**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company :

Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania : M-2013-2341990

Power Company, and West Penn Power Company : M-2013-2341991

for Approval of their Smart Meter Deployment : M-2013-2341993

Plan : M-2013-2341994

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

In accordance with the provisions of 66 Pa. C.S. § 333 and 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.221, an Initial Prehearing Conference has been scheduled for the above-captioned cases in Hearing Room 3, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. Participation may be telephonic provided that you let the presiding officer know by no later than Friday, February 15, 2013, of a telephone number that you can be reached at.

Notice of the above-referenced Smart Meter Deployment Plan appeared in the January 19, 2013 Pennsylvania Bulletin with a comment period ending on February 8, 2013. 43 *Pa.Bull.* 419. Interested parties/intervenors should notify the Commission by that deadline of their intent to participate in these proceedings.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an Initial Prehearing Conference shall be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, in Hearing Room 3, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

2. That absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled prehearing conference. Failure of a party to participate in the conference, after being served with notice of the time thereof, without good cause shown, shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and an order or ruling with respect thereto.

3. That all parties shall review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa. Code § 5.331(b), which provides, among other things, that “a party shall initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa. Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa. Code 5.371-5.372.

4. That pursuant to 52 Pa.Code § 1.55, each party shall be limited to one entry on the service list. Parties shall provide the name, business address, business telephone number, business telefacsimile number (if any), and business e-mail address (if any) of the person they wish to have listed on the service list. However, there may be an unlimited number of witnesses and counsel on the e-mail distribution list.

5. That pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21-1.23, you may represent yourself, if you are an individual, or you may have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, you must have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall insure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code § 1.24(b).

6. That the parties shall be prepared for an a discussion of the proposed schedule in this proceeding as well as any anticipated issues, procedural or substantive, and any requests for a public input hearing. Parties’ representatives shall be fully authorized to make commitments, both procedural and substantive, on behalf of their represented party.

7. That the parties shall be prepared to discuss the following proposed schedule (assuming consolidation of the dockets) in this matter.

SCHEDULE

Deployment Plan and Supporting Testimony December 31, 2012

Intervention Deadline February 8, 2013

Prehearing Conference February 19, 2013

Public Input Hearing only if requested

Other Parties’ Direct Testimony March 8, 2013

Rebuttal Testimony March 29, 2013

Surrebuttal Testimony April 12, 2013

Evidentiary Hearing/ Oral Rejoinder April 18, 2013

Main briefs May 8, 2013

Reply briefs/comments and/or revised plan May 22, 2013

ALJ Recommended decision July 25, 2013

Commission decision September 26, 2013

 8. That the parties shall be prepared to discuss a consolidation of the proceedings for purposes of an evidentiary hearing.

 9. That the parties shall be prepared to discuss any need for public input hearings, protective orders and any petitions to intervene that are filed to the above-referenced docket numbers.

 10. That on or before **Friday, February 15, 2013**, the parties shall serve the presiding officer and each other with a prehearing conference memorandum addressing each of the subjects to be discussed above.

Date: January 30, 2013 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Elizabeth H. Barnes

 Administrative Law Judge

**M-2013-2341990, M-2013-2341991, M-2013-2341993, and M-2013-2341994**

**Joint Petition of Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and West Penn Power Company for Approval of their Smart Meter Deployment Plan.**

TANYA MCCLOSKEYOFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE555 WALNUT STREET FIFTH FLOOR FORUM PLACEHARRISBURG PA 17101-1923717-783-5048SHARON WEBB ESQUIREOFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATESUITE 1102300 NORTH SECOND STREETHARRISBURG PA 17101717-783-2525RICHARD A KANASKIE ESQUIREPA PUC BIE LEGAL TECHNICALSECOND FLOOR WEST400 NORTH STREETHARRISBURG PA 17120717-783-6184***E-Served***

Kathy J Kolich Esquire

First Energy Service Company

76 South Main Street

Akron OH 44308

330-384-4580

***E-Served***

JOHN F POVILAITIS ESQUIREBUCHANAN INGERSOLL AND ROONEY PC409 NORTH SECOND STREET SUITE 500HARRISBURG PA 17101-1357717-237-4825***E-Served***

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215.963.5952

***E-Served***