THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 411 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY PRESTON, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, HORNAMAN, LONGIETTI, PASHINSKI, REICHLEY, SAINATO, WAGNER AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 3, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FEBRUARY 3, 2011

AN ACT

| 1 2 3 4 | Amending Titles 53 (Municipalities Generally) and 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for municipal aggregation of electric generation supply. |
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| 5 | The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania |
| 6 | hereby enacts as follows: |
| 7 | Section 1. Part V of Title 53 of the Pennsylvania |
| 8 | Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read: |
| 9 | <u>CHAPTER 63</u> |
| 10 | MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION OF |
| 11 | ELECTRIC GENERATION SUPPLY |
| 12 | <u>Sec.</u> |
| 13 | <u>6301. Legislative purpose.</u> |
| 14 | <u>6302. Definitions.</u> |
| 15 | <u>6303. Grant of authority.</u> |
| 16 | 6304. Intergovernmental cooperation. |
| 17 | 6305. Limitations. |
| 18 | <u>§ 6301. Legislative purpose.</u> |

| 1 | The purpose of this chapter is to grant legislative authority |
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| 2 | for any municipality to act as a municipal aggregator of |
| 3 | electricity under 66 Pa.C.S. Ch. 28 (relating to restructuring |
| 4 | of electric utility industry) and to provide municipal |
| 5 | aggregation of electric generation supply to consumers of |
| 6 | electricity within its municipal boundaries. |
| 7 | <u>§ 6302. Definitions.</u> |
| 8 | The following words and phrases when used in this chapter |
| 9 | shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the |
| 10 | context clearly indicates otherwise: |
| 11 | "Commission." The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. |
| 12 | "Consumer." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. § 2803 (relating to |
| 13 | <u>definitions).</u> |
| 14 | "Default service plan." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. § 2803 |
| 15 | (relating to definitions). |
| 16 | "Electric generation supplier." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. |
| 17 | <u>§ 2803 (relating to definitions).</u> |
| 18 | "Municipal aggregation program." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. |
| 19 | <u>§ 2803 (relating to definitions).</u> |
| 20 | "Municipal aggregator of electricity." As defined in 66 |
| 21 | <u>Pa.C.S. § 2803 (relating to definitions).</u> |
| 22 | "Municipality." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. § 2803 (relating to |
| 23 | definitions). |
| 24 | <u>"Price-to-compare." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. § 2803</u> |
| 25 | (relating to definitions). |
| 26 | "Small commercial customer." As defined in 66 Pa.C.S. § 2803 |
| 27 | (relating to definitions). |
| 28 | <u>§ 6303. Grant of authority.</u> |
| 29 | (a) AuthorityExcept as provided under subsection (b) and |
| 30 | notwithstanding any law, a municipality is authorized to: |

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| 1 | (1) Be a municipal aggregator of electricity and provide |
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| 2 | opt-in or opt-out municipal aggregation of electric |
| 3 | generation supply. |
| 4 | (2) Be licensed by the commission as an electric |
| 5 | generation supplier. |
| 6 | (b) ExceptionA municipality may only act as a municipal |
| 7 | aggregator of electricity on behalf of consumers within its |
| 8 | geographic boundaries. |
| 9 | <u>§ 6304. Intergovernmental cooperation.</u> |
| 10 | Any two or more municipalities may cooperate and exercise the |
| 11 | authority to jointly act as a municipal aggregator of electric |
| 12 | generation supply in accordance with Subpart D of Part III |
| 13 | (relating to area government and intergovernmental cooperation). |
| 14 | <u>§ 6305. Limitations.</u> |
| 15 | The authority granted to municipalities under this chapter |
| 16 | shall be limited by 66 Pa.C.S. § 2806.3 (relating to municipal |
| 17 | aggregation of electric generation supply) and any regulations |
| 18 | promulgated under 66 Pa.C.S. § 2806.3 by the commission. |
| 19 | Section 2. Section 2803 of Title 66 is amended to read: |
| 20 | § 2803. Definitions. |
| 21 | The following words and phrases when used in this chapter |
| 22 | shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the |
| 23 | context clearly indicates otherwise: |
| 24 | "Aggregator" or "market aggregator." An entity, licensed by |
| 25 | the commission, that purchases electric energy and takes title |
| 26 | to electric energy as an intermediary for sale to retail |
| 27 | customers. The term shall not include a municipal aggregator of |
| 28 | electricity. |
| 29 | "Bilateral contract." An agreement, as approved by the |
| 30 | commission, reached by two parties, each acting in its own |
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independent self-interest, as a result of negotiations free of 1 2 undue influence, duress or favoritism, in which the electric 3 energy supplier agrees to sell and the electric distribution company agrees to buy a quantity of electric energy at a 4 specified price for a specified period of time under terms 5 agreed to by both parties, and which follows a standard industry 6 7 template widely accepted in the industry or variations thereto 8 accepted by the parties. Standard industry templates may include the EEI Master Agreement for physical energy purchases and sales 9 10 and the ISDA Master Agreement for financial energy purchases and 11 sales.

"Broker" or "marketer." An entity, licensed by the commission, that acts as an agent or intermediary in the sale and purchase of electric energy but that does not take title to electric energy. <u>The term shall include a municipal aggregator</u> of electricity.

17 "Competitive transition charge." A nonbypassable charge 18 applied to the bill of every customer accessing the transmission 19 or distribution network which (charge) is designed to recover an 20 electric utility's transition or stranded costs as determined by 21 the commission under sections 2804 (relating to standards for 22 restructuring of electric industry) and 2808 (relating to 23 competitive transition charge).

24 "Consumer." A retail electric customer.

25 "Customer." A retail electric customer.

26 <u>"Default service plan." A plan for competitive procurement</u>

27 of default service supply approved by the commission under_

28 section 2807(e)(3.6) (relating to duties of electric

29 <u>distribution companies</u>).

30 "Default service provider." An electric distribution company 20110HB0411PN0378 - 4 - within its certified service territory or an alternative
 supplier approved by the commission that provides generation
 service to retail electric customers who:

4 (1) contract for electric power, including energy and
5 capacity, and the chosen electric generation supplier does
6 not supply the service; or

7 (2) do not choose an alternative electric generation8 supplier.

9 "Direct access." The right of electric generation suppliers 10 and end-use customers to utilize and interconnect with the 11 electric transmission and distribution system on a 12 nondiscriminatory basis at rates, terms and conditions of 13 service comparable to the transmission and distribution 14 companies' own use of the system to transport electricity from 15 any generator of electricity to any end-use customer.

16 "Electric distribution company." The public utility 17 providing facilities for the jurisdictional transmission and 18 distribution of electricity to retail customers, except building 19 or facility owners/operators that manage the internal 20 distribution system serving such building or facility and that 21 supply electric power and other related electric power services 22 to occupants of the building or facility.

"Electric generation supplier" or "electricity supplier." A 23 24 person or corporation, including municipal corporations which choose to provide service outside their municipal limits except 25 26 to the extent provided prior to the effective date of this 27 chapter, brokers and marketers, aggregators, municipal 28 aggregators of electricity implementing municipal aggregation 29 programs or any other entities, that sells to end-use customers 30 electricity or related services utilizing the jurisdictional

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1 transmission or distribution facilities of an electric 2 distribution company or that purchases, brokers, arranges or 3 markets electricity or related services for sale to end-use customers utilizing the jurisdictional transmission and 4 distribution facilities of an electric distribution company. The 5 term excludes building or facility owner/operators that manage 6 7 the internal distribution system serving such building or 8 facility and that supply electric power and other related power services to occupants of the building or facility. The term 9 10 excludes electric cooperative corporations except as provided in 11 15 Pa.C.S. Ch. 74 (relating to generation choice for customers 12 of electric cooperatives). 13 "End-use customer." A retail electric customer. 14 "Municipal aggregation contract." A written agreement between a municipal aggregator of electricity and an electric 15 16 generation supplier that includes: 17 (1) Beginning and ending dates of the contract period. 18 (2) Electric generation rate for the contract period. 19 (3) Opt-out and opt-in contract procedures. 20 (4) Customer complaint processes. (5) Contact information for inquiries related to 21 22 municipal aggregation. 23 "Municipal aggregation program." A program providing for a 24 municipality acting as a broker or marketer on behalf of the eligible consumers within the municipality's geographic 25 26 boundaries not excluded by section 2806.3 (relating to municipal aggregation of electric generation supply). A program may be 27 28 either: 29 (1) an opt-out program, which shall include every 30 eligible consumer who does not choose to be excluded from the 20110HB0411PN0378 - 6 -

1 <u>program; or</u>

| 2 | (2) an opt-in program, which shall include only those |
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| 3 | eligible consumers who choose to participate in the program. |
| 4 | "Municipal aggregator of electricity." A municipality, |
| 5 | licensed by the commission, that acts as a broker or marketer on |
| 6 | behalf of the eligible consumers within the municipality's |
| 7 | geographic boundaries under municipal aggregation. |
| 8 | "Municipality." A county, city, township, town or borough. |
| 9 | The term shall include a municipality subject to the former act |
| 10 | of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the Home Rule |
| 11 | Charter and Optional Plans Law. |
| 12 | "Price-to-compare." A line item that appears on a retail |
| 13 | customer's monthly bill for default service. The price-to- |
| 14 | compare is equal to the sum of all unbundled generation-related |
| 15 | and transmission-related charges to a default service customer |
| 16 | for that month of service. The price-to-compare is a customer- |
| 17 | specific price for a given month of service reflecting all cost |
| 18 | components that the customer avoids when choosing to take |
| 19 | electric generation service from an electric generation |
| 20 | <u>supplier.</u> |
| 21 | "Reliability." Includes adequacy and security. As used in |
| 22 | this definition, "adequacy" means the provision of sufficient |
| 23 | generation, transmission and distribution capacity so as to |
| 24 | supply the aggregate electric power and energy requirements of |
| 25 | consumers, taking into account scheduled and unscheduled outages |
| 26 | of system facilities; and "security" means designing, |
| 27 | maintaining and operating a system so that it can handle |
| 28 | emergencies safely while continuing to operate. |
| 29 | "Renewable resource." Includes technologies such as solar |
| 30 | photovoltaic energy, solar thermal energy, wind power, low-head |
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hydropower, geothermal energy, landfill and mine-based methane
 gas, energy from waste and sustainable biomass energy.

3 "Retail customer." A retail electric customer.

"Retail electric customer." A direct purchaser of electric 4 power. The term excludes an occupant of a building or facility 5 6 where the owners/operators manage the internal distribution 7 system serving such building or facility and supply electric 8 power and other related power services to occupants of the building or facility; where such owners/operators are direct 9 10 purchasers of electric power; and where the occupants are not 11 direct purchasers.

12 <u>"Small commercial customer." A retail electric customer that</u>
13 receives electric service under a small commercial, small
14 <u>industrial or small business rate classification and whose</u>
15 <u>maximum registered peak load was less than 50 kW within the last</u>
16 12 months.

17 "Transition or stranded costs." An electric utility's known 18 and measurable net electric generation-related costs, determined 19 on a net present value basis over the life of the asset or 20 liability as part of its restructuring plan, which traditionally 21 would be recoverable under a regulated environment but which may not be recoverable in a competitive electric generation market 22 23 and which the commission determines will remain following 24 mitigation by the electric utility. This term includes:

(1) Regulatory assets and other deferred charges
typically recoverable under current regulatory practice, the
unfunded portion of the utility's projected nuclear
generating plant decommissioning costs and cost obligations
under contracts with nonutility generating projects which
have received a commission order, the recoverability of which

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shall be determined under section 2808(c)(1) (relating to
 competitive transition charge).

3 (2) Prudently incurred costs related to cancellation,
4 buyout, buydown or renegotiation of nonutility generating
5 projects consistent with section 527 (relating to
6 cogeneration rules and regulations), the recoverability of
7 which shall be determined pursuant to section 2808(c)(2).

8 (3) The following costs, the recoverability of which 9 shall be determined pursuant to section 2808(c)(3):

10(i) Net plant investments and costs attributable to11the utility's existing generation plants and facilities.

The utility's disposal of spent nuclear fuel.

(iii) The utility's long-term purchase power
commitments other than the costs defined in paragraphs
(1) and (2).

(ii)

16 (iv) Retirement costs attributable to the utility's 17 existing generating plants other than the costs defined 18 in paragraph (1).

(v) Other transition costs of the utility, including
costs of employee severance, retraining, early
retirement, outplacement and related expenses, at
reasonable levels, for employees who are affected by
changes that occur as a result of the restructuring of

the electric industry occasioned by this chapter.

The term includes any costs attributable to physical plants no longer used and useful because of the transition to retail competition. The term excludes any amounts previously disallowed by the commission as imprudently incurred. To the extent that the recoverability of amounts that are sought to be included as transition or stranded costs are subject to appellate review as

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of the time of the commission determination, any determination
 to include such costs shall be reversed to the extent required
 by the results of that appellate review.

4 "Transmission and distribution costs." All costs directly or
5 indirectly incurred to provide transmission and distribution
6 services to retail electric customers. This includes the return
7 of and return on facilities and other capital investments
8 necessary to provide transmission and distribution services and
9 associated operating expenses, including applicable taxes.

10 "Universal service and energy conservation." Policies, protections and services that help low-income customers to 11 12 maintain electric service. The term includes customer assistance 13 programs, termination of service protection and policies and 14 services that help low-income customers to reduce or manage energy consumption in a cost-effective manner, such as the low-15 16 income usage reduction programs, application of renewable 17 resources and consumer education.

Section 3. Title 66 is amended by adding a section to read:
<u>§ 2806.3. Municipal aggregation of electric generation supply.</u>

20 (a) Licensing. -- The commission, in accordance with its

21 regulations, within 30 days following receipt of an application,

22 may issue a license to a municipality as an electric generation

23 supplier to act as a municipal aggregator of electric generation

24 supply service for eligible consumers within the municipality's

25 geographic boundaries. A municipal aggregator of electricity

26 under this section shall not be considered a public utility or a

27 <u>utility engaging in the wholesale purchase and resale of</u>

28 <u>electricity</u>, and the provision of municipal aggregation shall

29 not be considered a wholesale utility transaction.

30 (b) Ordinance required. -- Prior to applying for an electric

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| 1 | generation supplier license with the commission, the governing |
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| 2 | body of the municipality shall adopt an ordinance authorizing |
| 3 | the municipality to apply for an electric generation supplier |
| 4 | license to serve as a municipal aggregator of electricity, |
| 5 | indicate whether the municipal aggregation shall be an opt-in or |
| 6 | opt-out program and shall identify municipal officials by either |
| 7 | title of office or name, or their duly appointed designees, |
| 8 | authorized to execute documents with the commission on behalf of |
| 9 | the municipality. A municipal aggregator of electricity shall |
| 10 | provide reasonable public notice of municipal consideration of |
| 11 | any ordinance authorizing a municipal aggregation program, which |
| 12 | shall include newspaper publication on a monthly basis beginning |
| 13 | at least 90 days prior to the adoption of an ordinance |
| 14 | authorizing an opt-out program. |
| 15 | (c) Municipal aggregation contracts |
| 16 | (1) A municipal aggregator of electricity may negotiate |
| 17 | and enter into a contract for electric generation supply |
| 18 | services with an electric generation supplier. A municipal |
| 19 | aggregator of electricity shall use a competitive procurement |
| 20 | or request-for proposal process to select the electric |
| 21 | generation supplier from the lowest responsible qualified |
| 22 | bidder, regardless of the generation fuel type, location, |
| 23 | technology or new or existing status of the generation that |
| 24 | the electric generation supplier will use to supply the |
| 25 | municipal aggregation. An executed municipal aggregation |
| 26 | contract shall not go into effect prior to filing with the |
| 27 | commission, and a copy of the filed contract shall be |
| 28 | provided to the electric distribution company whose service |
| 29 | territory includes the municipal aggregator. Each contract |
| 30 | shall include: |
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| 1 | (i) provisions for the timing of the distribution of |
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| 2 | customer lists by the electric distribution company and |
| 3 | customer notices consistent with this section; |
| 4 | (ii) a consumer education plan with appropriate |
| 5 | consumer education materials to inform consumers about |
| 6 | the existence of the municipal aggregation and the |
| 7 | highlights of the program, which shall be deployed |
| 8 | concurrently with the distribution of opt-in or opt-out |
| 9 | notices, as applicable; and |
| 10 | (iii) a copy of the sample opt-in or opt-out notice |
| 11 | to be sent to consumers, which shall provide the |
| 12 | identification of the selected electric generation |
| 13 | supplier. |
| 14 | (2) Any contract between a municipality and an electric |
| 15 | generation supplier executed under this section shall clearly |
| 16 | indicate whether it is for an opt-in or opt-out municipal |
| 17 | aggregation and the price that the contracted electric |
| 18 | generation supplier will charge customers for electric |
| 19 | generation supply, as well as the time period of the |
| 20 | contract. A contract executed under this section may not |
| 21 | exceed three years. If the price is a fixed rate, the price |
| 22 | shall be expressed in cents per kilowatt hour. If the |
| 23 | contract provides for a percentage off of the default service |
| 24 | rate or any other type of pricing arrangement, an |
| 25 | understandable description of the amount of the percentage |
| 26 | discount or other pricing arrangement and how the rate may |
| 27 | change shall be provided. If the electric generation supplier |
| 28 | will charge different rates to different rate classes within |
| 29 | the municipality, the applicable rate to consumers within |
| 30 | each rate class shall be described. |
| | |

| 1 | (d) Opt-out programs; notice and opt-out procedures |
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| 2 | (1) No consumer may be bound by a contract between a |
| 3 | municipal aggregator of electricity and an electric |
| 4 | generation supplier in opt-out municipal aggregation. |
| 5 | Customers receiving electric generation service under an opt- |
| 6 | out municipal aggregation program may switch to an electric |
| 7 | generation supplier other than the supplier to the municipal |
| 8 | aggregation program at any time without penalty, cancellation |
| 9 | fees or other restrictions, provided that the switch shall |
| 10 | take place pursuant to commission-approved switching |
| 11 | procedures. |
| 12 | (2) Any contract between a municipality and an electric |
| 13 | generation supplier executed under this section shall contain |
| 14 | procedures for addressing consumer disputes and complaints |
| 15 | related to supply services received pursuant to a municipal |
| 16 | aggregation program. The procedures shall be made available |
| 17 | to consumers, at least annually, in a clear and easily |
| 18 | understandable format. After a municipality executes a |
| 19 | contract for electric generation services, but prior to |
| 20 | including a consumer's electric account or accounts in an |
| 21 | opt-out municipal aggregation, a municipal aggregator of |
| 22 | electricity shall provide each eligible consumer with written |
| 23 | notice that the consumer's account will be automatically |
| 24 | included in the municipal aggregation unless the customer |
| 25 | affirmatively opts out of the municipal aggregation. The |
| 26 | notice, written in plain language, shall include all of the |
| 27 | following: |
| 28 | (i) A description of the ordinance adopted by the |
| 29 | municipality authorizing it to apply for a license from |
| 30 | the commission, the competitive procurement process under |
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| 1 | which offers for electric generation supply were |
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| 2 | solicited and a location where, during regular business |
| 3 | hours, consumers may view the ordinance and executed |
| 4 | contract free of charge or obtain a copy for a reasonable |
| 5 | <u>fee.</u> |
| 6 | (ii) Disclosure of the price that the contracted |
| 7 | electric generation supplier will charge customers for |
| 8 | electric generation service. If the price is a fixed |
| 9 | rate, the municipal aggregator of electricity shall |
| 10 | express the price in cents per kilowatt hour and list the |
| 11 | most recent applicable price-to-compare of the default |
| 12 | service provider in whose service territory the |
| 13 | municipality is located. If the contract provides for a |
| 14 | percentage off of the default service rate or any other |
| 15 | type of pricing arrangement, an understandable |
| 16 | description of the amount of the percentage discount or |
| 17 | other pricing arrangement and how the rate may change |
| 18 | shall be provided. If the electric generation supplier |
| 19 | charges different rates to different rate classes within |
| 20 | the municipality, the municipal aggregator of electricity |
| 21 | shall describe the applicable rate to consumers within |
| 22 | each rate class and the associated price-to-compare. |
| 23 | (iii) An itemized list and explanation of all fees |
| 24 | and charges that are not incorporated into the rates |
| 25 | charged for electric generation service that the electric |
| 26 | generation supplier will charge to the consumer for |
| 27 | participating in the municipal aggregation, including any |
| 28 | surcharges that may be assessed. |
| 29 | (iv) Disclosure of the estimated service |
| 30 | commencement date and notice that the consumer may opt |

| 1 | out of the municipal aggregation program at any time. |
|----|---|
| 2 | (v) A statement informing consumers that if they |
| 3 | choose to opt out of the municipal aggregation they will |
| 4 | be served by the default service offer established under |
| 5 | section 2807(e) (relating to duties of electric |
| 6 | distribution companies) until the consumer chooses an |
| 7 | alternative electric generation supplier or chooses to |
| 8 | participate in a subsequent municipal aggregation. |
| 9 | (vi) A statement informing consumers that if they |
| 10 | switch back to the default service provider they may not |
| 11 | be served under the same rates, terms and conditions that |
| 12 | apply to other customers within the municipal |
| 13 | aggregation. |
| 14 | (vii) Disclosure of any credit, collection and |
| 15 | deposit policies and requirements. |
| 16 | (viii) Disclosure of any limitations or conditions |
| 17 | on customer acceptance into the municipal aggregation. |
| 18 | (ix) A description of the process for consumers to |
| 19 | opt out of the municipal aggregation. The process shall |
| 20 | include provisions for consumers to return a postcard or |
| 21 | similar notice to the municipal aggregator of electricity |
| 22 | or its agent. The process may include other opt-out |
| 23 | methods, such as telephonic or Internet notice, if these |
| 24 | alternative methods allow for verification of a |
| 25 | consumer's election to opt out of the municipal |
| 26 | aggregation. |
| 27 | (x) A local or toll-free telephone number, with the |
| 28 | available calling hours, that consumers may call with |
| 29 | questions regarding the formation or operation of the |
| 30 | municipal aggregation. |

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| 1 | (e) Opt-in programs; notice and opt-in procedures |
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| 2 | (1) No consumer may be bound by a contract between a |
| 3 | municipal aggregator and an electric generation supplier in |
| 4 | opt-in municipal aggregation until the consumer has been |
| 5 | provided an opt-in notice required under this subsection and |
| 6 | the expiration of any waiting period for a consumer to cancel |
| 7 | the pending change to the electric generation supplier |
| 8 | following written confirmation by the electric distribution |
| 9 | company as prescribed by regulation. Customers receiving |
| 10 | electric generation service under an opt-in municipal |
| 11 | aggregation program may switch to an electric generation |
| 12 | supplier other than the supplier to the municipal aggregation |
| 13 | program at any time without penalty, cancellation fees or |
| 14 | other restrictions, provided that the switch shall take place |
| 15 | pursuant to commission-approved switching procedures. |
| 16 | (2) After a municipality executes a contract for |
| 17 | electric generation services, but prior to including a |
| 18 | consumer's electric account or accounts in an opt-in |
| 19 | municipal aggregation, a municipal aggregator of electricity |
| 20 | shall provide each eligible consumer with written notice that |
| 21 | the customer may participate in the municipal aggregation. |
| 22 | The notice, written in plain language, shall include all of |
| 23 | the information required under subsection (d)(2)(i), (ii), |
| 24 | (iii), (v), (vi), (vii), (ix) and (x) and the following |
| 25 | information: |
| 26 | (i) A statement informing consumers that if they do |
| 27 | not choose to opt in to the municipal aggregation they |
| 28 | will be served by the default service offer established |
| 29 | under section 2807(e) until the consumer chooses an |
| 30 | alternative electric generation supplier or chooses to |
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| 1 | participate in a subsequent municipal aggregation. |
|----|---|
| 2 | (ii) A description of the process for consumers to |
| 3 | opt in to the municipal aggregation. The process shall |
| 4 | include provisions for consumers to return a postcard or |
| 5 | similar notice to the municipal aggregator of electricity |
| 6 | or its agent. The process may include other opt-in |
| 7 | methods, such as telephonic or Internet notice, if these |
| 8 | alternative methods allow for verification of a |
| 9 | consumer's election to opt in to the municipal |
| 10 | aggregation. The time period for a customer to choose to |
| 11 | opt in to the municipal aggregation shall be at least 30 |
| 12 | days from the date of the mailing of the written notice. |
| 13 | If a consumer's return postcard or notice is postmarked |
| 14 | before the opt-in deadline has elapsed, the consumer |
| 15 | shall be deemed to have opted in to the municipal |
| 16 | aggregation. |
| 17 | (f) Additional requirements; provision of customer |
| 18 | information |
| 19 | (1) The following consumers shall be excluded from |
| 20 | enrollment in a municipal aggregation: |
| 21 | (i) For opt-out municipal aggregation only, a |
| 22 | consumer that has opted out of the municipal aggregation |
| 23 | under subsection (d) or that has a special contract or |
| 24 | agreement with an electric distribution company or a |
| 25 | consumer under an existing contract with a licensed |
| 26 | electric generation supplier other than a consumer under |
| 27 | a municipal aggregation contract with the current |
| 28 | electric generation supplier of the municipal |
| 29 | aggregation. |
| 30 | (ii) A consumer that is not located within the |

| 1 | geographic boundaries of the municipal aggregator of |
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| 2 | electricity. |
| 3 | (iii) A consumer other than a residential or small |
| 4 | commercial customer. |
| 5 | (iv) A consumer that is enrolled in an electric |
| 6 | distribution company's customer assistance program that |
| 7 | does not include any electric generation supplier charges |
| 8 | in the calculation of the customer assistance program |
| 9 | benefit. |
| 10 | (v) End-use consumers served or authorized to be |
| 11 | served by an electric cooperative or loads served by a |
| 12 | municipality that owns and operates its own electric |
| 13 | distribution system. |
| 14 | (2) No earlier than three months and no later than 30 |
| 15 | days prior to the end of the term of a municipal aggregation |
| 16 | contract and commencement of a new municipal aggregation |
| 17 | contract or contract renewal term, a municipal aggregator of |
| 18 | electricity or the electric generation supplier to the |
| 19 | municipal aggregation shall provide notice to all consumers |
| 20 | served by the municipal aggregation or who opted out of the |
| 21 | municipal aggregation of their right to opt out of the |
| 22 | subsequent municipal aggregation and take service pursuant to |
| 23 | the default service provider's default service offer or with |
| 24 | another electric generation supplier without fee or penalty. |
| 25 | The notice shall also explicitly inform customers who may |
| 26 | have opted out of any previous municipal aggregation |
| 27 | contracts that they may be eligible to participate in the |
| 28 | upcoming municipal aggregation contract, pursuant to the |
| 29 | eligibility requirements defined in this subsection. The |
| 30 | notice shall follow the procedures established for the |
| | |

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| 1 | initial opt-out or opt-in notice set forth in subsection (d) |
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| 2 | or (e), as applicable, and shall prominently disclose to |
| 3 | customers all changes to the terms and conditions associated |
| 4 | with the municipal aggregation. The municipal aggregator of |
| 5 | electricity may not send an opt-out notice to the same |
| 6 | customer account for the period covered by the municipal |
| 7 | aggregation contract where the customer account has |
| 8 | previously opted out. |
| 9 | (3) No municipal aggregator of electricity or electric |
| 10 | generation supplier serving a municipal aggregation may |
| 11 | impose any term, condition, fee or charge on a consumer |
| 12 | served by a municipal aggregation that is materially |
| 13 | different from the particular term, condition, fee or charge |
| 14 | which was included within the contract between the municipal |
| 15 | aggregator of electricity and the electric generation |
| 16 | supplier or the notices provided under subsection (d) or (e). |
| 17 | (4) The following shall apply to provisions for the list |
| 18 | of eligible municipal aggregation consumers: |
| 19 | (i) After the issuance of a license to a municipal |
| 20 | aggregator of electricity and upon request of the |
| 21 | municipal aggregator of electricity or an electric |
| 22 | generation supplier designated by the municipal |
| 23 | aggregator, an electric distribution company shall use |
| 24 | reasonable efforts to provide the following information |
| 25 | to the extent it is maintained by the electric |
| 26 | distribution company for all consumers residing within |
| 27 | the municipal aggregator of electricity's geographic |
| 28 | boundaries to the municipal aggregator of electricity or |
| 29 | the electric generation supplier within 30 calendar days |
| 30 | <u>of the request:</u> |
| | |

| 1 | (A) An updated list of names, addresses, account |
|----|---|
| 2 | numbers, rate codes, indication of whether a consumer |
| 3 | is enrolled in a customer assistance program or |
| 4 | budget billing, load data and other related consumer |
| 5 | information, consistent with the information that is |
| 6 | provided to other electric generation suppliers. |
| 7 | (B) An identification of consumers who are |
| 8 | currently under contract with an electric generation |
| 9 | supplier or in a special arrangement with the |
| 10 | electric distribution company. |
| 11 | (ii) The municipal aggregator of electricity or the |
| 12 | electric generation supplier to the municipal aggregation |
| 13 | may only use the consumer information from the list of |
| 14 | eligible municipal aggregation consumers for the purpose |
| 15 | of forming and operating its municipal aggregation and |
| 16 | may not disclose the consumer information unless the |
| 17 | release is pursuant to a court order or a commission |
| 18 | regulation or order. |
| 19 | (iii) Upon completion of the mailing of opt-out |
| 20 | notices and expiration of any associated waiting period |
| 21 | under subsection (d)(1), a municipal aggregator of |
| 22 | electricity or the electric generation supplier to a |
| 23 | municipal aggregation may request updated consumer |
| 24 | information required under this subsection, and the |
| 25 | electric distribution company shall use reasonable |
| 26 | efforts to provide such information within ten days of |
| 27 | the request. |
| 28 | (5) The following shall apply to the notice of municipal |
| 29 | aggregation and opt-out notice: |
| 30 | (i) Each municipal aggregator of electricity shall |
| | |

1 ensure that only eligible consumers are included in its municipal aggregation.

(ii) If accounts of ineligible consumers or 3 consumers who have not opted in or who have opted out of 4 the municipal aggregation, as applicable, are switched to 5 the electric generation supplier to the municipal 6 aggregation, the municipal aggregator of electricity 7 8 shall promptly inform the consumer and take all necessary 9 actions to have the consumer switched back to the 10 consumer's original electric generation supplier or default service provider at no cost to the consumer and 11 12 shall reimburse the consumer for any amount paid under the municipal aggregation that is greater than the amount 13 14 otherwise due for its original generation service. The original electric generation supplier or default service 15 provider shall not be liable for any costs, fees, 16 penalties or damages, including any imposed by the 17 18 regional transmission organization in which the municipal 19 aggregator of electricity is located, arising from the 20 improper transfer. Consistent with due process, the 21 commission may require the electric generation supplier 22 to the municipal aggregator of electricity to pay any 23 such amounts incurred by the original electric generation 24 supplier or default service provider, plus any amounts 25 the original electric generation supplier would have 26 received from the consumer for electric generation service from the time of the improper transfer until the 27 consumer is returned to electric generation service 28 29 provided by the original electric generation supplier. (g) Coordination with default service.--30

2

| 1 | (1) The implementation of a municipal aggregation | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| 2 | program shall be coordinated with the default service supply | |
| 3 | procurement plans of the electric distribution company whose | |
| 4 | service territory encompasses the boundaries of the | |
| 5 | municipality participating in the program. | |
| 6 | (2) Unless otherwise authorized by the commission, no | |
| 7 | municipal aggregator may enter into a contract for electric | |
| 8 | generation services during the term of the default service | |
| 9 | supply procurement plan, approved by the commission on the | |
| 10 | effective date of this section, of the electric distribution | |
| 11 | company whose service territory encompasses the boundaries of | |
| 12 | the municipal aggregator. | |
| 13 | (3) If a municipal aggregator of electricity ceases to | |
| 14 | provide municipal aggregation services during the current | |
| 15 | term of the municipal aggregation contract filed with the | |
| 16 | commission and the customers of the municipal aggregator of | |
| 17 | electricity are returned to default service, the default | |
| 18 | service rate for such customers shall be the market price for | |
| 19 | generation service, including all charges for spot market | |
| 20 | purchases of energy, capacity, transmission, ancillary | |
| 21 | services, compliance with the act of November 30, 2004 | |
| 22 | (P.L.1672, No.213), known as the Alternative Energy Portfolio | |
| 23 | Standards Act, and all other costs incurred by the default | |
| 24 | service provider in the provision of generation service to | |
| 25 | such customers, for the remainder of the default service | |
| 26 | provider's current default service plan. | |
| 27 | (h) Duties of electric distribution companies and cost | |
| 28 <u>recovery</u> | | |
| 29 | (1) Each electric distribution company shall provide | |
| 30 | reasonable cooperation with municipal aggregators of | |
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| | | |

| 1 | electricity or the electric generation supplier to the |
|----|---|
| 2 | municipal aggregation to facilitate the proper formation and |
| 3 | functioning of opt-out or opt-in municipal aggregation, as |
| 4 | applicable, including coordinating with municipal aggregators |
| 5 | of electricity and electric generation suppliers to promote |
| 6 | nondiscriminatory access to electric services and to process |
| 7 | enrollment requests from municipal aggregators of electricity |
| 8 | or their designated electric generation supplier in |
| 9 | accordance with the same processes applicable to other |
| 10 | licensed electric generation suppliers providing service to |
| 11 | retail electric customers. |
| 12 | (2) An electric distribution company shall recover on a |
| 13 | full and current basis all costs incurred to support and that |
| 14 | are related to municipal aggregation through a nonbypassable |
| 15 | reconcilable automatic adjustment charge under section 1307 |
| 16 | (relating to sliding scale of rates; adjustments) from all |
| 17 | residential and small commercial consumers accessing the |
| 18 | electric distribution company's transmission and distribution |
| 19 | system. |
| 20 | (i) Duties of commission The commission shall: |
| 21 | (1) Promulgate regulations necessary to implement the |
| 22 | provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, |
| 23 | developing opt-in and opt-out notices for use by municipal |
| 24 | aggregators of electricity in this Commonwealth. |
| 25 | (2) Promulgate regulations and take any other action |
| 26 | necessary to coordinate the implementation of municipal |
| 27 | aggregation programs with commission approval of electric |
| 28 | distribution company default supply procurement plans. |
| 29 | Section 4. Sections 2807(d)(1) and 2809(a) of Title 66 are |
| 30 | amended to read: |
| | |

1 § 2807. Duties of electric distribution companies.

* * * 2

3 (d) Consumer protections and customer service.--The electric distribution company shall continue to provide customer service 4 functions consistent with the regulations of the commission, 5 including meter reading, complaint resolution and collections. 6 7 Customer services shall, at a minimum, be maintained at the same 8 level of quality under retail competition.

9 [The] Except as provided under section 2806.3 (1)(relating to municipal aggregation of electric generation 10 supply), the commission shall establish regulations to ensure 11 12 that an electric distribution company does not change a 13 customer's electricity supplier without direct oral 14 confirmation from the customer of record or written evidence 15 of the customer's consent to a change of supplier. * * *

16

§ 2809. Requirements for electric generation suppliers. 17

18 (a) License requirement. -- No person or corporation, 19 including municipal corporations which choose to provide service 20 outside their municipal limits except to the extent provided prior to the effective date of this chapter, brokers and 21 marketers, aggregators, municipal aggregators of electricity 22 23 implementing municipal aggregation programs and other entities, 24 shall engage in the business of an electric generation supplier 25 in this Commonwealth unless the person or corporation holds a 26 license issued by the commission. The commission may waive 27 certain licensing requirements in its regulations for municipal_ aggregators of electricity implementing municipal aggregation 28 29 programs. Consistent with 15 Pa.C.S. Ch. 74 (relating to generation choice for customers of electric cooperatives), 30

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electric cooperative corporations must possess a certificate for
 service to supply generation services beyond their territorial
 limits.

- 4 * * *
- 5 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.