

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held August 6, 2026

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.
Ralph V. Yanora

Letter of Notification of PPL Electric Utilities
Corporation for Approval to Construct new
138/69 kV Transmission Lines in Upper
Macungie Township, Lehigh County,
Pennsylvania

A-2026-3062204

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 1, 2026, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL Electric), Utility Code 110500, filed a Letter of Notification pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(vi) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's (Commission) transmission line siting regulation. For the reasons expressed in this Order, the Letter of Notification is approved.

Copies of the Letter of Notification were served in accordance with Section 57.72(d)(3) and 57.74(b) & (c), 52 Pa. Code §§ 57.72(d)(3), 57.74(b) & (c). No

protests were filed. No hearings were held.

PPL Electric requests approval to construct new 138/69 kV transmission lines in Upper Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. PPL Electric states that the first phase of the project consists of extending a 69 kV double-circuit tap line approximately 0.5 miles from the existing AT&T R&D 138/69 kV Tap Transmission Line to the new, customer owned TEK Park 138/69-13 kV Substation. PPL Electric also states that the new line will be known as the TEK Park 138/69 kV Tap Lines. PPL Electric further states that the second phase of the project consists of extending a 69 kV line approximately 0.75 miles from the existing Breinigsville 500-138-69 kV Substation to the new TEK Park 138/69 kV Tap Lines. Finally, PPL Electric states that the lines will be designed for conversion from 69 kV to 138 kV to accommodate additional load growth. Application, Attachment 1, pages 1 & 5.

PPL Electric submits that the construction of the subject project is necessary to provide an existing customer with a second 69 kV source. PPL Electric also submits that the customer load addition will result in the loading on the Breinigsville – West Trexlertown #1 & #2 138/69 kV lines exceeding the PPL Electric Planning Standard of 60 MW of load on a radial double-circuit line. Additionally, PPL Electric submits that the proposed second phase will increase the operational flexibility and resiliency of the 69 kV system and allow for future load growth. PPL Electric further submits that the new lines will allow for the approximately 2,700 customers that are currently radially fed from West Trexlertown 69-12kV substation, as well as the customer's AT&T R&D Substation and the future TEK Park Substation, to be transferred for maintenance and unplanned outages. Also, the subject project will allow PPL Electric to serve the customer's final load of approximately 100 MW. PPL Electric submits that it presented the need for the subject project at the July 2024, September 2024, and March 2025 Regional Transmission Expansion Plan meeting and assigned supplemental project number s3556. Application,

Attachment 1, pages 5-6 and PPL Electric Data Request Response No. 1.

PPL Electric submits that to facilitate the subject project it will remove one existing transmission structure and install nineteen new transmission structures. PPL Electric also submits that the new structures range from approximately 56 feet in height to approximately 125 feet in height and that existing transmission structure to be removed is approximately 75 feet in height. Additionally, PPL Electric submits that the new structures will support the single 795 kcmil 30/19 aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR) Mallard line. PPL Electric further submits that the subject project has been designed and will be built entirely within PPL Electric property or the customer's property. Finally, PPL Electric submits that the right-of-way is approximately 100 feet in width and that all necessary right-of-way has been obtained. Application, Attachment 2, pages 1-3; and PPL Electric Data Request Response Nos. 2 & 6.

PPL Electric asserts that the subject project will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that meets or surpasses all applicable PPL Electric and National Electrical Safety Code minimum standards and all applicable legal requirements. Application ¶24.

PPL Electric states that the estimated cost for the first phase of the subject project is approximately \$2.7 million and that estimated cost for the second phase of the subject project is approximately \$1.9 million. PPL Electric also states that the cost of the first phase will be paid for by the customer and the second phase will be paid for by PPL Electric. PPL Electric states that construction of the project is anticipated to commence in August 2026, with a proposed in-service date of June 2027. Application page 2.

Section 57.72 authorizes the abbreviated Letter of Notification siting application process in lieu of an application for the following:

- (i) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely on an existing transmission line right-of-way, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (ii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within a public road.
- (iii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within applicant's existing transmission line right-of-way and the property of the sole customer to be served by the line, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (iv) A line for which the voltage is proposed to be increased above its present levels so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (v) An HV line which is to be reconductored or reconstructed so long as the size, character, design or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way
- (vi) An HV line having a proposed route of 2 miles or less.

52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d).

We agree with PPL Electric that the formal Letter of Notification and manner in which it was filed conforms to the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(vi) because the subject project constructs new 138/69 kV transmission lines which are less than two miles in length. Moreover, the Commission has reviewed the filing and does not find it to

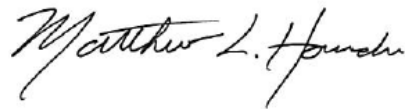
be inconsistent with the applicable law or Commission policy regarding transmission line siting and, therefore, to be in the public interest.

We also note that our approval of the Letter of Notification does not address the issues of accounting treatment, and cost recovery; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Letter of Notification of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for approval to construct new 138/69 kV transmission lines in Upper Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, is hereby approved.
2. That upon completion of the subject project, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation shall file the final project cost with the Commission.
3. That upon completion of Ordering Paragraph 2, this proceeding at Docket No. A-2026-3062204 be closed.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew L. Homsher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary

ORDER ADOPTED: August 6, 2026

ORDER ENTERED: August 6, 2026