

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265

**Petition of PECO Energy Company
For Approval of its Act 129 Energy
Efficiency and Conservation Plan
And Expedited Approval of its Compact
Fluorescent Lamp Program**

**Public Meeting: October 15, 2009
2093215-OSA
Docket No: M-2009-2093215**

Statement of Vice Chairman Tyrone J. Christy

Before the Commission for consideration is the Petition of PECO Energy Company (PECO) for Approval of its Act 129 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan (Plan). PECO filed this Plan pursuant to Act 129 of 2008 (Act 129) and our Implementation Order of January 16, 2009 at Docket No. M-2008-2069887. Numerous parties intervened, filed comments, main briefs and reply briefs, and the entire record was certified to the Commission for consideration and disposition.

First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Commission employees within the Office of Special Assistants, the Law Bureau, the Bureau of Conservation, Economics and Energy Planning, the Bureau of Fixed Utility Services, the Bureau of Consumer Services, the Office of Administrative Law Judge and the Office of Trial Staff for their efforts in these complex proceedings involving our major jurisdictional electric utilities. I commend them for providing thorough and extensive Opinion and Orders for each of these proceedings, simultaneously and under a strict legislative timeline. This has truly been a team effort which deserves our recognition. I also would like to thank the many intervenors for their efforts and participation in these proceedings.

I specifically wish to address PECO's proposed Home Energy Incentive Program offer of rebates to residential customers that replace their electric baseboard and heat pump space heating systems and their electric water heaters with high efficiency gas space heating and hot water heating systems. The Commission has decided to allow PECO's inclusion of this fuel switching component as filed subject to the recommendations of the fuel switching working group, and I wholeheartedly agree. When PECO's rate caps expire on January 1, 2011, customers served on Rate RH could experience one of the largest rate increases of all classes of customers because these customers presently receive a discounted rate as compared to non-heating customers on Rate R. For this reason, I fully support the additional measures proposed by PECO to provide another option to assist these customers and an incentive for them to switch to an alternate heating source.

I am voting today to approve PECO's Plan as modified by this Opinion and Order, but I do have an overriding concern about the overall cost effectiveness of the Plan. It is very important that the Commission exercise judicial efficiency during the implementation phase of the Plan elements. This Order includes numerous requirements regarding meetings, stakeholder

working groups, evaluation reports and other regulatory mandates. As we strive for perfection in the implementation of Act 129, we must be careful to preserve the expected savings for Pennsylvania's electric consumers and not evaporate these savings with overly burdensome administrative and regulatory related costs.

DATE

VICE CHAIRMAN TYRONE J. CHRISTY