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|  | **PENNSYLVANIA**  **PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  **Harrisburg, PA 17120** |  |
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|  | Public Meeting held January 13, 2022 |
| Commissioners Present: |  |

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| Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman | |
| John F. Coleman, Jr., Vice Chairman  Ralph V. Yanora | |
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| Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for  Approval of Proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 to Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201, to Modify Tariff Rule 12 – Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection | Docket Number:  R-2021-3029322 |

# ORDER

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

On October 29, 2021, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL Electric), filed a Petition for approval of proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 (Supplement No. 322) to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201 with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission). PPL Electric filed the proforma tariff supplement to modify Rule 12 – Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Interconnection Service, which was originally adopted pursuant to the Commission’s December 17, 2020, Opinion and Order (*December 2020 Order*) in the proceeding at Docket No. P-2019-3010128. For the reasons expressed in this Order, the Commission approves proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201.

PPL Electric states the modification is needed to address an unexpected delay in the release of Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Standard 1741 Supplement B (UL 1741 SB) and its impact on the Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Management pilot program approved by the Commission’s December 2020 Order. PPL Electric states that UL 1741 SB was published on September 28, 2021, however, it was expected to have been released months earlier and the delay will make it extremely difficult for smart inverter manufacturers to have their products certified to the UL 1741 SB standard by January 1, 2022, which is the date currently contemplated in Tariff Rule 12(c). Tariff Rule 12(c) provides:

From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, all new inverters connected to the distribution system must meet: (1) UL 1741 Supplement A as amended or supplemented and (2) the communication requirements under IEEE 1547‑2018 as tested by or on behalf of the Company. Beginning January 1, 2022, new inverters connecting to the distribution system must comply with IEEE 1574-2018 and must be certified to UL 1741 Supplement B. The list of smart inverters that meet these requirements will be made publicly available and regularly updated on the Company’s REMSI website.

Supplement No. 311 to Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201, Original Page 14C.1. Therefore, beginning January 1, 2022, no DERs will be able to interconnect with PPL Electric’s distribution system unless they have UL 1741 SB certified inverters.

PPL Electric notes that under Paragraph 49 of the Commission-approved Settlement at Docket No. P-2019-3010128, it states that effective January 1, 2022, “the Company will transition to requiring new DERs to have smart inverters installed that meet IEEE 1547‑2018 and have been certified with IEEE 1547.1 / UL 1741 Supplement B (‘UL 1741 SB’).” As shown above, that transition period currently is a compliance deadline that starts on January 1, 2022, with no exceptions.

To address the issues caused by the unexpected delay of UL 1741 SB, PPL Electric proposes to modify the transition period outlined in Tariff Rule 12 (c) as follows:

From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, all new inverters connected to the distribution system must meet: (1) UL 1741 Supplement A as amended or supplemented and (2) the communication requirements under IEEE 1547-2018 as tested by or on behalf of the Company. Beginning January 1, 2022, PPL Electric will transition to requiring new inverters that connect to the distribution system to comply with IEEE 1547‑2018 and to be certified to UL 1741 Supplement B. During the transition period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, each new inverter connecting to PPL Electric’s distribution system must either: (1) meet UL 1741 Supplement A (as amended or supplemented) and the communication requirements under IEEE 1547-2018 (as tested by or on behalf of the Company); or (2) comply with IEEE 1547-2018 and be certified to UL 1741 Supplement B. Beginning January 1, 2023, new inverters connecting to the distribution system must comply with IEEE 1547-2018 and must be certified to UL 1741 Supplement B. The list of smart inverters that meet these requirements will be made publicly available and regularly updated on the Company’s REMSI website.

Supplement No. 322 to Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201, First Revised Page 14C.1.

PPL Electric states that the proposed tariff modification will provide manufacturers and installers with approximately 15 months since the release of UL 1741 SB to transition to the new IEEE 1547-2018 and UL 1741 SB requirements. PPL Electric believes this is more than sufficient time, given that, under the current tariff, it was expected that manufacturers and installers would have less than a year to transition. Moreover, as manufacturers bring smart inverters to market that meet the new requirements, those smart inverters can be used during the transition period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. PPL Electric states that the proposed tariff modification is consistent with Paragraph 49 of the Commission-approved Settlement in this proceeding and, therefore, does not require any changes to that Settlement.

PPL Electric states that they consulted with all the parties in the above‑referenced proceeding and it is their understanding that none of the parties oppose the proposed tariff modification. PPL Electric served proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 upon parties in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant). No complaints or protests have been filed

We agree that the modification to Tariff Rule 12(c) proposed in proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322, which extends the transition to the new IEEE 1547-2018 and UL 1741 Supplement B requirements is in the public interest. Accordingly, we grant Supplement No. 322 to become effective on at least one days’ notice following entry of this Order; **THEREFORE,**

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That PPL Electric Utilities Corporation proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 to Tariff Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201is hereby approved, consistent with this Order.
2. That PPL Electric Utilities Corporation shall file a compliance tariff implementing the changes proposed in proforma Tariff Supplement No. 322 to Electric Pa. P.U.C. No. 201, to become effective on at least one days’ notice following entry of this Order.
3. That a copy of this Oder be served on parties of record for this proceeding and in the proceeding at Docket No. P-2019-3010128.
4. That this proceeding at Docket No. R‑2021-3029322 be closed.

**A picture containing letter

Description automatically generated** **BY THE COMMISSION,**

Rosemary Chiavetta

Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: January 13, 2022

ORDER ENTERED: January 13, 2022