## BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

R-2015-2469275 : V.

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation

C-2015-2475448 Office of Consumer Advocate C-2015-2478277 Office of Small Business Advocate C-2015-2480265 PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance C-2015-2485827 C. Wintermeyer C-2015-2484588 Cathleen A. Woomert C-2015-2485860 Michael B. Young C-2015-2489524 Joseph E. McAndrew

V.

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation

Petition for a Waiver of the Distribution

P-2015-2474714

System Improvement Charge Cap of 5% of:

Billed Revenues

## COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY'S STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT OF ALL ISSUES

NOW COMES the Intervenor, the Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) and files this Statement in Support of the Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of All Issues in the above-captioned matter and agrees to its terms based upon the following:

CEO is a not-for-profit Pennsylvania corporation and an advocate for its clients -1. the low-income population of Luzerne County.

- 2. CEO intervened in the above-captioned matter to address the adequacy of the Company's programs for its low-income customers and the effect of any proposed rate increase or change in rate structure on those programs and customers.
- 3. CEO supports the Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of All Issues and believes that it is in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations and serves the public interest based upon the following:
- A. The Settlement increases funding for the Company's LIURP program which will help low-income customers deal with the effect of the rate increase resulting from this Settlement;
- B. In the Settlement the Company reiterates its intent to continue to use community-based organizations to assist in the implementation of its universal service programs;
- C. The Company proposed in its initial filing to increase its fixed monthly residential customer charge from \$14.09 to \$20. The Settlement provides that the fixed monthly residential customer charge will remain at \$14.09. This provides residential customers with the continued motive and ability to reduce energy consumption and is a particular benefit to low-income customers because it retains their present ability to reduce their electric bills through reduced consumption;
- D. The settlement is consistent with the Commission's obligation under the Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act to insure that universal service programs are appropriately funded and available, that energy conservation measures are promoted and available to consumers, particularly low income consumers, and that community-based organizations are used to assist in the implementation of an electric company's universal service programs.

4. Based upon the above, CEO believes that the Settlement is in the public's best interest and supports the Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement of All Issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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