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House of Representatives

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Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Robert F. Powelson, Chairman Commonwealth Keystone Building 3rd Floor, Room N-304 Post Office Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RE: Net Metering, Docket L-2014-2404361

May 4, 2015

Dear Chairman Powelson,

We trust all is well.

RECEIVED 15 HAY -5 PH 3: 18 CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

We write concerning proposed rule changes for net metering as it relates to anaerobic digesters. As you are aware, the PUC is considering changes to current regulations regarding net metering for alternative energy sources. We have significant concerns about how such changes may impact family farmers who have installed anaerobic digesters across the Commonwealth.

Farmers install anaerobic digesters, often with significant government financial support, as a best management practice for manure generated on their farms. In addition to providing a substantial environmental benefit, these digesters are harnessed to generate renewable electricity. Importantly, unlike wind and solar power generation, digesters produce a constant, steady stream of electricity, making their impact on the power grid easily predictable.

Anaerobic digesters are expensive to build, and are often financially feasible only with the aforementioned government support and the long-term revenue stream earned from selling electricity generated back to the power grid. These digesters also provide significant support to the goals established for the ongoing effort to restore the Chesapeake Bay. It is fair to say that any change in net metering rules could make

digesters cost prohibitive to operate, negatively impacting both the bottom line for many family farmers and the ongoing effort to reduce pollution in the Chesapeake Bay.

With this in mind, we ask that the PUC take special consideration of anaerobic digesters as affected by the proposed rule change. Specifically, anaerobic digesters should be exempted from any negative changes to net metering rules. We appreciate your consideration, and look forward to your response.

Kind Regards -

John Lawrence

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67th Legislative District

Dan R. Milland

Rob Kauffmar

89th Legislative District

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