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Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge,  
Christopher P. Pell  
Administrative Law Judge,  
Barbara Shadie Nause  
PA Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

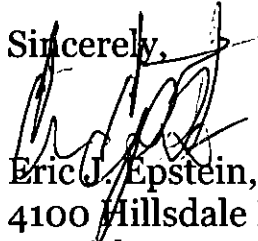
Your Honors:

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Enclosed please find Eric Joseph Epstein Statement in Support of the Settlement Re: Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Approval of Docket No. R-2025-3057164

Copies have been served on all parties of record.

Sincerely,



Eric J. Epstein, Pro se  
4100 Hillsdale Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17102



## I. INTRODUCTION.

Eric Joseph Epstein (“Epstein” or “Mr. Epstein”) is an active Intervenor in the above captioned case, and files the enclosed statement in support of the Joint Petition for Approval of the Non-Unanimous Settlement. (“Settlement.”)

The parties to this Settlement include PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (“PPL Electric” or the “Company”), the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement (“I&E”) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), the Office of Consumer Advocate (“OCA”), the Office of Small Business Advocate (“OSBA”), the Commission on Economic Opportunity (“CEO”), the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania (“CAUSE-PA”), Convergent Energy and Power LP (“Convergent”), Dimension PA 1 LLC (“Dimension”), U.S. Department of Defense and all other Federal Executive Agencies (“DOD/FEA”), Eric Joseph Epstein, the Environmental Intervenors (“EI” or “Environmental Intervenors”), the Energy Justice Advocates (“EJA”), the Joint Solar Advocates (“JSA”), PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance (“PPLICA”), the Retail Energy Supply Association (“RESA”), the Sustainable Energy Fund (“SEF”), and Walmart Inc. (“Walmart”).

The active parties who oppose the Settlement are the Customer-Generator Coalition (“CGC”) and the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (“PDMP”).

Mr. Epstein respectfully requests that Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge Christopher P. Pell (“ALJ Pell”) and Administrative Law Judge Barbara Shadie Nause (“ALJ Nause”), and the Commission approve this Settlement without modification.

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## II. STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT.

### COMMISSION POLICY FAVORS SETTLEMENT.

Commission policy promotes settlements. *See* 52 Pa. Code §5.231. Settlements lessen the time and expense that parties must expend litigating a case and, at the same time, conserve administrative resources. The Commission has indicated that settlement results are often preferable to those achieved at the conclusion of a fully litigated proceeding. *See* 52 Pa. Code §69.401. The Commission has explained that parties to settled cases are afforded flexibility in reaching amicable resolutions, so long as the settlement is in the public interest. *Pa. PUC v. MXenergy Electric Inc.*, Docket No. M-2012-2201861, 2013 Pa. PUC LEXIS 789, 310 P.U.R.4th 58 (Opinion and Order entered Dec. 5, 2013).

In order to approve a settlement, the Commission must first determine that the proposed terms and conditions are in the public interest. *Pa PUC v. Windstream Pennsylvania, LLC*, Docket No. M-2012-2227108, 2012 Pa. PUC LEXIS 1535 (Opinion and Order entered Sept. 27, 2012); *Pa. PUC v. C.S. Water and Sewer Assoc.*, Docket No. R-881147, 74 Pa. PUC 767 (Opinion entered July 22, 1991). Mr. Epstein believes that the Settlement is just and reasonable, in the public interest, and should be approved without modification.

## III. SETTLEMENT TERMS.

## **THE SETTLEMENT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.**

### **A. GENERAL**

The Settlement reflects a carefully balanced compromise of the competing interests of all of the active Parties in this proceeding. The Joint Petitioners which signed the Settlement agree it is in the public interest, and provide strong evidence that the Settlement is reasonable and in the public interest, particularly given the diverse interests of these Parties and the active role they have taken in this proceeding.

- Delivering greater reliability and resilience for customers by replacing aging infrastructure with stronger poles and equipment, installing animal, avian and lightning guards, enhancing tree trimming and removal intended to reduce outages, and expanding advanced smart grid technologies that accelerate restoration and improve service.
- Enhancing support for vulnerable customers by increasing hardship fund bill credits, improving access to assistance programs, eliminating reconnection fees, streamlining return of security deposits and boosting the annual low-income weatherization budget.
- Creating a new large load customer rate class and electric service tariff with a 10-year load and financial commitment. This new rate class will provide \$11 million in support for the residential low-income program, help reduce costs for residential customers, and include safeguards to manage increased demand from large load customers.
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### **B. SPECIFIC: PARAGRAPHS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.**

PPL has stipulated Mr. Epstein's I-3 regarding demand levels for 2025-2035, EE II-6 relating to large-load forecasting, and EE III- separating recovery of transmission costs with generating assets.

1. The admission of PPL Electric's responses to EE I-3, EE II-6, and EE III-1 into the evidentiary record (Tr. 844-846).
2. That PPL Electric cannot provide specific large load forecasts for the time period requested in EE I-1 beyond what was provided already, as any other projects have not reached the ESA stage, and the Company does not know when they will be in service to include into the load forecast.
3. That the Company has not sought the recovery of any costs associated with transition costs associated with owning and operating generation assets.

### **LARGE LOAD INTERCONNECTIONS.**

Mr. Epstein supports Paragraphs 91- 97, but reserves all rights with respect to the proceeding at Docket No. M-2025-3054271. The Parties agree that, following any final order of the Commission in the Docket No. M-2025-3054271 proceeding, any Party to this Settlement may make a filing before the Commission proposing to modify the LP-6 rate schedule to be consistent with the Commission's determination in the statewide proceeding at Docket No. M-2025-3054271 and that such a filing would not be construed as breaking this Settlement. All Parties reserve all rights with respect to such a filing made pursuant to this provision.

### **IV.VICE CHAIR BARROW'S OCTOBER 23, 2025 STATEMENT**

**Tracking Capital from Parent Company:** “I understand that utilities often file existing or relevant affiliated interest agreements involving financial transactions between or among them and their parent companies or subsidiaries/affiliates with the Commission. However, it is also important to note that often times these transactions may result in costs being inadvertently shifted to the utilities and ultimately gets passed to their ratepaying customers thereby negatively impacting such customers. Therefore, I implore the parties to critically review these transactions between PPL and its parents/affiliates in this investigation.”

Mr. Epstein discussed with the Company and submitted information requests relating to PPL’s relationship with Blackstone Infrastructure. In Appendix D, Proposed Findings of Fact, 147, PPL stipulated, “Parties also examined the joint venture and announced by PPL Corporation and Blackstone Infrastructure and raised issues concerning the appropriate protections against potential conflicts of interest,” 295 (Tr. 844-846.)

In addition, PPL stipulated to Epstein Set III-1 in which both parties agreed to respond to three compromise questions. Mr. Epstein wanted to ascertain the legal fees for outside counsel billed to ratepayers. PPL referred Mr. Epstein to I&E-RE-10-D Attachment 9, “the Company’s request for rate case expense in PPL Electric Fully Projected Future Exhibit 1 Scheduled D-6 includes \$1,500,000 in legal expenses.”

## **V. CONCLUSION**

Eric Joseph Epstein respectfully requests that Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge Christopher P. Pell and Administrative Law Judge Barbara Shadie Nause recommend approval of the Non-Unanimous Settlement and that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission approve this Joint Petition for Approval of Non-Unanimous Settlement of All Issues in its entirety and without modification.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Joseph Epstein, Pro se

Date: March 20, 2026

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this filing has been served upon the following persons, in the manner indicated, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

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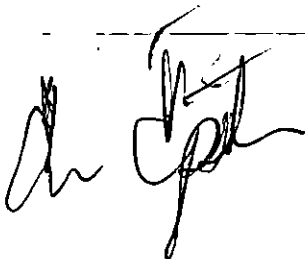
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Dated: March 20, 2026

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