

May 11, 2020

#### Via E-File

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

Re: Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Approval of a Default Service Program for the Period of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2025 Docket No. P-2020-3019356

Prehearing Memorandum of CAUSE-PA

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

Attached for filing, please find the **Prehearing Memorandum of the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania** in the above referenced matter.

Copies will be circulated in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT

Counsel for CAUSE-PA

Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq.

emarxpulp@palegalaid.net

CC: Per Certificate of Service

#### BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for

Approval of a Default Service Program for the : Docket No. P-2020-3019356

Period of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2025

Prehearing Memorandum of the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania

The Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania

("CAUSE-PA"), through its counsel at the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, hereby submits this

Prehearing Memorandum pursuant to the April 8, 2020 Prehearing Conference Order of

Administrative Law Judge Elizabeth H. Barnes.

I. History of the Proceeding

On March 25, 2020, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation ("PPL" or "the Company") filed a

Petition for Approval of their Default Service Programs for the period commencing June 1, 2021

through May 31, 2025 (Petition). On April 2, 2020, CAUSE-PA filed a Petition to Intervene.

On April 8, Judge Barnes issued a Prehearing Conference Order requiring parties to serve

a Prehearing Conference Memorandum on or before Tuesday, May 12, 2020. On April 18, 2020,

notice of PPL's Petition appeared in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, requiring that answers, protests,

and intervention be filed with the Commission and served on Judge Barnes on or before May 8,

2020, and setting a prehearing conference for Friday, May 15, 2020. 50 Pa. B. 2164.

II. Issues to be Addressed

While CAUSE-PA is still reviewing PPL's Petition, it has tentatively identified the

following issues presented by the filing which affect its members:

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- a. PPL's Standard Offer Referral Program (PPL Pet. at 27-28);
- PPL's proposed protections for customers enrolled in its Customer Assistance
   Program, known as OnTrack. (PPL Pet. at 30-32);
- c. PPL's Time of Use procurement and rate design proposal (PPL Pet. at 33-34); and
- d. PPL's Renewable Rate Program (PPL Pet. at 35-48).

CAUSE-PA asserts that each of these matters must be thoroughly reviewed through discovery and a hearing to ensure that the Company's low-income customers are not harmed and the programs are in the public interest. CAUSE-PA anticipates that additional issues may arise as a more comprehensive review of the Company's filing is undertaken, discovery is conducted, and other parties present evidence and testimony.

CAUSE-PA reserves the right to present evidence on any issues contained in PPL's filing that were not otherwise specifically identified above, as well as those issues raised by other parties. Any and all evidence presented by CAUSE-PA will be directed so as to ensure that low-income customers are adequately protected in the continued provision of default service.

### I. <u>Witnesses</u>

CAUSE-PA intends to present the following witness to testify in this matter, but reserves the right to call additional or substitute witnesses as may be warranted upon proper notice to the Presiding Officer and the parties:

Harry S. Geller, Esquire 118 Locust Street Harrisburg, PA 17101 717-576-2282 hgellerpulp@palegalaid.net

Mr. Geller will address the issues identified above, as well as other issues that may arise in the course of this proceeding.

II. <u>Discovery</u>

In light of the compressed time-frame for litigation, CAUSE-PA supports a shortened 10-

day timeframe for responses to discovery in this proceeding.

III. <u>Settlement</u>

CAUSE-PA is ready and willing to work with the other parties to reach a full or partial

settlement of the litigated issues, and encourages parties to engage in settlement discussions early

in the proceeding.

IV. <u>Service on CAUSE-PA</u>

Counsel for CAUSE-PA has an e-filing account and accepts electronic service from the

Commission. Service on CAUSE-PA by the parties to this proceeding may be made on its

attorneys at the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project as follows:

Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq.

Ria Pereira, Esq.

John W. Sweet, Esq.

PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT

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CAUSE-PA will accept e-service of all documents until the Commission's March 20 Emergency

Order is lifted. Thereafter, we request that parties serve one hard copy in addition to e-service.

V. <u>Litigation Schedule</u>

CAUSE-PA is actively working with the parties in an attempt to reach a mutually agreeable

litigation schedule in this proceeding. CAUSE-PA respectfully requests approval for our witness

to appear telephonically for hearings in this proceeding.

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## VI. <u>Public Input Hearings</u>

CAUSE-PA supports public input hearings in this proceeding. The issues in this proceeding are of grave import to the affordability and accessibility of electric service in PPL's service territory, and should be open to public comment to help inform the Commission's decision in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, CAUSE-PA respectfully submits this Prehearing Conference Memorandum, and requests that it be entered into the record of this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,
PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY LAW PROJECT
Counsel for CAUSE-PA

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May 11, 2020

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify I have on this day served copies of the **Prehearing Conference Memorandum of CAUSE-PA** in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party) and consistent with the Commission's March 20, 2020 Emergency Order.

VIA EMAIL ONLY	
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DATE: May 11, 2020