

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265**

**Petition of West Penn Power Company
d/b/a/ Allegheny Power for Acceleration of
its Competitive Procurement Plan and
Request for Expedited Consideration**

**Public Meeting – March 12, 2009
1332812-OSA
Docket No. P-00072342**

STATEMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN TYRONE J. CHRISTY

I support the motion of Commissioner Powelson to grant the Petition of West Penn Power Company d/b/a Allegheny (Allegheny) for Acceleration of its Competitive Procurement Plan. Allegheny voluntarily is seeking authorization to accelerate the procurement of its residential power supply at what appears to be an opportune time for its customers. While we can't precisely pinpoint the bottom of the energy market, wholesale power prices in PJM have fallen from approximately 8.0 – 9.0 cents per kwh to approximately 4.0 cents per kwh in the last nine months. This would appear to be a good time to begin laddered purchases of power.

While I support this motion, I continue to oppose the full requirements approach imbedded in this default service plan. I continue to believe that a full requirements approach adds an unnecessary risk premium to default service and limits the number of potential power suppliers. Having said that, the proposal we are approving today is a positive step toward active portfolio management, which I believe is consistent with the provisions of Act 129.

DATE

TYRONE J. CHRISTY, VICE CHAIRMAN