

## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

December 11, 2007

Re: Commission Process for Filing, Review and Approval of Electric

**Distribution Company Consumer Education Plans** 

**Docket No.: M-00061957** 

To All Electric Distribution Companies:

With this Secretarial Letter, the Commission reminds electric distribution companies of the obligation to submit consumer education plans required pursuant to the Commission's Order in Docket No. M-00061957, and provides further guidance as to its process for the filing, review and approval of these plans. With this process it is the Commission's intent to facilitate the approval of the plans while allowing all interested parties an opportunity to be heard.

On May 17, 2007, the Commission entered a Final Order at Docket No. M-00061957 regarding policies to mitigate potential electricity price increases that follow the expiration of generation rate caps. In that order, the Commission directed all electric distribution companies to prepare and file a consumer education plan by December 31, 2007, for Commission review and approval.

The Commission directed that the plans document programs and an implementation schedule to address the Energy Education Standards be identified. The education plans are to be in effect for at least five years, at which point the transition to market prices for all territories will be complete. For those EDCs in service territories where rate caps have already expired, the Commission directed that the education plans focus on practical steps customers can take to reduce their electric bills through energy conservation, retail choice and low-income programs. The Commission further directed that the education plans include a proposed budget and a specific cost-recovery mechanism. EDCs are encouraged to note how the results of its outreach will be measured to ascertain whether tactics and information used are effective, and to ensure funds are spent in a cost-effective manner. Cost-saving partnerships among EDCs are encouraged.

Each EDC is directed to file, by December 31, 2007, an original and three copies of its consumer education plan with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Attn: Secretary, P.O. Box 3265, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105. Copies are also to be served upon OTS, OCA, and OSBA. Each EDC shall also submit an electronic copy of its plan to the PUC

Manager of Communications, Tom Charles, at thcharles@state.pa.us. The Commission shall post each plan on the Commission's website.

The Commission will review each plan and issue a tentative order approving, rejecting or modifying each plan. Thereafter, the EDC and interested parties will have 15 days to file comments or request an evidentiary hearing before the Office of Administrative Law Judge. If no comments or petitions are filed within the 15 day period, the tentative order will become final. If comments or petitions are filed the Commission will consider the comments and issue a final order and/or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for hearings. For further clarification, please contact PUC Manager of Communications, Tom Charles at 717-787-9504.

Sincerely,

James J. McNulty Secretary

cc: Bureau of Consumer Services
Law Bureau
Office of Communications
Office of Consumer Advocate
Office of Small Business Advocate
Office of Trial Staff
All parties who previously provided comments under Docket No. M-00061957