

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Public Meeting held October 19, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Ralph V. Yanora
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pole Attachment Working Group

M-2020-3019408
L-2018-3002672

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 77.7, the Commission has established a Pole Attachment Working Group (Working Group) to ensure 1) that the Commission remains apprised of industry and public concerns, 2) that changes to the federal pole attachments rules are properly vetted before they come into effect in Pennsylvania, and 3) to provide feedback to the Commission on the functioning of its regulations and dispute resolution processes as they relate to pole attachments.

Following the entry of our last supplemental membership order on February 24, 2022, an additional party, the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association (PREA), has requested membership in the Working Group. PREA represents 13 distribution electric cooperatives throughout the Commonwealth, which own and maintain a significant number of poles that are not within the Commission's jurisdiction. However, these cooperatives also pursue broadband deployment and attach to poles owned by public utilities under the jurisdiction of the Commission, among other tasks. Thus, PREA has significant interest in the pole attachment processes employed by the Commission.

The Commission determines that the inclusion of PREA in the Working Group would improve the representation of electric cooperatives who provide electricity to more than 230,000 rural households, businesses and industries, constituting an essential component of rural business and industry in the Commonwealth. Adding this party will therefore supplement the existing expertise and representative experience of the Working Group. The current membership of the Working Group is listed in Appendix A.

Accordingly, the Commission finds it appropriate to appoint the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association to the Pole Attachment Working Group; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the appointment to the Pole Attachment Working Group of the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association is approved.
2. The contact person for the Pole Attachment Working Group is Colin W. Scott, Assistant Counsel, (717) 783-5949.

BY THE COMMISSION



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: October 19, 2023

ORDER ENTERED: October 19, 2023

Appendix A

Pole Attachment Working Group Appointees

<u>Entity Name</u>
Public Utility Commission - Bureau of Consumer Services
Public Utility Commission - Law Bureau
Public Utility Commission – Office of Special Assistants
Public Utility Commission – Bureau of Technical Utility Services
Public Utility Commission – Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Public Utility Commission – Office of Administrative Law Judge, Mediation Office
Office of Consumer Advocate
Office of Small Business Advocate
Governor’s Office of Broadband Initiatives
Pennsylvania Telephone Association
Broadband Cable Association of Pennsylvania
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Wellsboro Electric Company
Davey Resource Group Inc.
Citizens' Electric Company
PPL Electric Utilities Corporation
Verizon North, LLC.
Verizon Pennsylvania, LLC.
CTIA - The Wireless Association
Crown Castle Fiber, LLC.
Duquesne Light Company
DQE Communications LLC
PECO Energy Co.
FirstLight Fiber, Inc.
Energy Association of Pennsylvania
Department of General Services – Office of Enterprise Wireless Management

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
NetSpeed LLC
MAW Communications, Inc.
First Energy
Comcast Corporation
Rolka Loube Saltzer and Associates, LLC
UGI Corporation
Salsgiver Telecom Inc.
Orbital Engineering, Inc.
Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association