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September 7, 2011

BY HAND DELIVERY

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor (filing room) PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265 2011 SEP -7 PK 3: LI

Re:

Petition of West Penn Power Company for Amendment of the Orders Approving Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan and Petition for Approval of Amended Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan; Docket No. M-2009-2093218; ANSWER AND COMMENTS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY TO THE PETITION OF WEST PENN POWER COMPANY

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing with the Public Utility Commission are an original and three (3) copies of the Answer and Comments of The Pennsylvania State University ("PSU") to the Petition of West Penn Power Company. Copies have been served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Sniscak William E. Lehman

Counsel for The Pennsylvania State University

TJS/das Enclosures

cc:

Honorable Dennis J. Buckley Per the Certificate of Service

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of West Penn Power Company, for Amendment of the Orders Approving Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan,

Docket No. M-2009-2093218

and Petition for Approval of Amended Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan

ANSWER AND COMMENTS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY TO THE PETITION OF WEST PENN POWER COMPANY

- 1. On or about August 9, 2011, West Penn Power Company ("West Penn" or the "Company"), filed with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission" or "PUC") a Petition for Amendment of the Orders Approving Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan, and Petition for Approval of Amended Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan ("EE&C Plan").
- 2. PSU is a major customer of West Penn at its University Park Campus, receiving service through West Penn's Tariff 37. PSU is the only customer taking service under Tariff 37. PSU also receives service from West Penn under Rate Schedules other than Tariff 37 for approximately 100 additional accounts at the University Park Campus and campuses at New Kingston, Fayette, and Mont Alto.

PSU will be represented by the following counsel in this matter:

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PA PUC
SEPRETARY'S BUREAU

- 3. PSU intervened in the proceeding and participated as an active party throughout. The focus of PSU's intervention and participation was and remains the EE&C Plan services for Tariff 37.
- 4. PSU is currently reviewing West Penn's EE&C Plan; however, at this preliminary stage PSU has concerns about the proposed surcharge mechanism in the allocation of EE&C Plan costs to and the recovery of EE&C Plan costs from Tariff 37 and other tariffs under which PSU takes service.
- 5. PSU also has serious concerns about the reliability and cost impacts of the proposed Conservation Voltage Reduction ("CVR") Program on PSU. Specifically, PSU's system is designed to work within a range of voltages, set by the PUC by means of its regulations. A reduction in voltage would cause motor loads to increase to maintain needed horsepower which could cause premature failure. These motors are frequently used in small stand-alone cooling systems serving critical research or computing rooms. Failures may have extremely costly consequences. In addition, where low voltages are determined to cause problems, PSU may be forced to raise the individual building voltage in 2.5% steps, which will have the undesirable effect of increasing some consumption. While West Penn suggests that major problems would be quickly detected after the fact, there are insufficient details in the EE&C Plan as to what protective and preventative methods and procedures will be in place. Thus, additional safeguards may be necessary to ensure that major problems are prevented or avoided in the first place.
- 6. While reserving the right to present additional issues as this matter progresses, and to respond and if necessary to present evidence or comments to any position taken by any party that is adverse to PSU, at the present time, PSU intends to raise the following for Commission consideration:

a. Is the EE&C Plan for Tariff 37 and other tariffs under which PSU takes service reasonable and appropriate and consistent with statutory requirements and regulatory principles?

b. Is the allocation of EE&C Plan costs to Tariff 37 and other tariffs under which PSU takes service reasonable and appropriate and consistent with statutory requirements and regulatory principles?

c. Is the recovery of EE&C Plan costs from Tariff 37 and other tariffs under which PSU takes service reasonable and appropriate and consistent with statutory requirements and regulatory principles?

d. Will the CVR have negative impacts on PSU's operation and maintenance of its facilities?

e. Are additional safeguards, protective measures, notifications, customer-utility collaboration or reporting necessary for the CVR program and to promote reasonable service?

WHEREFORE, The Pennsylvania State University respectfully requests that the Commission consider its Answer and Comments in its consideration of West Penn's EE&C Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Sniscak

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Counsel for

The Pennsylvania State University

Dated: September 7, 2011

VERIFICATION

I, Robert E. Cooper, Director, Energy and Engineering, The Pennsylvania State University ("PSU"), hereby state that the facts set forth in the foregoing document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I or any representative or witness on behalf of PSU expect to be able to prove the same at any hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date 9711

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Dated this 7th day of September 2011.