not timely served. PPL asserts that Mr. Abad served its objections on November 10, 2025, at 8:30 p.m., when, pursuant to my Revised Order Setting Litigation Scheduled issued November 7, 2025, the objections should have been served by 4:30 p.m. on November 10, 2025. PPL is correct in that the Objections were not timely served, however, the Objections will not be denied on this basis.

example, interrogatory #I-032 seeks documentation that Mr. Abad relied on to support his allegation that on June 6, 2023, two spans of utility wires collapsed because PPL failed to manage the vegetation around said wires. These requests are relevant to the issues in this case and reasonable in scope.

For the reasons stated above, Mr. Abad will be ordered to serve full and complete responses to PPL's discovery requests. The Ordering paragraphs will direct Mr. Abad to do so by **December 19, 2025**, instead of the five calendar days requested in the Motion.

ORDER

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That PPL Electric Utilities Corporation's Motion to Compel Answers to the Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents Propounded by PPL Electric Utilities Corporation to Nieves Abad – Set I is granted.

2. That Nieves Abad shall serve full and complete responses to PPL's Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents – Set I, by December 19, 2025.

Date: December 5, 2025

/s/
Alphonso Arnold III
Administrative Law Judge

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ELECTRIC UTILITIES CORP
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