

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING 400 NORTH STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17120

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT

May 12, 2020

Via Electronic Filing

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

Re: Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Approval of Its Default

Service Plan for the Period From June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2025

Docket No. P-2020-3019356 **I&E Prehearing Memorandum**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing please find the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement's (I&E) **Prehearing Memorandum** for the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies are being served on parties of record per the attached Certificate of Service. *Due to the temporary closing of the PUC's offices, I&E is only providing electronic Service.* Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gina L. Miller

Prosecutor

Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement

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GLM/ac Enclosures

cc: Hon. Elizabeth H. Barnes (OALJ, Harrisburg, via e-mail only)

Per Certificate of Service

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for

Approval of Its Default Service Plan for the : Docket No. P-2020-3019356

Period From June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2025

PREHEARING MEMORANDUM OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT

TO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE ELIZABETH H. BARNES:

In accordance with the Prehearing Conference Order issued on April 8, 2020, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement ("I&E") hereby submits this Prehearing Memorandum. The I&E prosecutor assigned to this proceeding is Gina L. Miller. Ms. Miller may be contacted as follows:

By Mail: Gina L. Miller

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement

Commonwealth Keystone Building

400 North Street, 2nd Fl. Harrisburg, PA 17120

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I. BACKGROUND

On March 25, 2020, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation ("PPL") filed with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") a Petition for Approval of a Default Service Program and Procurement Plan for the Period of June 1, 2021 through

May 31, 2025 ("DSP V"). Through the DSP V, PPL proposes, inter alia, procurement of default service supply and related Alternative Energy Credits, an implementation plan, rate design (including a Time-of-Use rate option for default service) modification of its current Standard Offer Referral Program, a requirement for Customer Assistance Program customers to take default service, and a contingency plan.¹

PPL's DSP V was assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge ("OALJ") for the development of an evidentiary record, including an Initial Decision. The OALJ assigned the proceeding to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Elizabeth H. Barnes for investigation and scheduling of hearings to consider, inter alia, whether PPL's DSP V will provide default service that is adequate, reliable, and will result in the least cost to customers over time.² A telephonic Prehearing Conference has been scheduled for May 15, 2020. The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement filed its Notice of Appearance on May 6, 2020.

On May 8, 2020, a Notice of Appearance, Answers, and Public Statement was filed by the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate filed a Notice of Intervention and Public Statement. Intervention petitions were submitted by the following entities: the Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency in Pennsylvania, Calpine Retail Holdings, LLC, the Sustainable Energy Fund of Central Eastern Pennsylvania, StateWise Energy Pennsylvania LLC and SFE Energy Pennsylvania, Inc. (collectively, "StateWise"), Interstate Gas Supply, Inc.;

¹ PPL DSP V, p. 1.

² 66 Pa. C.S. §2807(e).

Shipley Choice LLC; NRG Energy, Inc.; Vistra Energy Corp.; ENGIE Resources LLC; and Direct Energy Services, LLC (collectively the EGS Parties), Industrial Energy Consumers of Pennsylvania, the PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance, Inspire Energy Holdings, LLC, and Retail Energy Supply Association. It is I&E's understanding that rulings on these interventions are pending. I&E does not oppose any of the petitions to intervene.

II. ISSUES

Based upon a preliminary review of the filing, I&E has identified the following areas of inquiry, representing potential issues at this time. However, I&E reserves the right to address such other issues when those issues arise:

- 1. Alternative Energy Credits
- 2. Renewable Energy Rate Program
- 3. Standard Offer Program and Customer Assistance Program Shopping

The above list is as complete as can be made at this time. Additionally, I&E reserves the right to amend and/or supplement this issue list while discovery is on-going.

III. WITNESSES

It is currently expected that I&E may call any or all of the following witness without being limited thereto:

Christopher Keller Fixed Utility Valuation Analyst

The I&E witness may be contacted through the contact information listed above for Ms. Miller. I&E reserves the right to substitute witnesses or call additional witnesses

if warranted.³ All active parties will be notified of any amendments to the I&E witness list.

IV. EVIDENCE

I&E expects to present all written direct, rebuttal and surrebuttal testimony and accompanying exhibits at the evidentiary hearing. Moreover, I&E intends to rely on PPL's filing, answers to data requests and interrogatories, annual reports and other documents submitted to the Commission, other relevant Commission filings, any other relevant Commonwealth agency letters or reports, general financial market information sources and other public documents and reports. However, there may be issues of Commission policy or legal representation that are not properly the subject of testimony or factual issues that are clear on the record and need not be supported by testimony, I&E reserves the right to dispense with testimony when, in its opinion, an issue can be adequately addressed through briefing.

V. SCHEDULE

I&E proposes to adopt the schedule outlined below: 4

Opposing party testimony
Rebuttal testimony
Surrebuttal testimony
Hearings and oral rejoinder
Main Briefs
September 3, 2020
September 17, 2020

The above issues list is provided without analysis of the positions of all parties to this proceeding and without the benefit of completed discovery.

It is I&E's understanding that PPL, and several petitioning intervenors have agreed to this schedule; however, as I&E is not authorized to represent any entity's position, I&E expresses only its own position on the schedule.

VI. DISCOVERY

I&E requests that the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure for the conduct of discovery be modified as follows:

- 1. Answers to written interrogatories shall be served in-hand within ten (10) calendar days of service.
- 2. Objections to interrogatories shall be communicated orally within three (3) calendar days of service; unresolved objections be served to the ALJs in writing within seven (7) calendar days of service of interrogatories.
- 3. Motion to dismiss objections and/or direct the answering of interrogatories shall be filed within five (5) calendar days of service of written objections.
- 4. Answers to motions to dismiss objections and/or direct the answering of interrogatories shall be filed within five (5) calendar days of service of such motions.
- 5. Discovery and discovery-related pleadings served after 12:00 noon on a Friday or after 12:00 p.m. on any business day preceding a state holiday will be deemed to be served on the next business day.

VII. SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

For purposes of satisfying in-hand requirements for discovery responses, prepared testimony and briefs during the closure of Commission offices, and consistent with

Paragraph 8 of the Commission's March 20, 2020 Emergency Order,⁵ I&E will both only serve and accept electronic delivery of documents. Upon re-opening of Commission offices, I&E requests parties provide a follow-up hard copy provided by regular first-class mail in addition to electronic delivery.

VIII. PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

To the extent that public input hearings are deemed necessary in this proceeding, I&E advocates for the use of Smart Hearings where possible.

IX. SETTLEMENT

I&E intends to participate in any settlement discussions and is willing to work with the parties to reach a resolution of any or all issues. In the event settlement discussions fail to result in a complete resolution of the matter, I&E is prepared to fully or partially litigate this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina L. Miller

Prosecutor

Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Dated: May 12, 2020

Docket No. M-2020-3019262, Re: Suspension of Regulatory and Statutory Deadlines; Modification to Filing and Service Requirements.

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for

Approval of Its Default Service Plan for the : Docket No. P-2020-3019356

Period From June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2025

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am serving the foregoing **Prehearing Memorandum** dated May 12, 2020, in the manner and upon the persons listed below.

Served via Electronic Mail Only

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