

December 10, 2025

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Matthew Homsher, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

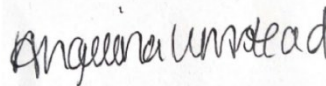
**Re: Petition of FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage Related to the storm occurring between April 29, 2025 and May 6, 2025 in the West Penn Rate District;  
Docket No. P-2025-\_\_\_\_\_**

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed for filing is the Petition of FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company on behalf of its West Penn Rate District (“West Penn”) in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies have been served upon the parties in the manner indicated on the certificate of service. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Angelina Umstead

AU/dml

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Petition of FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage Related to the April Storm at West Penn:** :  
: **Docket No.**  
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**PETITION OF FIRSTENERGY PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company (“FE PA” or the “Company”) requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issue an Order, pursuant to Section 1701 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1701, authorizing the Company to defer for regulatory accounting and reporting purposes extraordinary losses incurred by the Company’s West Penn Rate District (“West Penn”) as a result of the severe storm event that occurred between April 29, 2025 and May 6, 2025 (“April Storm”), for regulatory treatment and recovery in FE PA’s next general rate case pursuant to Section 1308(d) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1308(d). The extraordinary losses are the actual costs (excluding capital and straight-time internal labor costs) incurred by the Company in responding to the April Storm. FE PA is not requesting that the Commission decide the ratemaking treatment of such losses at this time. FE PA proposes that the Commission address the applicable ratemaking issues in FE PA’s next general rate increase proceeding.

In support of its Petition, the Company submits as follows:

## **II. BACKGROUND**

2. West Penn is one of FE PA's Rate Districts authorized to provide electric service to approximately 728,000 customers in 24 counties within central and southwest Pennsylvania. FE PA is a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp., which owns utility operating companies serving areas of Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and West Virginia. FE PA has its headquarters at 800 Cabin Hill Drive, Greensburg, PA 15601.

3. The Company's attorney authorized to receive service in this matter is:

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aumstead@firstenergycorp.com

4. Through this Petition, FE PA requests authority from the Commission to defer for regulatory accounting and reporting purposes extraordinary operation and maintenance ("O&M") expenses arising from severe storm damage for regulatory treatment and recovery through the Commission's final order in FE PA's next general rate proceeding pursuant to Section 1308(d) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1308(d).

5. The amounts that FE PA seeks to defer are expenses related to repair damage to facilities and to restore electric service as a result of the April Storm when the West Penn service area experienced a historically severe storm restoration event.

The April Storm consisted of high winds, with estimated gusts between 65 and 80 miles per hour, and heavy rainfall. The April Storm caused extensive damage to FE PA facilities and resulted in approximately 263,948 customer service interruptions.<sup>1</sup>

Damage as a result of the wind and rain included downed trees and wires, damaged or broken poles, and damaged transformers and crossarms. The Arnold, Boyce, Jeannette, Kittanning, Latrobe and Washington districts were the hardest hit areas and sustained the majority of the damage. Approximately 62.3% of the total outages that occurred were tree related with an additional 21.9% being wind related. The rain and wind produced by the storm caused trees to fall across roadways and onto the Company's facilities, complicating restoration efforts.

### **III. DEFERRAL OF EXTRAORDINARY LOSSES**

6. The Commission's regulations adopt the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC") Uniform System of Accounts as the accounting standard for electric public utilities in Pennsylvania. 52 Pa. Code § 57.42(a).<sup>2</sup>

7. General Instruction 7 of the Uniform System of Accounts ("General Instruction 7") states that utilities may treat as extraordinary those events that are of an "unusual nature and infrequent occurrence" that are "events...of significant effect which are abnormal and significantly different from the ordinary and typical activities of the company, and which would not reasonably be expected to recur in the foreseeable future." 18 CFR Pt. 101. The rule goes on to note that generally, an item should result in expenses totaling more than 5% of income to be treated as an "extraordinary item." *Id.*

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<sup>1</sup> See, *Request for Exclusion of Major Outage for Reliability Reporting Purposes to Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission – FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company*, Docket No. M-2025-3056626, filed on July 31, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company is a Class A electric public utility as defined by 52 Pa. Code § 57.41(a).

8. The Commission has specifically recognized storm damage, among other, non-storm related items, to be “extraordinary items” under General Instruction 7 and has approved deferral of storm expenses in previous similar instances.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2019-3014988 (Opinion and Order entered April 30, 2020); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2019-3014314 (Opinion and Order entered January 16, 2019); *Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2018-3005957 (Opinion and Order entered January 17, 2019); *Petition of Pike County Light & Power Company for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes, Certain Losses From Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-2018-3001395 (Order entered June 14, 2018); *Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2014-2412229 (Order entered May 22, 2014) (damage caused by Winter Storm Nika); *Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2013-2351260 (Order entered July 16, 2013) (damage caused by Hurricane Sandy); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2270396 (Order entered Dec. 15, 2011) (damage caused by Hurricane Irene); *Petition of Pike County Light & Power Company for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-2012-2293578 (Order entered June 21, 2012) (damage caused by Hurricane Irene); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-00032069 (Order entered Jan. 16, 2004); *Petition of Wellsboro Electric Company for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2280912 (Order entered March 15, 2012) (thunderstorm and tornado damage incurred in May 2011); *Petition of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. for Authority to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2249757 (Order entered August 26, 2011) (tornado damage incurred in March 2011); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2010-2216111 (Order entered April 1, 2011) (February 2010 snow storm that was “largest restoration effort” in the Company’s history); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Winter Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-00052148 (Order entered August 26, 2005) (snow and ice storms in January 2005) to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage Resulting from the Late October 2011 Snowstorm, Docket No. P-2011-2274298 (Order entered Dec. 15, 2011) (damage caused by snowstorm); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2270396 (Order entered Dec. 15, 2011) (damage caused by Hurricane Irene); *Petition of Pike County Light & Power Company for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-2012-2293578 (Order entered June 21, 2012) (damage caused by Hurricane Irene); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-00032069 (Order entered Jan. 16, 2004); *Petition of Wellsboro Electric Company for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2280912 (Order entered March 15, 2012) (thunderstorm and tornado damage incurred in May 2011); *Petition of Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. for Authority to Defer, for Accounting Purposes, Certain Unanticipated Expenses Relating to Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2011-2249757 (Order entered August 26, 2011) (tornado damage incurred in March 2011); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2010-2216111 (Order entered April 1, 2011) (February 2010 snow storm that was “largest restoration effort” in the Company’s history); *Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Authority to Defer for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Winter Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-00052148 (Order entered August 26, 2005) (snow and ice storms in January 2005).

#### IV. APRIL STORM

9. FE PA's request arises from the restoration efforts required as a result of the April Storm's effects on its service territory. The April Storm caused widespread tree and wind damage, leading to many downed lines, broken poles, and damage to transformers and crossarms. A total of 263,948 customers, or 36.3% of the customers in FE PA's West Penn Rate District, were impacted by the damage sustained from April 29, 2025 through May 6, 2025.<sup>4</sup>

Damage to the Company's facilities from the storm required the replacement of 464 poles, 1,252 spans of downed primary wire, 209 spans of downed secondary wire, 1,213 crossarms, 510 cutouts, and 302 damaged transformers. Approximately 262,792 feet of wire and cable were replaced in FE PA's restoration effort.

Approximately 62.3% of the total outages that occurred were tree related, which impeded accessibility for the restoration process and necessitating the use of specialized equipment and forestry assistance to clear the way for access to damaged facilities. Additionally, manual climbing techniques or the use of specialized track equipment were needed where line and forestry crews would normally use bucket trucks. High winds further impeded restoration activities as crews were not able to safely handle materials or operate bucket trucks due to wind speeds exceeding the prescribed OSHA standards.<sup>5</sup> A total of 2,557 outage projects impacting 263,948 of 728,345 customers were affected by this delayed restoration period, which represents 36.3% of the West Penn district's total customers.

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<sup>4</sup> FE PA filed a "Major Event Exclusion Request" with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission on July 31, 2025, in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Order entered May 11, 2004 at M-00991220. This request was subsequently approved by the Commission via Secretarial Letter on August 18, 2025 at Docket No. M-2025-3056626.

<sup>5</sup> Per Standard Number 1926.968, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") normally considers winds exceeding 64.4 kilometers per hour (40 miles per hour), or 48.3 kilometers per hour (30 miles per hour) if the work involves material handling, as a threshold that is likely to create hazards that jeopardize employee safety.

10. The first notification of a service interruption from the April Storm occurred on April 29, 2025 at 16:20 and service was restored to the last affected customer on May 6, 2025 at 9:10.

11. FE PA's restoration effort benefited from the efforts of 4,029 workers, including more than 417 FE PA employees, who participated in FE PA's restoration effort to make the repairs needed to restore service to all customers. The personnel supporting the Company's restoration efforts included 480 FE PA and other FirstEnergy line workers, 1,705 line workers from distribution line contractors, 599 forestry contractors, 45 forestry support workers, support from 223 personnel of regional mutual assistance groups, 52 damage assessors, 389 hazard responders, 92 hazard responder support workers, and 444 additional support personnel.

12. The severe damage sustained by the Company's system resulted in extraordinary incremental O&M expenses related to the restoration. The total incremental storm expenses to the West Penn Rate District, exclusive of straight-line internal labor and capital expenses, is \$22M as of September 30, 2025, which FE PA now requests authorization to defer as "extraordinary items" for accounting purposes.<sup>6</sup> This amount represents approximately 16.6% of the West Penn district's income for the twelve-month period ended June 30, 2025, which exceeds the 5% threshold set as a standard by General Instruction 7.

## **V. RATE RECOVERY**

13. Approving the requested accounting treatment, which is fully consistent with both General Instruction 7 and Commission precedent, will allow FE PA to defer for regulatory accounting and reporting purposes the extraordinary expenses that arose from damage caused by the April Storm. FE PA recognizes that the regulatory treatment and recovery of these extraordinary expenses would be subject to a Commission final order as to the prudence and

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<sup>6</sup> FE PA requests that the Commission grant authorization for adjustment of the deferral amount based on final cost figures attributable to this restoration event.

reasonableness of these costs in the Company's next base rate case under Section 1308(d) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1308(d).

14. FE PA requests that, if the deferral is granted, it be permitted to seek recovery of all April Storm related deferred expenses in a future rate proceeding. Such authorization would be consistent with the treatment the Commission has previously granted in various similar requests.<sup>7</sup>

15. Pursuant to the Commission-approved Settlement of FE PA's 2024 base rate proceeding, the Company currently recovers storm costs through base rates, while accounting for such costs through a Storm Reserve Account, which was initially established as part of West Penn Power's 2014 Rate Case following approval by the Commission on April 9, 2015 and remained unaltered in 2017, when the Commission approved a base rate proceeding settlement.<sup>8</sup> The Settlement requires, however, that expenses related to damage from extraordinary storm events be "accounted for separately in accordance with the current practice of petitioning the Commission for approval to defer such expenses."<sup>9</sup> Here, the Company's request for a deferral of the 2025

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<sup>7</sup> See, e.g., *Petition of Pennsylvania Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2023-3044479 (Opinion and Order entered July 11, 2024); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2023-3043394 (Opinion and Order entered November 9, 2023); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2019-3014988 (Opinion and Order entered April 30, 2020); *Petition of West Penn Power Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2019-3014314 (Opinion and Order entered January 16, 2019); *Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage*, Docket No. P-2018-3005957 (Opinion and Order entered January 17, 2019); *Petition of Pike County Light & Power Company for Authorization to Defer, for Accounting and Financial Reporting Purposes, Certain Losses From Extraordinary Storm Damage and to Amortize Such Losses*, Docket No. P-2018-3001395 (Order entered June 14, 2018).

<sup>8</sup> On April 9, 2015, the Commission approved a Joint Petition for Partial Settlement of Rate Investigation, which included a provision to establish and maintain on the Company's balance sheet a Storm Reserve Account. *Pa. PUC, et al. v. Pa. Power Co.*, Docket No. R-2014-2428744 (Order entered April 9, 2015) (*2014 Rate Case Order*). In 2017, the Commission approved a base rate proceeding settlement at Docket No. R-2016-2537355 that did not alter the terms of the Storm Reserve Account approved by the Commission in its 2014 Rate Case Order. See, *Pa. PUC, et al. v. Pa. Power Co.*, Docket No. R-2016-2537355 (Order entered January 19, 2017). This treatment was further reinforced by the Commission in a subsequent base rate proceeding at Docket No. R-2024-3047068, where continued treatment in this fashion was approved by the Commission by Order entered on November 21, 2024. See, *Pa. PUC, et al. v. FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company*, Docket No. R-2024-3047068 (Order entered on November 21, 2024).

<sup>9</sup> Joint Petition for Partial Settlement of Rate Investigation, *Pa. PUC, et al. v. Pa. Power Co.*, Docket Nos. R-2014-2428744 and M-2013-2341993 (Order entered on April 9, 2015).

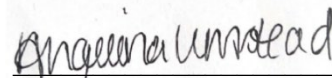
April Storm expenses is consistent with its commitments as outlined in the Commission-approved Settlement.

16. By not filing this request for treatment of expenses as a deferred, extraordinary item, the Company runs the risk of parties to its next rate case raising a claim that the Company waived the treatment of these expenses as an extraordinary item. Therefore, it is necessary for FE PA to be granted approval of the requested accounting treatment so as to ensure that it is not stopped from raising these expenses as an extraordinary item in its next base rate proceeding.

WHEREFORE, FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission authorize FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company, on behalf of the West Penn Rate District, for deferral for accounting and financial purposes actual extraordinary expenses caused by the 2025 April Storm as identified in this petition.

Dated: December 10, 2025

Respectfully submitted,



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*Attorney for FirstEnergy Pennsylvania  
Electric Company*

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Petition of FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric** :  
**Company for Authority to Defer for Regulatory** :  
**Accounting and Reporting Purposes Certain** : **Docket No.**  
**Losses from Extraordinary Storm Damage** :  
**Related to the April Storm** :

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document upon the individuals listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

Service by electronic mail, as follows:

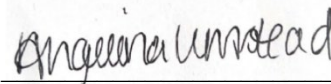
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Dated: December 10, 2025

Respectfully submitted,



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