

My name is Kelly Forest. I live in Centre County PA and want to comment my concerns on the Commissioner's Tentative Order and proposed Model Tariff for Large Load Customers at docket number: M-2025-3054271.

As a homeowner who pays for electricity through West Penn Power, I am concerned about the increase of electrical loads that are associated with new data centers and other such facilities. My concerns are as follows:

1. The grid reliability with increased large load growth (in Centre County, we have had many power outages and surges in the last few years due to winds and large storms). If we add more load to the grid before dealing with our current grid's reliability, will we be facing more outages in our area.
2. Cost allocation and Ratepayer risk. I would like to see more language to make sure that these larger load facilities are not putting more costs and burden on the individual user.
3. I would like to see additional protections in the Ratepayer Protection Act (Senate Bill 1114)
4. I would like to see stronger regulatory guardrails.
5. I think there needs to be a minimum contract terms. Are data centers a "phase" that will be replaced by something else in the next 5-10 years. We need safeguards so that the companies are responsible for paying for the any updates in infrastructure that will definitely be needed as these data centers get built.
6. The community impacts are scary to me. There are environmental concerns: the strain on the water supply because a large data center can consume 5 billion gallons of water per day (which in turn puts strain on the wastewater treatment plant that has to handle all that extra water). The noise pollution from high frequency computer humming has shown to cause headaches, sleep problems, hearing loss and anxiety. Not to mention what it might do to the wildlife that lives near the data center. And how are we adding power to the grid? If we are using any fossil fuel to add electrons to the grid, that will adversely affect the climate, which is currently already in peril. And if natural gas is the fuel of choice, that will increase air pollution and the health of the people around these new natural gas plants.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that more thorough and thoughtful action must be taken to protect the individual rate payers of PA.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.
Kelly Forest