



John F. Povilaitis
717 237 4825
john.povilaitis@bipc.com

409 North Second Street
Suite 500
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1357
T 717 237 4800
F 717 233 0852

February 15, 2024

VIA EFILING

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Initiative to Review and Revise the Existing Low-Income Usage Reduction
Program (LIURP) Regulations at 52 Pa. Code §§ 58.1-58.18;
Docket No. L-2016-2557886

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Reply to Comments of The Pennsylvania Coalition of Local
Energy Efficiency Contractors, Inc. in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies are being served as indicated in the attached Certificate of Service.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John F. Povilaitis".

John F. Povilaitis

JFP/ja
Enclosure
cc: Certificate of Service

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Initiative to Review and Revise : Docket No. L-2016-2557886
the Existing Low-Income :
Usage Reduction Program (LIURP) Regulations :
at 52 Pa. Code §§ 58.1-58.18 :

**REPLY TO COMMENTS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COALITION OF LOCAL
ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONTRACTORS, INC.**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Pennsylvania Coalition of Local Energy Efficiency Contractors, Inc. (“PA-CLEEC”), is a non-profit entity composed of 14 local community-based contractors and community-based organizations (“CBOs”), specializing in the delivery of field work for public utility Universal Service Energy and Conservation Programs (“USECP”) that benefit low-income customers of Electric Distribution Companies (“EDCs”) and Natural Gas Distribution Companies (“NGDCs”). For decades, PA-CLEEC members have been the utility “boots on the ground” installing conservation and energy efficiency measures for customers participating in Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“PaPUC” or “Commission”) Low-Income Usage Reduction Programs (“LIURP”). PA-CLEEC promotes: (i) the use of adequate LIURP budgets that make meaningful progress toward meeting low-income customers’ needs, (ii) fair and transparent public utility request for proposal (“RFP”) processes that support the delivery of energy efficiency and conservation services which create actual customer savings, and (iii) sensible, cost-effective program structures that work to benefit low-income customers. PA-CLEEC offers the following replies to comments for the Commission’s consideration.

II. PA-CLEEC'S REPLY TO COMMENTS

A. Relationship between LIURP as Investment vs. CAP as Expense.

The Energy Association of Pennsylvania (“EAP”) comments that “The Commission’s suggested edits to the LIURP budget factors appear to treat utilities as social service agencies...” (EAP Comments, p. 13.). One does not have to agree with EAP’s assertion to recognize that there is a more accurate thought model available to consider the relationship between Customer Assistance Programs (“CAP”) and LIURP programs. PA-CLEEC submits to the Commission that it would be more useful to consider the relationship between these two Universal Service Programs in a more accounting-like manner: consider LIURP as *investment* and CAP as *expense*. The Commission should more aggressively lean into the idea that LIURPs are, in fact, *investments* that can reasonably be expected to reduce the *expense* of CAPs. The particulars of this accounting can be defined within USECPs, individually. The entire formulation comes together logically: LIURPs are (and should be) primarily about creating efficiencies: **energy savings for payment-challenged low-income ratepayers yield lower bills for them which they can better afford, and in turn yield savings in CAP expenditures for the utilities and their residential ratepayers who are the source of the funding.** These programs should work this way. From this premise it follows that the utilities would be allocating more of their USP budget dollars to LIURP, to in turn reduce their expenditures on CAP. We would think EAP would agree that it is *squarely within the purview of a regulated utility* to pursue greater efficiency in the application of residential ratepayer funds in these assistance programs, and indeed they do make (or imply) this argument fairly frequently. Increasing the number of customers served multiplied by higher performance LIURPs must be the most effective way to achieve greater savings for all parties involved - both in energy and dollars. Shifting some fraction of CAP budget to LIURP would appear to be consistent with EAP’s perspective. Should EAP contend that LIURP savings just aren’t great enough to make the equation

work, PA-CLEEC's reply would be that as stewards of ratepayer funds, *solving that problem* should be of exceptionally high importance to the utilities: ensuring LIURPs reach the performance benchmark where "lift overcomes drag" and real savings against CAP expenses start accumulating

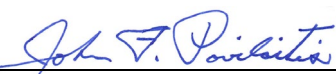
III. CONCLUSION

PA-CLEEC appreciates the opportunity to reply to comments on recommended amendments to the Commission's LIURP regulations at 52 Pa. Code §§ 58-1-58.18.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY, PC

Dated: February 15, 2024

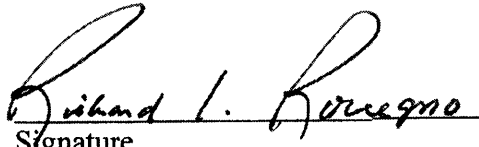
By: 

John F. Povilaitis, Esquire
Alan M. Seltzer, Esquire
409 North Second Street, Suite 500
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1357
john.povilaitis@bipc.com
alan.seltzer@bipc.com

*Counsel for PA Coalition of Local Energy
Efficiency Contractors, Inc.*

VERIFICATION

I, Richard Rovegno, Acting Chairman of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Local Energy Contractors (PA-CLEEC), hereby verify that the information in the foregoing Comments of PA-CLEEC filed at Docket No. L-2016-2557886, is true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief. I understand that the statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. Section 4904, relating to the unsworn falsification to authorities.


Signature

Dated: February 15, 2024

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Initiative to Review and Revise : Docket No. L-2016-2557886
the Existing Low-Income :
Usage Reduction Program (LIURP) Regulations :
at 52, PA. Code §§ 58.1-58.18 :

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this day I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the persons listed below in the manner indicated in accordance with the requirements of 52, PA. Code § 1.54.

Via Email or Regular Mail:

Eugene M. Brady
Pennsylvania Weatherization Providers Task
Force
P.O. Box 1127
165 Amber Lane
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703
ceonortheastpa@gmail.com

Counsel for PA Weatherization Task Force

Ward L. Smith
Exelon Business Service Corp.
Legal Department S23-1
2301 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
ward.smith@exeloncorp.com

Counsel for PECO Energy Company

Denise Adamucci
Philadelphia Gas Works
800 West Montgomery Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122
denise.adamucci@pgworks.com

Counsel for PGW

Christy Appleby
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street 5th Floor
Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101
cappleby@paoca.org

Counsel for OCA

Community Legal Services
1410 West Erie Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19140
energylawyers@clsphila.org

*Counsel for Community Legal Services of
Philadelphia*

Dale Jenkins
Office of General Counsel
Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105

*Counsel for PA Department of Human
Services*

Teresa Harrold
First Energy
2800 Pottsville Pike
P.O. Box 16001
Reading, PA 19612
paregulatorycomplaints@firstenergycorp.com

Counsel for Metropolitan Edison Company, et al.

Maureen Geary Krowicki
National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp.
P.O. Box 2081
1100 State Street
Erie, PA 16512
krowickim@natfuel.com

*Counsel for National Fuel Gas
Distribution Corporation*

Terrance J. Fitzpatrick
Energy Association of Pennsylvania
800 North Third Street, Suite 205
Harrisburg, PA 17102
tfitzpatrick@energypa.org

Counsel for Energy Assoc. of PA

Jonathan David
Philadelphia Gas Works
800 West Montgomery Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Counsel for PGW

Michael J. Shafer
PPL Services Corp.
2 N 9th Street
Gentw3
Allentown, PA 18101
mjshafer@pplweb.com

Counsel for PPL

Dennis Davin
Department of Community and Economic
Development
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

*Counsel for Department of Community
and Economic Development*

Jennifer Petrisek
Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC
375 North Shore Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Jennifer.Petrisek@peoples-gas.com

*Counsel for Peoples TWP & Peoples Natural
Gas Co.*

Kimberly A. Klock
PPL Services Corp.
2 North 9th Street
Allentown, PA 18101
kklock@pplweb.com

Counsel for PPL

Meagan B. Moore
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania Inc.
121 Champion Way, Suite 100
Canonsburg, PA 15317
mbmoore@nisource.com

Counsel for Columbia Gas of PA

John Bailey
Natural Resources Defense Council
1152 15th Street Northwest, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005
jbailey@nrdc.org

*Counsel for Natural Resources Defense
Council*

Timothy B. Hennessey
Consumer Advisory Council
1178 Foxview Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Counsel for Consumer Advisory Council

Eric D. Miller
Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
emiller@keealliance.org

Counsel for KEEA

Pennsylvania Utility Law Project
118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
pulp@pautilitylawproject.com

Counsel for PULP

Catherine Buhrig
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
Bureau of Policy
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Counsel for PA Department of Human Services

Dina Schlossberg
Regional Housing Legal Services
2 S Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038
dina.schlossberg@rhls.org

Counsel for Regional Housing Legal Services

Date: February 15, 2024

Todd Nedwick
National Housing Trust
1101 30th Street NW
Suite 100A
Washington, DC 20007
tnedwick@nhtinc.org

Counsel for National Housing Trust

Donna M. J. Clark
Energy Association of Pennsylvania
800 North Third Street
Suite 205
Harrisburg, PA 17101
dclark@energypa.org

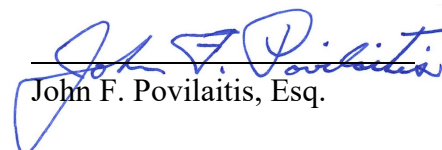
Counsel for Energy Assoc. of PA

Nicole W. Grear
Manager, Policy & Research
Energy Association of Pennsylvania
800 North Third Street, Suite 205
Harrisburg, PA 17102
ngrear@energypa.org

Counsel for Energy Assoc. of PA

Joseph L. Vullo
Burke Vullo Reilly Roberts
1460 Wyoming Avenue
Forty Fort, PA 18704
jlvullo@bvrrlaw.com

Counsel for Commission on Economic Opportunity


John F. Povilaitis, Esq.