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House of Representatives
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September 23, 2026

Docket No. P-2026-3060298

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Homsher:

I respectfully urge the Commission to reject the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Decision in Docket No. P-2026-3060298. Specifically, the Commission must reject any proposal or recommendation that mandates or favors the automatic transfer of electric generation supplier (EGS) customers to utility default service upon the expiration of their chosen supply contract. Adopting a policy of automatic transfer to default service directly undermines the Commonwealth's competitive retail electric market, harms long-term consumer choice, and misinterprets the foundational principles of the Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act (66 Pa. C.S. §§ 2801 et seq.).

Mandating an automatic transfer of EGS customers back to default service represents improper administrative overreach that exceeds the authority delegated to the Commission by the General Assembly. Under the Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act, the General Assembly explicitly established a legislative policy preference for competitive retail markets over utility monopoly supply.

The legislature designed default service as a narrow backstop and not a default destination or a preferred source of supply. By administrative decree, the Recommended Decision attempts to rewrite the statutory scheme by elevating default service into a primary, automatic option upon contract expiration. Where the General Assembly deliberately enacted the law to promote retail

choice the Commission cannot alter that legislative mandate or create structural biases in favor of default service with this administrative diktat. Such action improperly encroaches upon legislative prerogative and violates settled principles of administrative law.

Furthermore, automatic transfer to default service distorts the retail market and stifles competition. Forcing customers back onto default service automatically upon contract expiration creates an anti-competitive advantage for the electric distribution company. When the Commission tilts regulatory mechanisms toward automatically funneling customers back to utility default service, it undermines EGS customer retention, discourages market innovation, and suppresses competitive market engagement.

Customers who actively choose to leave default service and select a competitive supplier have made a deliberate decision to participate in the open market. Treating the expiration of a fixed-term contract as an immediate preference to abandon retail choice ignores customer intent. Instead of forcing an automatic drop to default service, regulatory policy should honor clear supplier disclosure standards, existing renewal notice procedures, and continuous competitive options that preserve customer autonomy without forcing a return to a utility monopoly supply.

The Recommended Decision fails to properly weigh the structural harms to competitive markets. Adopting a rule that forces EGS contract expirations into default service sets a dangerous precedent that will erode retail shopping participation across Pennsylvania and is a gross overreach of administrative authority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl Walker Metzgar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carl" being the most prominent.

Chairman Carl Walker Metzgar
Consumer Protection, Technology, Utilities Committee
69th Legislative District



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