



2800 Pottsville Pike  
P.O. Box 16001  
Reading, PA 19612-6001

610-929-3601

August 1, 2013

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

***Re: Major Event Exclusion Request – West Penn Power Company –  
May 14-15, 2013***

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

Pursuant to the major event exclusion requirements as established by Commission Order at Docket No. M-00991220, West Penn Power Company (“West Penn Power”) hereby submits for filing its written request of exclusion for reliability reporting purposes of service interruptions that occurred between May 14-15, 2013.

This request seeks Commission approval to exclude for reliability reporting purposes the interruption of service to customers in West Penn Power’s service area for the period from 3:08 p.m. on May 14, 2013 to 6:38 p.m. on May 14, 2013 because it qualifies as a major event under 52 Pa. Code § 57.192(B). This event was an unscheduled interruption of electric service resulting from and action taken by Pennsylvania Electric Company to maintain the adequacy and security of its transmission system which ultimately affected West Penn Power customers. A total of 2,823 West Penn Power customers were affected, resulting in 588,654 customer minutes associated with this event.

All correspondence regarding this matter should be directed to my attention at the above address, with a copy to Tiffanne Cowan at the following address:

76 S. Main Street  
Akron, Ohio 44308.

Please contact me at (610) 921-6060 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

David J. Karafa  
President, Pennsylvania Operations

Enclosures

c: Darren Gill – Bureau of Technical Utility Services  
Dan Searfoorce – Bureau of Technical Utility Services

REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION OF MAJOR OUTAGE FOR  
 RELIABILITY REPORTING PURPOSES TO  
 PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
 P O BOX 3265  
 HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

Information Required:

1. Requesting Utility: West Penn Power Company  
 Address: 2800 Pottsville Pike  
Reading, PA 19612

2. Name and title of person making request:

David J Karafa

*(Name)*

President, Pennsylvania

Operations

*(Title)*

3. Telephone number: (610) 921-6060

*(Telephone Number)*

4. Interruption or Outage:

(a) Number of customers affected: 2,823 customers were affected  
 Total number of customers in service territory: 706,303 total customers in the service territory

(b) Number of troubled locations in each geographic area affected listed by county and local political subdivision:

County	Outages	Outage Cases	Trouble Cases
Potter	2,823	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,823</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

(c) Reason for interruption or outage, including weather data where applicable:  
The interruption was due to an unscheduled emergency interruption that was required to isolate a transmission breaker switch (D-22) at the E. Towanda – 115 kV transmission line as a result of a high temperature reading. The Transmission System Operator determined the best course of action was to immediately open breaker causing an unscheduled interruption, of service to 2,823 West Penn Power customers. The emergency switching was determined to be necessary in order to preserve the integrity and security of the transmission system. See Appendix A for the Reading

Control Center Summary of Events and Event Time Line.

- (d) The number of utility workers and others assigned specifically to the repair work:

Company	# of Workers	General Function
West Penn Power	7	Linemen
West Penn Power	12	Supporting Roles
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>19</b>	

- (e) The date and time of the first notification of a service interruption:  
May 14, 2013 at 3:08 PM.

- (f) The actual time that service was restored to the last affected customer:  
May 14, 2013 at 06:38 PM.

Remarks: This request seeks Commission approval to exclude from reliability reporting purposes the interruption of service to customers as a result of the significant weather system because it qualifies as a major event under 52 Pa. Code § 57.192(B), consistent with prior Commission approvals. An unscheduled interruption of electric service resulting from an action taken by an EDC to maintain the adequacy and security of the electrical system, including emergency load control, emergency switching and energy conservation procedures, as described in § 57.52 (relating to emergency load control and energy conservation by electric utilities), which affects at least one customer.

## APPENDIX A

### Summary of Event:

On May 14, 2013 a field employee from central electric labs was performing scheduled thermo vision at East Towanda Substation. The employee observed the D22 bus side disconnect for the B20 (Everts Drive Breaker at East Towanda) was glowing red, dripping metal and was at 750 degrees C and rising. Employee attempted to notify Penelec field supervisor but was not able to contact them. The employee then contacted the Reading Control Center (RCC) at 1506 to report the condition. After determining the specific location of the switch, the Transmission System Operator made the decision that the best course of action was to open the B20 breaker. This was done to avoid a catastrophic failure of the switch that could have impacted the overall bulk electric system. Due to maintenance being performed on the Bus Section breaker at Potter Substation and line work between the Potter and Two Mile Substations, this caused the 115 KV lines between East Towanda and Two Mile Substations to be de-energized. This caused approximately 20,000 customers of Penelec and West Penn Power to be taken out of service.

After discussion between RCC, the Fairmont Control Center (FCC) and Penelec Substation and RDO Management, a plan was established to restore the load at Potter Substation. It was determined that the crews working at Potter and on the line section between Two Mile and Potter could clear off. This would allow the Potter Substation to be restored from Farmers Valley via Two Mile. At 1811 the crews had cleared off and Potter load was restored from Farmers Valley. However the 115 Bus Section Breaker at Potter could not be restored due to a lack of protection. Therefore the remainder of the line east of Potter could not be restored. Based on the situation at Potter, it was decided that the switch at East Towanda would be exercised and if it appeared to close properly the breaker would be closed. This was done and the breaker was closed. After 45 minutes, it was observed that the switch was continuing to heat up. The decision was then made to open the breaker and do temporary repairs to the switch. This was accomplished by temporarily jumpering out the switch.

The switching was commenced at 1902, the work was completed at 2320, transmission system was completely restored at 0059 on Wednesday and all customers were restored by 0315.

### Event Time Line

- 15:06 - Call Received by RCC from field of Emergency Situation at East Towanda Substation
- 15:09 - RCC opened B20 breaker at East Towanda Substation which de-energized the 115 KV from East Towanda to Potter Substation
- 15:11 - Penelec RDO contacts RCC to inquire about the situation at East Towanda
- 15:15 – FCC contacts RCC to determine issue that impacted Potter Substation
- 15:18 - Penelec RDO Began Distribution Switching to restore customers.
- 15:22 – RCC notified Penelec RDO that Line was out of service from East Towanda to Potter
- 15:35 - Penelec RDO completes all possible Distribution switching, restoring 6,871 customers. RCC had the Blossburg CT started per Penelec RDO request.
- RCC worked with Penelec and FCC to determine what best options were to proceed with restoring customers
  - Have crews clear off of Potter and Two Mile section of Farmers Valley Potter line to restore load at Potter.
  - Due to the protection being unavailable at Potter the line between Potter and Niles Valley could not be restored. The decision was made to have crew on site at East Towanda exercise switch to determine if the switching was corrected and restore the line.

- FCC determined that it would best to wait until Potter Substation was restored vs. switching at multiple locations on the sub transmission to restore a portion of the customer served out of Potter.
- 17:18 - Penelec crew felt switch was exercised and seated properly and B20 breaker was closed and loaded slowly while being monitored with thermo vision to determine if switch was heating. Tower Hill and Wellsboro Electric restored to provide loading (1,620 customers).
- 17:58 - Crew determined that the switch was continuing to heat up and B20 breaker was opened again, dropping 1,620 customers.
- 18:11- Line between Two Mile and Potter Restored which restored the West Penn customers served out of Potter substation
- Penelec crews assembled materials. Studies were run by RCC to prepare for switching out East Towanda #1 bus so switch could be jumpered out
- 18:38 - Penelec RDO begins load reduction in the E. Towanda area to allow 115KV bus outage at E. Towanda.
- 18:56 - E. Towanda load reduction complete. 4,663 additional customers and 3 REC delivery points not part of the original customers affected by the opening of the switch were affected by the load reduction.
- 19:02 - Switching Started to take out East Towanda #1 Bus
- 20:25 - Switching Complete
- 20:37 - Crew takes clearance and begins work for temporary repair to switch
- 23:20 - Repairs completed, Crew releases clearance
- 23:57 - Switching steps completed
- 00:04 - B20 Closed Energizing East Towanda to Everts Drive and Everts Drive to Mansfield lines restored
- 00:25 - Penelec RDO is authorized to begin limited distribution restoration.
- 00:48 - Mansfield to Niles Valley Line restored
- 00:56 - Niles Valley to Osceola Line restored
- 00:57 - Mansfield to Tower Hill Line restored
- 00:59 - Niles Valley to Potter Line restored
- All of the 115 KV system Restored
- 02:38 - Majority of the distribution customers restored
- 03:15 - The last Penelec customers restored.