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March 19, 2020

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al. v. Philadelphia Gas Works

Docket No. R-2020-3017206; PETITION TO INTERVENE

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Petition to Intervene of Direct Energy Services in the abovecaptioned docket. Copies of the Petition have been served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact m

Todd S. Stewart

Counsel for Direct Energy Services

TSS/jld Enclosure

cc: Per Certificate of Service

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing Petition upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

### **VIA ELECTRONIC AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL**

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DATED: March 19, 2020

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, et al. :

v.

Docket No. R-2020-3017206

Philadelphia Gas Works

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF DIRECT ENERGY

NOW COMES Direct Energy Services, Inc. ("Direct Energy"), and hereby petitions to intervene, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.71, et seq., in the above-captioned request for rate increase filed by Philadelphia Gas Works ("PGW") on February 28, 2020. In its 2020 filing, PGW seeks approximately \$70 million increase in annual revenue and seeks to make certain other changes to its tariffs and operating procedures that will affect the service provided by Direct Energy in the PGW service territory. Direct Energy is concerned that if the rates and other practices are put into effect as proposed and certain current operational concerns are left unaddressed, that the competitive condition of the natural gas market in the PGW service territory, which is struggling for residential and small commercial customers, could be made worse, while the situation for large commercial and industrial customers also will be compromised. In support of its Petition to Intervene, Direct Energy states as follows:

1. Direct Energy is a licensed natural gas supplier ("NGS") in the PGW service territory and serves customers in all rate classes. Direct Energy regularly participates in rate and

other proceedings that concern that terms and conditions of service of the natural gas and electric distribution utilities in whose service territories it is active.

2. Direct Energy is represented in this matter by the following counsel:

Todd S. Stewart (Attorney ID 75556) Hawke McKeon & Sniscak LLP 100 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

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- 3. PGW has proposed in this proceeding to substantially modify the following tariff provisions: (1) Technology and Economic Development (TED) Rider to extend it beyond the initial three-year pilot period; (2) the Company's Micro-Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Incentive Program which PGW alleges will incentivize customers to install micro-CHP equipment up to 50 kW; and (3) the Company's Back-Up Service Rate BUS. In addition, in the latter part of 2019, pursuant to a settlement with the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement at Docket No. 2019-3009266, PGW substantially increased the capacity charges for releases of TETCO capacity, which has had a substantial negative impact on Direct Energy's ability to serve in the PGW service territory. Direct Energy expects to address these issues, while it continues to review the filing, and therefore reserves to right to address additional issues in testimony or as otherwise appropriate.
- 4. Direct Energy serves customers on the PGW system; therefore, its interests will be directly affected by any decision or determination in this proceeding, and it will be bound by any such decision. Direct Energy's interests in this proceeding are unique and cannot be represented by any other party. Accordingly, Direct Energy meets the standards of 52 Pa. Code § 5.72(a)(2), and its intervention in this proceeding should be granted and it should be accorded full party status.

## WHEREFORE, Direct Energy respectfully requests that its Petition to Intervene be granted

and that it be accorded full party status in the above captioned matter.

Respectfully submitted

Todd S. Stewart (Attorney ID 75556) Hawke McKeon & Sniscak LLP

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Counsel for Direct Energy Services, Inc.

DATED: March 19, 2020