

# CHARGE Conference Call

June 24, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.

Call-in number: 1-866-618-6746 and Access Code: 6060145

## Topics for Discussion

### 1. EGS Marketing Activities

- Discussion of June 11 redlined version and comments
- Staff targets July 15, 2010 Public Meeting for consideration by PUC

### 2. Supplier Consolidated Billing Implementation

- EDEWG plans to have a document ready to submit to CHARGE around the end of July
- PPL is struggling with legal aspects of supplier consolidated billing and plans to file a revised supplier tariff addressing this and other issues
- FirstEnergy's supplier tariff is pending before the PUC and is available at the following link: <http://www.puc.state.pa.us//pcdocs/1073538.pdf> (Docket No. P-2009-2093053, filed March 31, 2010)
  - Staff is reviewing FE's supplier tariff to determine whether supplier consolidated billing is an issue currently pending before the PUC, which would limit our ability to discuss

### 3. Eligible Customer List

- Staff is finalizing a recommendation for the PUC to address various ECL issues relating to uniformity and availability of customer information needed by EGSs (target: July 15 PM)
- Staff envisions issuance of a tentative order for comments

### 4. Default Service Bid Information

- Staff seeking feedback on the approach followed by FirstEnergy as a starting point for standardizing release of default service auction results and formulation of price to compare
- Link to the PTC calculator and default service procurement schedule - [http://www.firstenergycorp.com/supplierservices/Pennsylvania/Met-Ed\\_and\\_Penelec/Met-Ed\\_and\\_Penelec\\_Default\\_Service\\_Information.html](http://www.firstenergycorp.com/supplierservices/Pennsylvania/Met-Ed_and_Penelec/Met-Ed_and_Penelec_Default_Service_Information.html)
- Link to the results for the May auctions - <http://www.firstenergycorp.com/utilitypowerprocurements/pa/mepn/index.html>

- General link to navigate to either site -  
<http://www.firstenergycorp.com/corporate/Suppliers.html>

#### **5. Estimated State Tax Amount on Bills**

- Question has arisen about whether the presentation of “estimated total state taxes” on residential bills is required for generation charges of EGS as there is no standard treatment among EGSs
- Staff has determined that EDC tax components are Capital Stock, Property Tax-Local and PURTA, State Unemployment Compensation, PA State Income Tax, and Gross Receipts Tax.
- Staff is conducting further review of statute and regulations to offer guidance to EGSs on this issue; interested in feedback from group on value of having information on bills about taxes (other than GRT) paid by EGSs

#### **6. Gross Receipts Tax**

- Based on discussion during June 10 call about the need to gross-up the GRT rate from 5.9% to 6.27%, Staff is drafting FAQ for PAPowerSwitch.com to clarify for consumers
- Meanwhile, EGSs should ensure that sales and marketing communications are consistent with billing practices

#### **7. Historical Usage Requests**

- PUC’s order adopted on June 3, 2010 in Petition of PECO Energy for Approval of Smart Meter Technology Procurement and Installment Plan clarified PECO’s obligation to provide historical usage information in response to EDI request when a customer has previously restricted release of this information but has given the EGS a letter of authorization
  - Link to the order:  
<http://www.puc.state.pa.us/general/ConsolidatedCaseView.aspx?Docket=M-2009-2123944>
- Staff expects Secretarial Letter to be issued clarifying this obligation for all EDCs

#### **8. Last-In Enrollments**

- Spreadsheet was previously circulated to show how EDCs handle multiple enrollments for the same customer before the 16-day cut-off date
- Issue of whether to standardize these processes going forward should be discussed

## 9. Mixed Meter – EGS Authority

- Questions have been raised about whether EGSs must have authority to serve residential customers when a residential customer is served as part of a mixed meter situation
  - Staff's prior guidance was that if the customer is served under a Residential rate schedule, the EGS should have authority under the license to serve residential customers (and that residential consumer protections would apply)
- During the April 29 call, EGSs expressed concerns about needing a license to serve residential customers if they are contracting with a commercial entity, such as a military base, due to marketing, reporting and compliance differences
- Based on concerns raised during April 29 call, staff has revisited this issue and now believes that it may not be necessary for an EGS to obtain a license to serve residential customers or to afford residential consumer protections when the EGS contracts with and bills the commercial customer
- Staff is drafting document to explain issue and different interpretations in order to obtain guidance from the Commission

## 10. Contract Expiration/Renewal Notices

- Renewal notice regulations at 52 Pa. Code 54.5(g) have been superseded by subsequent guidelines issued in 2001, which are attached and posted on the OCMO's webpage at [http://www.puc.state.pa.us/electric/electric\\_CompetitiveMarketOversight.aspx](http://www.puc.state.pa.us/electric/electric_CompetitiveMarketOversight.aspx)
  - All EGS s should review guidelines and submit any questions to [ra-OCMO@state.pa.us](mailto:ra-OCMO@state.pa.us)
  - Staff is offering to informally review proposed renewal notices; please send them to [ra-OCMO@state.pa.us](mailto:ra-OCMO@state.pa.us) at least 10 days prior to issuance to consumers
- Staff is seeking input on how to handle the section of the guidelines requiring a supplier to place the EDC's price to compare on the renewal notice, see II(b)(iii), since this information may not be available for 2011 when the notices are issued, depending on when contracts expire
- Staff is seeking input on how to handle situation where customer does not respond to notice: do the new terms go into effect?
  - Informal staff advice has been that the new terms can go into effect as long as: 1) the renewal notice clearly states what will occur if there is no customer response; 2) the terms are month-to-month; and 3) there is no cancellation penalty

- This guidance is based on direction the Commission has provided the natural gas industry in regulations at 52 Pa. Code 62.75(g)(2) which are available at the following link: <http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/052/chapter62/s62.75.html>

#### **11. CHARGE Contact List**

- Contact list is on website at the following link:

[http://www.puc.state.pa.us/electric/electric\\_CompetitiveMarketOversight.aspx](http://www.puc.state.pa.us/electric/electric_CompetitiveMarketOversight.aspx)

- Please send contact information or updates to [ra-ocmo@state.pa.us](mailto:ra-ocmo@state.pa.us); purpose of this list is to enable stakeholders to contact one another directly to resolve issues and is separate from email distribution list

#### **12. Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2010**

- July 8, 9:30 a.m.
- July 22, 9:30 a.m.
- August 5, 9:30 a.m.
- August 26, 9:30 a.m.
- September 9, 9:30 a.m.
- September 30, 9:30 a.m.
- October 14, 9:30 a.m.
- October 28, 9:30 a.m.
- November 18, 1:30 p.m.
- December 9, 9:30 a.m.
- December 23, 9:30 a.m.