

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Docket Number M-2025-3054271 – Tentative Order and Large Load Model Tariff

My name is Don Hawkins, from North Braddock in Allegheny County, one of the worst air-polluted counties in the country. I support the PUC in finalizing a strong Model Large Load Tariff to make sure those who USE the electricity PAY for the electricity, rather than have the public pay for it via subsidies or other incentives. We already have high electricity costs and high pollution rates. We, the people in general, and specifically "I," the author of this comment are against higher costs and/or more pollution.

AI data centers are already driving up electricity costs for everyone through increased demand, and Pennsylvania residents and small businesses are already paying record-high rates for electricity. Regular customers should not have to deplete their savings to pay for utility bills that are being driven up by massive tech companies that are not paying their fair share. Large load customers/AI data centers should conduct and pay for their own interconnection studies, which help make sure infrastructure buildout to serve a large load/ AI data center is done efficiently and in a way that minimizes costs. Large loads/AI data centers must be required to pay for the costs of remediating and cleaning up their site after closing down. Any costs related to the buildout of infrastructure needed to serve a new large load/AI data center should be fully covered by that large load customer/AI data center, or covered in part if they can prove that other customers also benefit. AI datacenters cannot vote, they can only bribe.

AI data centers should be required to bring their own, new, clean energy in order to access incentives and lowered charges. The PUC's mission includes protecting the public interest and that includes protecting my health and environment. Clean energy is quicker to build and deploy, avoiding concerns of "stranded assets" that are much more likely with the decades-long lifespan of gas-fired power plants. Energy efficiency, grid enhancing technologies, and advanced transmission technologies can also reduce a large load/AI data center's strain on the grid.

I don't want their bills or their pollution.

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