THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1475 Session of 1996

INTRODUCED BY BRIGHTBILL, HELFRICK, HART AND SCHWARTZ, APRIL 4, 1996

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, APRIL 4, 1996

AN ACT

- Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
- 2
- Consolidated Statutes, further providing for definitions; and providing for restructuring of the electric utility industry. 3
- 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5 hereby enacts as follows:
- The definition of "public utility" in section 102 6 Section 1.
- 7 of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended
- to read: 8
- § 102. Definitions.
- 10 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
- 11 provisions of this part which are applicable to specific
- 12 provisions of this part, the following words and phrases when
- used in this part shall have, unless the context clearly 13
- 14 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:
- 15
- "Public utility." 16
- 17 (1) Any person or corporations now or hereafter owning
- 18 or operating in this Commonwealth equipment or facilities

1 for: (i) Producing, [generating,] transmitting, 2 3 distributing or furnishing natural or artificial gas, 4 electricity, or steam for the production of light, heat[,] or power to or for the public for compensation. 5 (ii) Diverting, developing, pumping, impounding, 6 distributing[,] or furnishing water to or for the public 7 8 for compensation. 9 (iii) Transporting passengers or property as a 10 common carrier. 11 (iv) Use as a canal, turnpike, tunnel, bridge, wharf[,] and the like for the public for compensation. 12 13 (v) Transporting or conveying natural or artificial 14 gas, crude oil, gasoline, or petroleum products, 15 materials for refrigeration, or oxygen or nitrogen, or other fluid substance, by pipeline or conduit, for the 16 17 public for compensation. 18 (vi) Conveying or transmitting messages or 19 communications, except as set forth in paragraph (2)(iv), 20 by telephone or telegraph or domestic public land mobile radio service including, but not limited to, point-to-21 22 point microwave radio service for the public for 23 compensation. (vii) Sewage collection, treatment[,] or disposal 24 25 for the public for compensation. 26 (2) The term ["public utility"] does not include: 27 (i) Any person or corporation, not otherwise a 28 public utility, who or which furnishes service only to himself or itself. 29

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(ii) Any bona fide cooperative association which

- furnishes service only to its stockholders or members on a nonprofit basis.
- (iii) Any producer of natural gas not engaged in
 distributing such gas directly to the public for
 compensation.
- 6 (iv) Any person or corporation, not otherwise a
 7 public utility, who or which furnishes mobile domestic
 8 cellular radio telecommunications service.
- For the purposes of sections 2702 (relating to 9 construction, relocation, suspension and abolition of 10 crossings), 2703 (relating to ejectment in crossing cases) 11 12 and 2704 (relating to compensation for damages occasioned by 13 construction, relocation or abolition of crossings) and those portions of sections 1501 (relating to character of service 14 and facilities), 1505 (relating to proper service and 15 16 facilities established on complaint) and 1508 (relating to reports of accidents), as those sections or portions thereof 17 18 relate to safety only, a municipal authority or 19 transportation authority organized under the laws of this 20 Commonwealth shall be considered a public utility when it owns or operates, for the carriage of passengers or goods by 21 22 rail, a line of railroad composed of lines formerly owned or 23 operated by the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Penn-Central 24 Transportation Company, the Reading Company or the 25 Consolidated Rail Corporation.
- 26 * * *
- 27 Section 2. Title 66 is amended by adding a chapter to read:
- 28 CHAPTER 32
- 29 RESTRUCTURING OF ELECTRIC UTILITY INDUSTRY
- 30 Sec.

- 1 3201. Short title of chapter.
- 2 3202. Declaration of policy.
- 3 3203. Definitions.
- 4 3204. Standards for restructuring of electric industry.
- 5 3205. Regionalism and reciprocity.
- 6 3206. Implementation and timetable.
- 7 3207. Duties of electric distribution companies.
- 8 3208. Competitive transition charge.
- 9 3209. Requirements for electric suppliers.
- 10 3210. Relation to utilities gross receipts tax.
- 11 § 3201. Short title of chapter.
- 12 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the
- 13 Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act.
- 14 § 3202. Declaration of policy.
- 15 (a) Legislative findings. -- The General Assembly finds that:
- 16 (1) Over the past 20 years, the Federal Government and
- 17 State government have introduced competition in several
- industries that previously had been regulated as natural
- 19 monopolies.
- 20 (2) The Federal Government and many state governments
- are implementing or studying policies that would create a
- 22 competitive market for the generation of electricity.
- 23 (3) Because of advances in electric generation
- 24 technology and Federal initiatives to encourage greater
- competition in the wholesale electric market, the General
- 26 Assembly finds that it is now in the public interest to
- 27 permit retail customers to obtain access to a competitive
- 28 generation market.
- 29 (4) Rates for electricity in this Commonwealth are on
- 30 average higher than the national average, and significant

- differences exist among the rates of Pennsylvania electric utilities.
- 3 (5) Competitive market forces are more effective than 4 economic regulation in controlling the cost of generating 5 electricity.
 - (6) The cost of electricity is an important factor in decisions made by businesses concerning locating, expanding and retaining facilities in this Commonwealth.
 - (7) This Commonwealth must begin the transition from regulation to greater competition in the electricity generation market to benefit all classes of customers and to protect this Commonwealth's ability to compete in the national and international marketplace for industry and jobs.
 - (8) In moving toward greater competition in the electricity generation market, this Commonwealth must resolve certain transitional issues in a manner that is fair to customers, electric utilities, investors, nonutility generators of electricity and other affected parties.
 - (b) Legislative purpose.--
 - (1) The purpose of this chapter is to modify existing legislation and regulations and to establish standards and procedures in order to create direct access by retail customers to the competitive market for the generation of electricity.
 - (2) Under current law and regulation there is some competition in the wholesale market for the generation of electricity, but the generation, transmission, distribution and retail sale of electricity generally is provided by public utilities under bundled rates regulated by the commission. The procedures established under this chapter

- provide for a fair and orderly transition from the current regulated structure to a structure under which retail customers will have access to a competitive market for the qeneration and sale of electricity.
 - electric utilities to unbundle their rates and services and provide open access over their transmission and distribution systems to allow competitive suppliers to generate and sell electricity directly to consumers in this Commonwealth. The generation of electricity will no longer be regulated as a public utility function. However, electric suppliers will be required to obtain licenses, demonstrate financial responsibility and comply with such other requirements concerning service and rates as the commission deems necessary for the protection of the public.
- 16 In establishing the standards for the transition to and creation of a competitive electric market, the General 17 18 Assembly recognizes that heretofore public utilities 19 generally have had an obligation to serve customers within 20 their defined service territories and, consistent with that 21 obligation, have undertaken long-term investments in 22 generation, transmission and distribution facilities in order 23 to meet the needs of their customers and have entered into 24 long-term power supply agreements as required by Federal law. 25 In many instances, these investments and agreements have 26 created costs which will not be recoverable in a competitive 27 market. It is the intent of the General Assembly to empower 28 the commission to determine the level of such costs for each 29 electric utility and to provide a mechanism, the competitive transition charge, for recovery of an appropriate amount of 30

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- 1 such costs in accordance with the standards established in
- 2 this chapter.
- 3 (5) The General Assembly finds that it is in the public
- 4 interest for the transmission and distribution of electricity
- 5 to continue to be regulated as a natural monopoly subject to
- 6 the jurisdiction and active supervision of the commission.
- 7 The General Assembly further finds that electric distribution
- 8 companies should continue to be the provider of last resort
- 9 in order to assure the availability of universal electric
- 10 service in this Commonwealth.
- 11 (6) The General Assembly also recognizes that there are
- certain costs, including programs for low-income assistance,
- energy conservation and others, which have been implemented
- and supported by public utilities' bundled rates. It is the
- intent of the General Assembly to allow the continuation of
- such programs and permit recovery of these costs through a
- 17 universal service and energy conservation charge.
- 18 § 3203. Definitions.
- 19 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
- 20 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 21 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 22 "Competitive transition charge." A nonbypassable charge
- 23 applied to the bill of every end-use customer accessing the
- 24 electric transmission and distribution network which is designed
- 25 to recover an electric utility's transition costs as determined
- 26 by the commission.
- 27 "Direct access." The right of all generators of electricity
- 28 and all end-use customers to utilize and interconnect with the
- 29 electric transmission and distribution system on a
- 30 nondiscriminatory basis to transport electricity from any

- 1 generator of electricity to any end-use customer.
- 2 "Electric distribution company." The public utility
- 3 providing facilities for the transmission and distribution of
- 4 electricity to retail customers.
- 5 "Electric supplier." A person or corporation, including
- 6 municipal corporations and cooperative associations, which sells
- 7 to end-use customers electricity or related services utilizing
- 8 the transmission or distribution facilities of a public utility
- 9 or which purchases, brokers, arranges or markets electricity or
- 10 related services for sale to end-use customers utilizing the
- 11 transmission and distribution facilities of an electric
- 12 distribution company.
- 13 "Transition costs." Net costs related to generation and the
- 14 undepreciated portion of investments related to the generation
- 15 or supply of electricity, including associated deferred income
- 16 taxes, which are recorded on an electric utility's books as of
- 17 the end of the last full calendar year quarter immediately
- 18 preceding the effective date of this chapter, but which would
- 19 not be recoverable in a competitive generation market.
- 20 Transition costs shall not include any amounts previously
- 21 disallowed by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission as
- 22 imprudently incurred or any amounts disallowed by the
- 23 Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission in the electric utility's
- 24 most recent base rate proceeding because assets were not used
- 25 and useful.
- 26 "Transmission and distribution costs." All costs directly or
- 27 indirectly incurred to provide transmission and distribution
- 28 services to customers. Such costs shall include, but not be
- 29 limited to, the return of and return on facilities and other
- 30 capital investments necessary to provide transmission and

- 1 distribution services and associated operating expenses,
- 2 including applicable taxes.
- 3 "Universal service and energy conservation costs." The costs
- 4 incurred by a public utility for programs for low-income or
- 5 payment-troubled customers and for energy conservation and
- 6 demand-side management programs.
- 7 § 3204. Standards for restructuring of electric industry.
- 8 The following interdependent standards shall govern the
- 9 commission's assessment and approval of each public utility's
- 10 restructuring plan, oversight of the transition process and
- 11 regulation of the restructured electric utility industry:
- 12 (1) The commission shall ensure continuation of reliable
- electric service to all consumers in the Commonwealth,
- including, but not limited to, maintenance of adequate
- 15 reserve margins by electric suppliers.
- 16 (2) The commission shall allow customers to choose among
- 17 electric suppliers in a competitive generation market through
- 18 direct access. Customers should be able to choose among
- 19 alternatives such as firm and interruptible service, flexible
- 20 pricing and generation sources, including reasonable and fair
- 21 opportunities to self-generate and interconnect. These
- 22 alternatives may be provided by different electric suppliers.
- 23 (3) The commission shall require the unbundling of
- 24 electric utility tariffs and customer bills to separate the
- 25 charges for generation, transmission and distribution and
- other services.
- 27 (4) During the period of up to ten years in which the
- 28 competitive transition charge will be in effect under section
- 3208(b), (relating to competitive transition charge) the
- 30 total of a customer's unbundled charges, including the

- 1 competitive transition charge and the universal service and
- 2 energy conservation charge, shall not exceed the total
- 3 bundled charges that the customer was subject to on the
- 4 effective date of this chapter.
- 5 (5) The commission may permit, but shall not require, an
- 6 electric utility to divest facilities or reorganize its
- 7 corporate structure.
- 8 (6) The commission shall require nondiscriminatory open
- 9 access to the transmission and distribution system to enable
- 10 customers to choose among alternative electric suppliers.
- 11 (7) The commission shall require that restructuring of
- the electric utility industry be implemented in a manner that
- does not unreasonably discriminate against one customer class
- 14 to the benefit of another.
- 15 (8) The commission shall establish for each electric
- 16 utility a competitive transition charge which is designed to
- 17 recover transition costs as defined under this chapter.
- 18 (9) The commission shall establish for each electric
- 19 utility a universal service and energy conservation charge
- which is designed to recover the electric utility's universal
- 21 service and energy conservation costs over the life of these
- programs.
- 23 (10) The commission shall establish rates for
- transmission and distribution services in accordance with
- 25 Chapter 13 (relating to rates and rate making).
- 26 § 3205. Regionalism and reciprocity.
- 27 (a) Regionalism and reciprocity with other states. -- The
- 28 commission shall take all necessary and appropriate steps to
- 29 reform interstate power pools to enhance competition and to
- 30 complement industry restructuring on a regional basis. The

- 1 Commonwealth, the commission and Pennsylvania electric utilities
- 2 shall work with the Federal Government, other states in the
- 3 region and interstate power pools to accomplish the goals of
- 4 restructuring and to establish independent system operators to
- 5 operate the transmission system and interstate power pools. The
- 6 commission may delay its design and implementation of electric
- 7 utility restructuring to the extent that the commission is
- 8 unable, in conjunction with the parties listed above, to reform
- 9 interstate power pools and establish independent system
- 10 operators. In order to assure that generators of electricity in
- 11 this Commonwealth are not disadvantaged by allowing open access
- 12 to electricity consumers in this Commonwealth, the commission
- 13 may preclude electric suppliers from selling electricity
- 14 generated in other states to end-use customers in this
- 15 Commonwealth unless the other states provide comparable open
- 16 access to end-use customers located in the other states for
- 17 generators located in this Commonwealth.
- 18 (b) Reciprocity with electric cooperatives, municipalities
- 19 and other electric suppliers.--
- 20 (1) In order to make the benefits of competition in the
- 21 generation and sale of electricity as widely available as
- 22 possible to retail customers and to provide open, fair and
- 23 nondiscriminatory access to all electric suppliers:
- 24 (i) No electric cooperative or municipality which
- distributes electricity to end-use customers may utilize
- the transmission or distribution system of an electric
- 27 utility regulated by the commission for the purpose of
- 28 supplying electricity to an end-use customer unless such
- 29 electric cooperative or municipality provides open and
- 30 nondiscriminatory access and allows other electric

- suppliers to utilize its facilities, including any facilities it is entitled to provide to third parties
- 3 pursuant to contract, to make sales to the end-use
- 4 customers it serves.
- 5 (ii) The commission shall require any electric
- 6 cooperative or municipality seeking a license to operate
- 7 as an electric supplier to provide open and
- 8 nondiscriminatory access to its transmission and
- 9 distribution facilities as a condition to the granting of
- 10 such license.
- 11 (2) No electric utility regulated by the commission and
- 12 no affiliate of such electric utility may use the
- distribution system of another electric utility regulated by
- 14 the commission or make sales to end-users in another electric
- 15 utility's service territory, unless the commission has
- approved a restructuring plan for the supplying electric
- 17 utility which provides for customer choice comparable to the
- 18 customer choice provided under the approved plan of the
- 19 electric utility operating the distribution system in the
- 20 location where the supplying electric utility seeks to sell
- 21 electricity to an end-user.
- 22 § 3206. Implementation and timetable.
- 23 (a) General rule. -- As of January 1, 1999, the generation of
- 24 electricity shall no longer be regulated as a public utility
- 25 function, and as of that date all customers of electric
- 26 distribution companies in this Commonwealth shall have the
- 27 opportunity to purchase electricity from their choice of
- 28 electric supplier.
- 29 (b) Filing of restructuring plans.--All electric utilities
- 30 in this Commonwealth shall submit to the commission, pursuant to

- 1 a schedule to be determined by the commission, a restructuring
- 2 plan to implement retail customer access to a competitive market
- 3 for the generation of electricity.
- 4 (c) Contents of restructuring plans. -- Such restructuring
- 5 plans shall include unbundled rates for transmission,
- 6 distribution and ancillary services; a proposed competitive
- 7 transition charge; a proposed universal service and energy
- 8 conservation charge; procedures for assuring open access to all
- 9 licensed electric suppliers; a timetable for phasing in choice
- 10 to all customers; and revised tariffs and rate schedules
- 11 implementing the above.
- 12 (d) Commission review.--The commission shall review the
- 13 restructuring plan filed by each electric utility and shall
- 14 issue an order accepting, modifying or rejecting such plan at
- 15 the earliest date possible, but no later than 12 months from the
- 16 filing of such restructuring plan. If the commission rejects a
- 17 restructuring plan, it shall state the specific reasons for
- 18 rejection and direct the electric utility to file an alternative
- 19 plan addressing these objections within 30 days. The commission
- 20 shall review the alternative plan and issue a final order within
- 21 60 days.
- 22 § 3207. Duties of electric distribution companies.
- 23 (a) General rule.--It shall be the duty of each electric
- 24 distribution company to maintain the integrity of the
- 25 distribution system in a manner sufficient to provide service to
- 26 all customers connected to such system consistent with the
- 27 standards set forth in section 1501 (relating to character of
- 28 service and facilities). In performing such duties, the electric
- 29 distribution company shall implement procedures to require all
- 30 electric suppliers to deliver energy to the electric

- 1 distribution company at locations and in amounts which are
- 2 adequate to meet the energy supplier's obligations to its
- 3 customers. The electric distribution company may require that
- 4 the customer install, at the customer's expense, enhanced
- 5 metering capability sufficient to match the energy delivered by
- 6 the electric suppliers with consumption by the customer.
- 7 (b) Procedures for review by the commission.--There shall be
- 8 a rebuttable presumption that the electric distribution company
- 9 has the ability to receive energy at all points on its system
- 10 sufficient to meet the needs of all electric suppliers'
- 11 customers on its system, provided, however, that the electric
- 12 distribution company shall not have an obligation to install
- 13 nonstandard facilities, either as to type or location, for the
- 14 purpose of receiving energy from the energy supplier unless the
- 15 energy supplier or its customer pays the full cost of such
- 16 facilities. Nothing in this chapter shall prevent the electric
- 17 distribution company from upgrading its system to meet changing
- 18 customer requirements consistent with the requirements of
- 19 section 1501, and the commission may establish incentive
- 20 programs to encourage such system upgrades. Disputes concerning
- 21 facilities shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the
- 22 commission and may be initiated by the filing of a complaint
- 23 under section 701 (relating to complaints) by the electric
- 24 supplier or the customer.
- 25 (c) Customer billing. -- Subject to the right of an end-use
- 26 customer to choose to receive separate bills, the electric
- 27 distribution company may, at its option, be responsible for
- 28 billing customers for all electric services regardless of the
- 29 identity of the provider of those services.
- 30 (1) Customer bills shall contain unbundled charges

- sufficient to enable the customer to determine the basis for those charges.
- 3 (2) If services are provided by an entity other than the 4 electric distribution company, the entity that provides those 5 services shall furnish to the electric distribution company 6 billing data sufficient to enable the electric distribution 7 company to bill customers.
- 8 (3) The electric distribution company shall not be
 9 required to forward payment to entities providing services to
 10 customers, and on whose behalf the electric distribution
 11 company is billing those customers, before the electric
 12 distribution company has received payment for those services
 13 from customers.
- 14 (d) Obligation to serve.--An electric distribution company's
 15 obligation to provide electric service following implementation
 16 of restructuring is revised as follows:
 - (1) For customers who choose to continue purchasing all aspects of their electric service from the electric distribution company, the company shall be obligated to continue providing this level of service to such customers.
- 21 (2) For customers who choose to purchase their supply of 22 electricity from a supplier other than the electric 23 distribution company, the electric distribution company shall 24 no longer have an obligation to provide such customers with a 25 supply of electricity if the customers later seek to again 26 purchase supply from the electric distribution company, 27 provided, however, that the electric distribution company 28 shall not unreasonably discriminate against such customers 29 compared to how the electric distribution company would treat a new customer in similar circumstances. 30

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- 1 § 3208. Competitive transition charge.
- 2 (a) General rule. -- To provide each electric utility with an
- 3 opportunity to recover its transition costs following the
- 4 commission's determination under subsection (c), every customer
- 5 accessing the transmission and distribution network shall pay a
- 6 competitive transition charge to the electric distribution
- 7 company in whose certificated territory that customer is
- 8 located. The costs to be recovered shall be allocated to
- 9 customer classes on a demand basis, consistent with the demand
- 10 allocation methodology for utility production plant accepted by
- 11 the commission in the electric utility's most recent base rate
- 12 proceeding, and the charge shall be applied either through an
- 13 explicit demand charge or a customer charge. If a customer
- 14 installs on-site generation which operates in parallel with
- 15 other generation on the public utility's system and which
- 16 significantly reduces the customer's purchases of electricity
- 17 through the transmission and distribution network, the
- 18 customer's fully-allocated share of transition costs shall be
- 19 recovered from the customer through a customer charge. The
- 20 recovery of transition costs associated with existing generating
- 21 facilities is not contingent on continued operation of the
- 22 generation facilities for which recovery has been approved.
- 23 (b) Period for collecting competitive transition charge.--
- 24 The competitive transition charge shall be included on bills to
- 25 customers for not less than five years nor more than ten years
- 26 from the effective date of this chapter. The period for
- 27 collection of the competitive transition charge shall be uniform
- 28 among all electric utilities in this Commonwealth, except that
- 29 an electric utility may elect a shorter period if this does not
- 30 conflict with other provisions of this chapter. In establishing

- 1 the length of the period for collection of the competitive
- 2 transition charge, the commission shall consider the effect on
- 3 the ability of this Commonwealth to compete in attracting
- 4 industry and jobs, on the financial health of electric utilities
- 5 and other relevant factors.
- 6 (c) Determination of competitive transition charge.--In
- 7 determining the level of transition costs that an electric
- 8 utility may recover through the competitive transition charge,
- 9 the commission shall apply the following principles:
- 10 (1) The commission shall allow recovery of deferred
- income taxes, decommissioning costs and costs incurred under
- 12 contracts with nonutility generating projects that have
- 13 achieved an operational status.
- 14 (2) The commission shall allow recovery of an electric
- 15 utility's prudently incurred costs related to cancellation of
- 16 nonutility generating projects. The burden of proof to show
- that any costs claimed were prudently incurred shall be on
- the public utility. In reviewing a claim for such costs, the
- 19 commission shall not disallow any portion on the basis that
- it constitutes an amount greater than actual development
- 21 expenditures, as long as in total the amount claimed for
- recovery is reasonable when compared to the utility's total
- 23 estimated costs of obligations under the contract.
- 24 (3) The commission shall determine the level of
- 25 generation-related transition costs that may be recovered
- 26 through the competitive transition charge in accordance with
- 27 the following principles:
- 28 (i) The commission shall consider the extent to
- 29 which the electric utility has undertaken efforts to
- 30 mitigate generation-related transition costs by

accelerating depreciation and other appropriate means in
a manner that is reasonable under all of the
circumstances, including, but not limited to,
consideration of whether mitigation has been commensurate
with the magnitude of the electric utility's generationrelated transition costs.

- (ii) The commission shall consider the magnitude of the electric utility's transition costs related to generation facilities compared to the magnitude of investments by other electric utilities in comparable facilities in this Commonwealth, considering size, vintage, configuration and fuel type.
- (iii) The commission shall consider the impact of allowing recovery of a given level of generation-related transition costs upon competition in the regional electric generation markets in both the near term and long term.
- 18 (iv) The commission shall consider whether allowing
 19 recovery of a given level of generation-related
 20 transition costs through the competitive transition
 21 charge would have a serious negative impact upon the
 22 financial health of the electric utility and the
 23 reliability of the electric utility's service.
- 24 (d) Commission review.--As a component of its restructuring
- 25 plan, each electric utility shall file with the commission a
- 26 proposed competitive transition charge and supporting
- 27 documentation. In evaluating a proposed competitive transition
- 28 charge, the commission shall schedule hearings or other
- 29 proceedings, as necessary.
- 30 § 3209. Requirements for electric suppliers.

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- 1 (a) License requirement. -- No person or corporation,
- 2 including municipal corporations and cooperative associations,
- 3 shall engage in the business of an electric supplier in this
- 4 Commonwealth unless such person holds a license issued by the
- 5 commission.
- 6 (b) License application and issuance.--Every application for
- 7 an electric supplier license shall be made to the commission in
- 8 writing, be verified by oath or affirmation and be in such form
- 9 and contain such information as the commission may, by its
- 10 regulations, require. A license shall be issued to any qualified
- 11 applicant, authorizing the whole or any part of the service
- 12 covered by the application, if it is found that the applicant is
- 13 fit, willing and able to perform properly the service proposed
- 14 and to conform to the provisions of this title and the lawful
- 15 orders and regulations of the commission thereunder, and that
- 16 the proposed service, to the extent authorized by the license,
- 17 will be consistent with the public interest and the policy
- 18 declared in this chapter; otherwise such application shall be
- 19 denied.
- 20 (c) Financial responsibility. -- No energy supplier license
- 21 shall be issued or remain in force unless the holder thereof
- 22 shall have furnished a bond or other security approved by the
- 23 commission, in such form and amount as will insure the financial
- 24 responsibility of the electric supplier and the supply of
- 25 electricity in accordance with contracts, agreements or
- 26 arrangements therefor.
- 27 (d) Transferability of licenses. -- No license issued under
- 28 this chapter may be transferred without prior commission
- 29 approval.
- 30 (e) Form of regulation of electric suppliers.--The

- 1 commission may forebear from applying such requirements of Part
- 2 I (relating to public utility code) as it determines are
- 3 unnecessary due to competition among electric suppliers. The
- 4 commission shall regulate the rates of electric suppliers only
- 5 to the extent necessary to constrain the exercise of market
- 6 power by electric suppliers. In regulating the service of
- 7 electric suppliers, the commission shall impose such
- 8 requirements as are necessary to ensure that the present quality
- 9 of service provided by electric utilities does not deteriorate,
- 10 including, but not limited to, assuring that adequate reserved
- 11 margins of electric supply are maintained.
- 12 § 3210. Relation to utilities gross receipts tax.
- 13 (a) Electric suppliers. -- An electric distribution company
- 14 and an electric supplier shall be deemed to be an "electric
- 15 light company, " a "waterpower company" and a "hydro-electric
- 16 company" for purposes of section 1101 of the act of March 4,
- 17 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- 18 (b) Sales of electric energy. -- Sales of electric
- 19 transmission and distribution service and sales of electric
- 20 supply under this chapter shall be deemed "sales of electric
- 21 energy" for purposes of section 1101 of the Tax Reform Code of
- 22 1971.
- 23 Section 3. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission shall
- 24 promulgate regulations to implement this act.
- 25 Section 4. All acts and parts of acts are repealed insofar
- 26 as they are inconsistent with this act.
- 27 Section 5. This act shall take effect as follows:
- 28 (1) The amendment of 66 Pa.C.S. § 102 shall take effect
- 29 January 1, 1999.
- 30 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect

1 immediately.