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Secretary, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Public Comment: Fair Cost Allocation for Large-Load Electric Customers
Docket No. M-2025-3054271

To the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:

I am writing to urge the Commission to adopt a clear principle for large-load electric customers, including data centers and AI-related facilities: companies that require extraordinary amounts of power should bear the costs created by that demand.

Economic development is important, and new industries should be welcome when they provide real benefit to the communities around them. However, growth cannot be allowed to shift private infrastructure costs onto residential customers, small businesses, or existing industries. Doing so directly affects the cost of living and the quality of life for the broader population. It is not fair.

If a company requires substantial new electric infrastructure or system upgrades in order to operate, those costs should be identified separately and assigned fairly. They should not simply be blended into general rates and passed along to customers who had no role in creating the need.

I respectfully ask the Commission to require a transparent cost-allocation process for large-load customers. At a minimum, utilities should be required to hold legacy customers harmless from costs created by new high-demand users, while assigning growth-related costs to the customers creating that demand. These large-load customers have the means, resources, and technical knowledge to help drive grid expansion and support the development of lower-cost power generation, while protecting existing ratepayers.

This is not an argument against technology, economic development, or data centers. It is an argument for fairness and accountability. If a private company needs an abundance of power to operate, the public should not be left guessing who is paying for it.

The standard should be simple: cost causers pay, existing ratepayers are protected, and host communities receive a fair return.

Thank you for considering this comment.
Sincerely,



Mark T Franklin, P.E.

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