## **BURKE VULLO REILLY ROBERTS**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1460 Wyoming Avenue Forty Fort, PA 18704 Phone (570) 288-6441 + Fax (570) 288-4598

> Formerly Burke & Burke Thomas F. Burke, Sr. (1932-1972)

www.bvrrlaw.com

JOSEPH L. VULLO jlvullo@bvrrlaw.com

February 20, 2015

Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, Second Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: PPL Electric Utilities Corporation –Petition for Approval of Act 129

Phase II Energy Efficiency & Conservation Plan

Docket No. M-2012-2334388

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

I am submitting these comments on behalf of the Commission on Economic Opportunity and the Pennsylvania Weatherization Providers Task Force. The Commission on Economic Opportunity is a non-profit organization serving the low-income and elderly in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and has advocated for its clients in utility matters, including PPL's Act 129 submissions. CEO has attended the various stakeholder meetings that the Company has held on its Act 129 program. The Pennsylvania Weatherization Providers Task Force is an association of Pennsylvania weatherization providers of which CEO is a member.

CEO and the Task Force are generally supportive of the changes requested by PPL relative to its Act 129 Phase II plan. The Company's requests include additional funding and measures for its low-income customers including a proposed increase in the number of "low cost" jobs, a de facto heating pilot, an increase in the number of low-income customers in its education program and a LED giveaway to low-income customers. We also support the apparent movement towards targeting confirmed low-income customers as opposed to using a telephone survey to determine whether customers who participate in the general residential Act 129 programs are low-income and then attributing those savings to the low-income sector. These are positive changes and will provide more opportunity and ability for low-income customers to conserve energy through direct measures and education.

Although we are supportive of the requested changes we want to make the following points and requests for clarification:

In its de facto heating program the company is targeting 20 low-income customers to receive a high-efficiency heating system at no cost to the customer. Weatherization providers have had success with installing those systems and, with the decreasing costs for those systems, we believe there is potential to expand the

number of customers in the program. We hope the Company will look to increase the number of people served in the pilot and look forward to the results of the pilot.

- The Company is proposing to increase spending over two years in the amount of \$700,000 to cover the update of its WRAP tracking system. We are supportive of this upgrade if it will improve the coordination of Act 129 and Universal Service Programs and coordination between programs available to low-income customers. We would like to know how the proposed upgrade will improve the system and in particular how the upgrade will, if at all, improve the coordination of the Act 129 and Universal Service Programs so that low-income customers can better access and benefit from those programs.
- It appears from the Company's petition that its LED giveaway will be specifically targeted to confirmed low-income customers. We would request confirmation of the same and if that is the case, information on how the product will be distributed to low-income customers.
- The Company is proposing an increase of \$196,000 for call center costs for the residential and low-income residential education programs to be prorated among those programs. We request clarification as to the manner in which those costs will be prorated.

We reserve the right to participate should this matter be referred to an ALJ but at this time support the Company's request that the Commission resolve the issues based upon comments and reply comments.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph L. Vullo

JLV/jar

cc: All parties of record

## BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation - Petition:

For Approval of Act 129 Phase II Energy

Docket No. M-2012-2334388

Efficiency & Conservation Plan

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certified that he served a copy of the foregoing Commission on Economic Opportunity's Comments to PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Approval of Changes to Its Act 129 Phase II Plan upon the following participants this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, via first-class mail and electronic mail:

ALJ Dennis J. Buckley Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission P.O. Box 2365 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

David B. MacGregor, Esquire Post & Schell Four Penn Center 1600 JFK Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808

Devin T. Ryan, Esquire Post & Schell, PC 17 North Second Street 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601

Paul E. Russell, Esquire PPL Services Corporation Two North Ninth St., GENTW3 Allentown, PA 18106

Dianne E. Dusman, Esquire Amy Hirakis, Esquire Office of Consumer Advocate 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Forum Place 555 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923 Elizabeth Rose Triscari, Esquire Office of Small Business Advocate 300 North Second Street Suite 1102 Harrisburg, PA 17101

Adeolu A. Bakare, Esquire Pamela C. Polacek, Esquire McNees, Wallace & Nurick, LLC 100 Pine Street P.O. Box 1166 Harrisburg, PA 17108-1166

Harry S. Geller, Esquire Patrick Cicero, Esquire PA Utility Law Project 118 Locust Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Derrick Price Williamson, Esquire Barry A. Naum, Esquire Spilman, Thomas & Battle, PLLC 1100 Bent Creek Boulevard Suite 101 Mechanicsburg, PA 17050 Heather M. Langeland, Esquire PennFuture 200 First Street Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Craig R. Burgraff, Esquire Hawke, McKeon & Sniscak P.O. Box 1778 100 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street Harrisburg, PA 17105-1778

Geoffrey Crandall Jerry E. Mendl MSB Energy Associates 6907 University Avenue Middleton, WI 53562-2767 Mark C. Morrow, Esquire Chief Regulatory Counsel UGI Utilities, Inc. 460 North Gulph Road King of Prussia, PA 19406

Carl R. Shultz, Esquire Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellot, LLC 213 Market Street 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

JOSEPH L. VULLO, ESQUIRE

I.D. No. 41279 1460 Wyoming Avenue Forty Fort, PA 18704

(570) 288-6441

e-mail: jlvullo@bvrrlaw.com

Attorney for Commission on Economic

Opportunity