

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Application of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G, for Approval to (1) Bifurcate and Rebuild 4.4 Miles of the Existing Sunbury-Susquehanna #1 230 kV Transmission Line; (2) Construct 0.9 Miles of New Transmission Line Tap for Future 230 kV Double-Circuit Operation; (3) Raise Approximately 0.5 Miles of the Sunbury-Susquehanna 500 kV Transmission Line; and (4) Construct 11.2 Miles of New Double-Circuit 230 kV Transmission Line for Future Double-Circuit 500 kV Capacity, Located in Black Creek, Hazle, Hollenback, Nescopeck, and Sugarloaf Townships in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

Docket No. A-2026-3061547

FORMAL PROTEST OF JOEL D. AND VICTORIA A. BUTALA

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

Joel D. Butala and Victoria A. Butala ("Protestants"), residing at 260 Mountain Road, Drums, Pennsylvania 18222, and the owners of approximately 18 acres of property off Kraska Road in Sugarloaf Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, hereby submit this Formal Protest to the above-captioned Application of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation ("PPL Electric" or "Applicant"), filed April 6, 2026 at Docket No. A-2026-3061547, and in support thereof state as follows.

I. INTEREST OF PROTESTANTS

1. Protestants are the owners of approximately 18 acres of property located off Kraska Road in Sugarloaf Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, upon which Protestants are currently constructing a single-family residence, with completion anticipated by December 2026.
2. Protestants understand that PPL Electric's currently preferred route for the proposed Sugarloaf 500/230 kV Transmission Line (the "Project") is designated as Route A and does not directly traverse Protestants' property. However, one or more alternative routes under consideration in this proceeding, including Route B and Route B1, would directly and materially affect Protestants' property and its current use, development, and value.

3. As such, Protestants have a direct, immediate, and substantial interest in this proceeding, both with respect to whether the Project is necessary at all, and with respect to which route, if any, the Commission ultimately approves.

II. GROUNDS FOR PROTEST

A. The Application Does Not Adequately Demonstrate Need for the Project

4. Protestants protest the Application on the grounds that PPL Electric has not adequately demonstrated that the Project, as proposed, is necessary or required to serve existing or reasonably forecasted customer demand.

5. Protestants are informed and believe that a substantial portion of the load growth cited by PPL Electric in support of the Project is attributable to speculative or not-yet-firm large-load customers, including proposed data center development in the region (including but not limited to the NorthPoint Development project commonly referred to as “Project Hazelnut”). Protestants request that the Commission require PPL Electric to substantiate, with firm and verifiable load data, the actual need underlying the scope and scale of the Project, including the requested 500 kV future capacity.

6. Protestants further request that the presiding Administrative Law Judges and the Commission closely scrutinize whether more limited, less impactful alternatives — including non-transmission alternatives, demand-side measures, or a smaller-scope upgrade — would adequately address any verified need, before approving construction of new high-voltage transmission infrastructure of the scope proposed.

B. Route and Impact Concerns Specific to Protestants' Property

7. To the extent the Commission considers any routing alternative other than PPL Electric's preferred Route A — including Route B, Route B1, or any other alternative that would traverse or come within proximity of Protestants' property off Kraska Road — Protestants object to such alternative routing on the grounds that it would impose direct and substantial adverse impacts on Protestants, including but not limited to impacts on their property's current construction, future use and enjoyment, aesthetics, and value.

8. Protestants accordingly request that, should the Commission find that the Project (or some modified version of it) is necessary, the Commission approve PPL Electric's another route that does not traverse or materially affect Protestants' property, in preference to Route B, Route B1, or similar alternatives.

III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

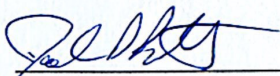
WHEREFORE, Protestants respectfully request that the Commission:

- (a) Grant this Formal Protest and admit Protestants as parties of record in this proceeding;
- (b) Require PPL Electric to substantiate the need for the Project with firm, verifiable load data, including the extent to which forecasted load growth depends on speculative large-load or data center customers;
- (c) Decline to approve any route, including Route B or Route B1, that would traverse or materially affect Protestants' property off Kraska Road, Sugarloaf Township;
- (d) Grant Protestants such other and further relief as the Commission deems just and proper.

IV. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

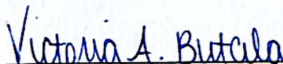
Protestants are currently appearing pro se and reserve the right to retain counsel at any later stage of this proceeding. Should Protestants retain counsel, such counsel will enter an appearance in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 1.24(b), and this Protest shall remain in full force and effect.

Respectfully submitted,



Joel D. Butala

260 Mountain Road
Drums, PA 18222



Victoria A. Butala

260 Mountain Road

Drums, PA 18222

Date: 7/2/26

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Formal Protest upon the presiding Administrative Law Judges and all parties of record in this proceeding, in accordance with the service list for Docket No. A-2026-3061547, by mail or email, as follows:

Presiding Officers

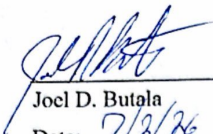
The Honorable Emily A. Farren
The Honorable Steven K. Haas
Office of Administrative Law Judge
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor West
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Counsel for PPL:

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