**PENNSYLVANIA**

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**Harrisburg, PA. 17105-3265**

 Public Meeting held May 23, 2013

Commissioners Present:

Robert F. Powelson, Chairman

John F. Coleman, Jr., Vice Chairman

James H. Cawley,

Wayne E. Gardner,

Pamela A. Witmer

Request for Approval of Appointment of Docket No. M-00031715F0003

Robert S. Thomson to the Board of Directors

of the Sustainable Energy Fund of

Central Eastern Pennsylvania

**ORDER**

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

Before the Commission is a letter petition of the PPL Sustainable Energy

Fund of Central Eastern Pennsylvania (SEF) filed on March 5, 2013, and amended letter petition filed on April 5, 2013, for approval of one individual to its Board of Directors. This approval is required under the PPL Company restructuring settlement. *Application of Pennsylvania Power & Light Company for Approval of its Restructuring Plan Under Section 2806 of the Public Utility Code, et al, Docket No. R-00973954* (Opinion and Order entered August 27, 1998). Commission approval of the proposed director is also required by SEF’s governing bylaws. *PP&L Inc. Sustainable Energy Fund By-laws, Docket No. R-00973954* (Order entered June 2, 2000). The governing bylaws of the SEF were most recently updated in 2011. *Request for Approval of Revisions to the Bylaws of the PPL Sustainable Energy Fund of Central Eastern Pennsylvania, Docket No. M-00031715F0003* (Order entered April 1, 2011).

There currently exists one vacancy on the SEF Board of Directors. The SEF’s Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve Robert S. Thomson at its Board meeting of February 27, 2013. Mr. Thomson will be replacing former SEF Board member G. Scott Paterno who resigned his position on the Board. Mr. Paterno’s resignation was formally accepted at the SEF Board meeting on April 24, 2013.

Robert S. Thomson brings a comprehensive skill set to the SEF Board. As a Regional Manager of Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Mr. Robert Thomson engages with many startup and existing businesses in which sustainable energy and energy efficiency practices are a major factor from both the conservation and strategic business/profitability aspects. Ben Franklin Technology Partners is one of the nation’s longest-running economic development programs and provides both early-state and established companies with funding, business, and technical expertise and access to a network of innovative, expert resources.  Mr. Thomson has been employed at Ben Franklin Technologies Partners since 1987 and has served as Regional Manager since 2000.  Mr. Thomson has non-profit Board member experience with Leadership Lehigh Valley, National Business Incubation Association, and Center for Humanistic Change.  Mr. Thomson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Natural Sciences from University of Pennsylvania, a Master of Science degree in Mineral Processing from Pennsylvania State University, and a Master of Business Administration degree from Lehigh University.

Mr. Thomson has a strong interest in the mission of the SEF from both a personal and professional standpoint.  He has prior non-profit Board member experience, nonprofit and community involvement and a technical and project management skill set that will add value to the SEF Board.

The SEF’s Board and staff, in conjunction with its consultant, Executive Service Corps of the Lehigh Valley, conducted a search process for a qualified board member. The search process was conducted in conformity to the SEF’s bylaws, as amended, and as approved by the Commission. Further, the recruitment process was followed according to the PA Sustainable Energy Board Best Practice for Nomination, Election and Approval of Directors.

Based on a review of all relevant information, we find this nominee to be well qualified to serve on the SEF’s Board of Directors and he is, thereby, approved.

**THEREFORE**,

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That the nomination of Mr. Robert S. Thomson to the Sustainable Energy Fund Board of Directors is approved.

2. That a copy of this order be served on the Sustainable Energy Fund and Mr. Robert S. Thomson, the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate.



BY THE COMMISSION

 Rosemary Chiavetta

 Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: May 23, 2013

ORDER ENTERED: May 23, 2013