*Via electronic service only due to Emergency Order at Docket No. M-2020-3019262*

**BEFORE THE**

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Petition for Approval of their Act 129 Phase IV : M-2020-3020820

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan of : M-2020-3020821

Metropolitan Edison Company, Pennsylvania : M-2020-3020822

Electric Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, : M-2020-3020823

and West Penn Power Company :

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

A Prehearing Conference is scheduled in this case for **Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** The undersigned administrative law judge will preside telephonically. To participate in the conference, you must dial the toll-free number listed below. You will be prompted to enter a PIN number, which is also listed below. You will be asked to speak your name and then the telephone system will connect you to the hearing.

Toll-free Bridge Number: 1-866-566-0651

PIN Number: 59956427

You must call into the conference on the scheduled day and time. Failure of any party to attend the prehearing conference without good cause shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference. You will not be called by the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ).

The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. Each party must e-file and serve by email, prior to **2:00 p.m. January 4, 2021**, a Prehearing Conference Memorandum which sets forth the issues you intend to present, a proposed plan and schedule of discovery, a listing of your proposed witnesses and the subject of   
     
   their testimony, and a proposed litigation schedule, agreed to by all parties if possible. 52 Pa.Code § 5.222(d).   
    **Parties represented by multiple attorneys must designate a primary speaker for the purposes of the prehearing conference.**
2. A request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date must state the agreement or opposition of other parties, and must be submitted in writing no later than five (5) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa.Code § 1.15(b). Requests for changes of initial prehearing conferences must be sent to the undersigned by email at [mhoyer@pa.gov](mailto:mhoyer@pa.gov), with copies to all parties of record. Only the undersigned Administrative Law Judge or Office of Administrative Law Judge Scheduling Unit may grant a request for a change of a prehearing conference. Such changes are granted only in rare situations where sufficient cause exists. Requests for changes of subsequent Prehearing Conferences or hearings, if any, should also be served directly on the presiding ALJ.

In accordance with the foregoing, absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled Prehearing Conference.

3. Please review the regulations pertaining to prehearing conferences, 52 Pa.Code § 5.221-§ 5.224, and in particular, § 5.222(d) which provides, in part:

(d) Parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for a useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

(1) The preparation must include submission of a prehearing memorandum and list:

(i) The presently identified issues.

(ii) The names and addresses of the witnesses.

(iii) The proposed area of testimony of each witness.

(2) The preparation may include:

(i) Development of a proposed procedural schedule.

(ii) Advance study of all relevant materials.

(iii) Advance informal communication between the parties, including requests for additional data and information, to the extent it appears feasible and desirable.

(Emphasis added.)

4. Parties should review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa.Code §5.331(b), which provides, *inter alia*, that “a party shall endeavor to initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa.Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery, and advise us at the prehearing conference as to discovery problems which have not been resolved. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.361, 5.371‑5.372.

5. Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22, you may represent yourself, if you are an individual, or you may have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, you must have an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*, represent you in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall insure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code § 1.24(b).

6. Failure of a party to attend the prehearing conference, or notify the ALJ of their desire to fully participate without good cause shown, shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference, including, but not limited to, any special discovery rules and the litigation schedule established for this case. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.222(e) & 5.224.

7. All filings made with the Commission’s Secretary’s Bureau must be

e-filed.

8. You must serve the presiding Administrative Law Judge directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding. The ALJ must be served by email at [mhoyer@pa.gov](mailto:mhoyer@pa.gov) and follow-up by hard-copy is not required. If you send the undersigned any correspondence or document, you must send a copy to all other parties. For your convenience, a copy of the Commission’s current service list of the parties to this proceeding is enclosed with this Order.

Date: December 30, 2020 /s/

Mark A. Hoyer

Deputy Chief Administrative Law Judge

**M-2020-3020820, M-2020-3020821, M-2020-3020822, M-2020-3020823 PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THE PHASE IV ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PLAN OF METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY, PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY, PENNSYLVANIA POWER COMPANY, AND WEST PENN POWER COMPANY**

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