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Docket Number M-2025-3054271

Comments:

As a Pennsylvania resident and taxpayer, I am very concerned about the possible financial, environmental, and public-health impacts of data center development. I therefore ask the PUC to include the following when enacting new regulations impacting such data centers:

1. Protect residential and small business ratepayers in Pennsylvania from absorbing any additional costs created by data centers.
2. Require data centers to bear the full cost of any infrastructure upgrades and system impacts they create. These costs can run into the hundreds of millions of dollars. Without regulatory or legislative safeguards in place, they are spread across all utility customers, leaving families, seniors, and small businesses to subsidize costs created by the largest energy users.
3. Ensure that data centers (and not residential ratepayers) are liable for any stranded costs if a facility closes or ends up needing less energy than it asked the utility to supply.
4. Require or strongly incentivize large-load customers to self-supply or procure clean, renewable energy and/or battery storage to mitigate environmental and grid-impact concerns.
5. Require consideration of all factors affecting the public interest, including affordability and grid reliability, but also public health and environmental impacts, such as emissions, water use, and land use.
6. Ensure transparency, public accountability, and stakeholder participation in the final adoption of the model tariff, including feedback from economic justice advocates, consumer advocates, and environmental groups, to ensure fairness beyond just cost allocation.