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File #: 163476

February 22, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor North
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: Petition of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for Approval of a Default Service Program and Procurement Plan for the Period June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2021
Docket No. P-2016-2526627**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find Affidavits for Proof of Publication indicating that the Public Notice for the above-referenced proceeding was published in the following newspapers on the dates indicated:

Publication	Date
<i>The Morning Call</i>	February 3, 2016
<i>Williamsport Sun-Gazette</i>	February 3, 2016
<i>Times-Tribune</i>	February 3, 2016
<i>LNP Media Group</i>	February 3, 2016
<i>The Patriot-News</i>	February 4, 2016

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
February 22, 2016
Page 2

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher T. Wright

CTW/skr
Enclosure

cc: Honorable Susan D. Colwell

Proof of Publication Notice in The Morning Call

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929, and its amendments

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF LEHIGH

} ss:

COPY OF NOTICE OR ADVERTISEMENT

Sharon A. Repsher, Manager of Billing and Collections of THE

MORNING CALL, LLC, of the County and State aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that THE MORNING CALL is a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the aforesaid Act, whose place of business is 101 North Sixth Street, City of Allentown, County and State aforesaid, and that the said newspaper was established in 1888 since which date THE MORNING CALL has been regularly issued in said County, and that the printed notice or advertisement attached hereto is exactly the same as was printed and published in regular editions and issues of the said THE MORNING CALL on the following dates, viz.:

..... and the 3rd day of February 2016

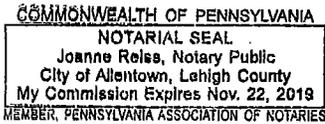
Affiant further deposes that he is the designated agent duly authorized by THE MORNING CALL, LLC, a corporation, publisher of said THE MORNING CALL, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and the affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Sharon A. Repsher

Designated Agent, THE MORNING CALL, LLC

SWORN to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of February 2016

Joanne Reiss
Notary Public



THE MORNING CALL, LLC, publisher of THE MORNING CALL, a newspaper, aforesaid notice and publication costs and certifies that the same have been duly paid

Record # 42538

Notice of Filing of Default Service Procurement Plan

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The company proposes to solicit supply contracts for 6- and 12-month increments for residential and small commercial and industrial customers. All power for large commercial and industrial customers would be purchased on an hourly basis in the open market.

PPL Electric Utilities proposes to make its first procurement under the new plan in April 2017 with its final procurement in October 2020.

PPL Electric Utilities proposes to continue to provide the current Time of Use rate option to residential and small commercial and industrial customers. PPL Electric Utilities also proposes to continue its Standard Offer Referral Program to encourage greater consumer participation in the competitive electric market.

You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the proposed plan and the reasons for it. Copies of this material are kept at the following PPL Electric Utilities offices:

- Two North Ninth Street, Allentown
- 600 Larch Street, Scranton
- 1801 Brookwood Street, Harrisburg
- 4810 Lycoming Mall Drive, Montoursville
- 827 Hausman Road, Allentown
- 651 Delp Road, Lancaster

A complete copy of the filing is also electronically available on the PPL Electric Utilities website at www.pplelectric.com. Upon request, PPL Electric Utilities will send you a copy of its default service procurement plan. The company can be contacted at 1-800-DIAL-PPL (1-800-342-5775).

You can submit comments on or a complaint against the proposed default service procurement plan with the PUC for consideration as the PUC reviews the plan. Send your comments or complaint by mail to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.



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PPL Electric Utilities

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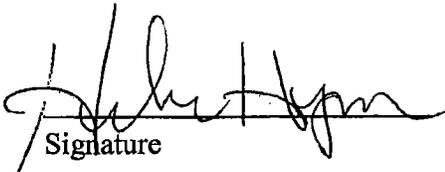
Name of Publication: Williamsport Sun-Gazette
City, State: Williamsport, PA 17701
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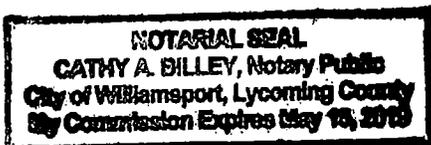
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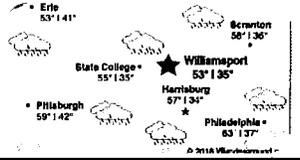


Extended Local Forecast

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Rain 53 Yesterday: 53-23 Last year: 36-15	Rain 35	Partly Sunny HI-41/LO-26	Mostly Sunny HI-38/LO-24	Partly Sunny HI-42/LO-27	Partly Sunny HI-40/LO-28
Precipitation as of 5 p.m. Yesterday: None	River Readings (Market Street) 2.49 feet, rising	Temperature Records 80° in 1981 minus 6° in 1971	Sunrise: 7:17 a.m. Sunset: 5:26 p.m.	Normals 35°/20°	

Date provided by National Weather Service

State weather



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Syria allows aid into rebel-held area as Geneva peace talks stall

GENEVA (AP) — The Syrian government allowed aid into a rebel-held area near Damascus on Tuesday in what appeared to be a goodwill gesture after U.N.-mediated indirect peace talks got off to a rocky start in Geneva.

The Syrian Arab Red Crescent delivered 14

trucks of aid provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross to the al-Tal suburb, said Damascus-based ICRC spokesman Pavel Kravysik. He told The Associated Press the delivery included food and hygiene kits for some 3,600 families as well as 25 metric tons of bulk food.

The Syrian opposition had demanded that aid be allowed into 18 besieged areas throughout the country and that Syrian and Russian forces halt the bombardment of rebel-held areas ahead of the talks, which officially began Monday.

But as U.N. envoy

Staffan de Mistura has shuttled between the government and opposition delegations in Geneva, Syrian troops backed by Russian airstrikes have captured three villages north of the city of Aleppo. The military offensive and the continuing blockade of rebel areas has infuriated the opposition and thrown the future of the talks into question.

Opposition official Ahmad Ramdan dismissed the aid shipment to al-Tal as an empty gesture, saying "the only way" to

save the negotiations is for an end to bombardment of the United Nations and the targeting of civilians."

Plane lands in Somalia with hole in its side

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A commercial airliner made an emergency landing at Mogadishu's international airport late Tuesday after passengers heard a loud bang and a fire broke out on board, leaving a gaping hole in the fuselage, officials and witnesses said.

Two people were slightly injured as 74 passengers and crew of the plane were evacuated after a safe landing, aviation official Ali Mohamoud said.

The plane, operated by Daallo Airlines and headed to Djibouti in the Horn of Africa, was forced to land minutes after taking off from the Mogadishu airport, said Mohamoud.

Awale Kullane, Somalia's alternate ambassador to the U.N., who was on board the flight, said on Facebook that he "heard a loud noise and couldn't see anything but smoke for a few seconds." When visibility returned they realized "quite a chunk" of the plane was missing, he wrote.

Kullane, who was going to Djibouti to attend a conference for diplomats, also posted video showing some passengers putting on oxygen masks inside the plane.

Another passenger said he could not confirm reports that passengers had fallen from the plane.

A police officer in nearby Balad town said residents had found the dead body of an old man who might have fallen from a plane.

Agency: North Korea plans satellite launch this month

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Weeks after its fourth nuclear test, North Korea announced plans Tuesday to launch an Earth observation satellite on a rocket later this month, in what critics see as a covert test of banned technology for a ballistic missile that could strike the U.S. mainland.

An official at the London-based International Maritime Organization said North Korea declared that the launch would be conducted between Feb. 8 and 25, between 7 a.m. and noon Pyongyang time. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because she hadn't been authorized to speak publicly yet.

U.N. deputy spokesman Farhan Haq said North Korea also informed the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Telecommunication Union of the planned satellite launch.

"Right now, we're carefully monitoring developments and are in close touch with the interested parties and the international organizations," Haq said at U.N. headquarters in New York.

The declaration, which is meant to warn civilians, shipping and aircraft in the area about the rocket and falling debris, follows North Korea's claim last month to have tested a hydrogen bomb, the country's fourth nuclear test. It will be seen as a snub by North Korea of its only major ally, China, whose representative for Korean affairs landed in Pyongyang for talks on Tuesday.

The International Telecommunication Union said North Korea also informed its Geneva office of its intention to launch a Kwangmyongsong (Bright Star) type Earth observation satellite with a four-year operational life. But the ITU's U.N. representative, Gary Powrie, said not enough technical information had been supplied to register the planned launch in its Master International Frequency Register.

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AFFIDAVIT FOR PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Please Fill out Information Below:

Name of Publication: Times-Tribune

City, State: Scranton, PA

Client name: PPL Utilities - Direct

Insertion Order #: 269713

Date of Insertion: 2/3/16

Caption: Default Service Procurement

Ad Size: 3 column x 10"

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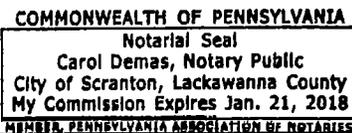
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Affiant further deposes and says that (s)he is an employee of the publisher of the said newspaper and has been authorized to verify the foregoing statement and the (s)he is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or publication and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place, and character of publication are true. I verify that the aforementioned ad ran as noted above. Before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared


Signature

Joyce Thompson
Name (Please Print)



The
Notary Public Seal

State of: Pennsylvania

County of: Lackawanna

Sworn to and subscribed before me

Date: 2/11/16


Notary Public Signature

CLIPBOARD

Avoca
Egg hunt: No Longfarms Presbyterian Church Easter Egg Hunt Sat. March 12, 11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Main St.; chickens available, pasta lunch follows, \$15/ before Feb. 26, \$20/ Feb. 27 race day, includes shirt and lunch, \$5/ each; only working difference church/5k.

Dunmore
Communion breakfast: St. Anthony and Rocco Holy Name Society Communion breakfast, Sunday, 9:30 a.m., La Buena Villa, Kelly Street; Mass, 8:30 a.m., St. Anthony's Church, principal speaker: Capt. Christopher L. Potts, commanding officer, Pennsylvania State Police, Troop R, Dunmore; least-nester: attorney Bruce L. Cover, tickets, 670-343-8813.

Classes scheduled: Dunmore Activity Hub February college level classes with the Culinary Institute of America, Harrisburg College, National Geographic and the Smithsonian, 1414 Monroe Ave.; photography, cooking, aging healthy, writing, e-reading, the Constitution and gardening; 13, seating limited, Jeanne, 670-207-2662, ext. 2.

East Benton
Pancake supper: East Benton United Methodist Church above-mentioned pancake and sausage supper, Shrove "Fat" Tuesday, Feb. 9, 4-7 p.m., 1200 Jordan Hollow Road, \$7/adults, \$4/ under 12, benefits summer concert, donations, Facebook page, details, Bill Tyte, btyte@tds.net.

Jessup
Spaghetti dinner: Boy Scout Troop 34 22nd annual spaghetti and meatball dinner, Feb. 14, 6-9 p.m., 10000 Jessup Rd., Jessup, tickets, \$10/adult, \$5/child, \$2/ senior, \$1/ child under 12, 670-343-8813.

Lake Ariel
Breakfast buffet: Lake Ariel Volunteer Fire Company breakfast buffet and omelet station, Feb. 14, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., main station, Route 131.

Mayfield
Firefighters meet: Whitmore/

room-4:30 p.m., St. James Church basement, Church Street, Lakeside, 11 a.m.; adults \$9, ages 4-9 \$4.50, under 4 free, or drop call 670-479-2213, email kristen@wpad.com.

Lackawanna County
Cancer benefit: Pro-Oscar party and fundraiser to benefit Susan G. Komen Northeastern Pennsylvania, Park Elegance Goes Hollywood featuring Big Wigs, Vegas style impersonation show, Feb. 28, 4 p.m., Hudson at Lackawanna Station Hotel, Scranton; \$65, one hour open bar, dinner, show, www.komenpenn.org or 670-547-5852.

Yoga for pets: Hilary Steinberg of Yoga Yoga Studio and yoga instructor Erin Mackley Griffin Pond Animal Shelter donation based yoga class Sunday, 10 a.m., Wilson Scranton and Conference Center; old yoga mats, monetary donations, cat litter (dry is preferred), cat, kitten, puppy, dog, hamster, ferret, rabbit, guinea pig food, cat toys, large durable chew bowls, cloth towels, blankets, sheets, paper towels, garbage bags, bleach, brooms, scrub brushes, rubber gloves, buckets, copier paper, pens, highlighters, accepted; pet nutrition, allergy, training information; healthy treats; first 50 entered to win raffle! Got the Scoop! Prerequisite session, Griffin Pond Animal Shelter pets looking for forever homes.

Wayne County
Candy sale: Wayne Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Chocolates by Lepellet candy sale, Feb. 12, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., main lobby.

Local rural hospitals feeling budget pinch

Employees furloughed, hours cut



Andrew Carter, president of the Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania, speaks with The Times-Tribune editorial board on Tuesday.

Gov. Tom Wolf's line-item veto of the state budget axed supplemental rural hospital funds, and it's destabilizing the smallest, most remote hospitals.

The Barnes-Kasson County Hospital in Susquehanna Depot, Susquehanna County, has had to lay off several employees and reduce hours and salaries for others.

Pennsylvania has 14 critical access hospitals that haven't received a total \$5.7 million in funding, according to state Rep. Matt Daker, R-88, Wellsboro. "These hospitals often are a lifeline for rural dwellers who live far from urban centers where health care is more accessible."

On Dec. 29, Mr. Wolf approved spending for school districts and agencies, many of which had been borrowing money just to stay afloat and Pennsylvania's longest budget stalemate history.

In the same breath, the governor vetoed \$17.5 million in supplemental funding for critical access hospitals, as well as for 66 hospitals with obstetric and neonatal care and six burn centers.

An \$18.5 million federal funding match means the veto has tied up a total \$36 million in funding for the hospital programs.

For Barnes-Kasson — which often is a patient's only hope for emergency care with Scranton hospitals 50 miles away and Dingshanton hospitals 35 minutes away — the funding delay means it's short by about 6 percent of its annual operating budget.

"Most of the employees have been more than gracious," said David Pasettl, administrator of the hospital's Family Health Clinic. He didn't immediately know just how many employees had been laid off. "Not everybody

"We're pressing all sides to remain committed."

Andrew Carter, President and CEO of the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania

has had a cut, but certainly lots of people have been affected."

The hospital is one of Susquehanna County's largest single employers with about 215 on staff, Mr. Pasettl said.

The holiday affects other critical access hospitals, Mr. Pasettl said, but Barnes-Kasson is a special case because a higher number of its patients — more than 25 percent — are on government medical assistance. Medicaid typically reimburses for care at a lower rate than private health insurance.

Forecasting widespread layoffs and possible service reductions, one Pennsylvania hospital association is urging lawmakers to complete a budget and restore funding.

"We're pressing all sides to remain committed," Andrew Carter, president and chief executive officer of the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, said during a meeting Tuesday

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www.pplelectric.com 1-800-342-5775 PPL Electric Utilities

REGIONAL BRIEFS

Graffiti artist hits downtown buildings
SCRANTON — City police are seeking whoever tagged two downtown Scranton buildings and a vehicle with graffiti.

The two buildings, JG, Pottin & Sons Shoe Co. on Dingshanton Street and PNC Bank on Penn Avenue, and a nearby vehicle were tagged over the weekend, Capt. Dennis Lukaszewicz said.

The graffiti seems to read "skizZak" or "akizZak."

The incidents took place sometime between 7 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Monday, Capt. Lukaszewicz said.

Police believe the same person may have left the graffiti at each location.

Anyone with information can contact police at 570-348-4134.

—JOSEPH KONIT

Learning Institute to list courses
SCRANTON — Maywood University's Lifelong Learning Institute Senior Program will unveil its spring course offerings at a preview later this month.

The preview is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, in the SmartZ Center for Spiritual Life in the heart of Maywood's campus. University staff will explain the spring semester's planned programs.

The fall semester's programming included classes on current and historical events, practical information and wellness, as well as day trips.

For more information, call program director Linda Steier at 570-348-6213.

—JOE O'CONNELL

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Date of Insertion: 2-3-16

Caption: Default Service

Ad Size: 4x10

Total # Inserted:

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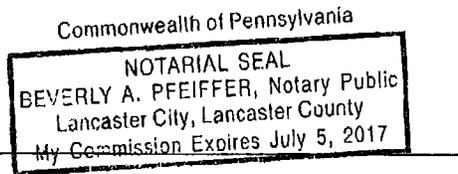
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Cindy Hean
Signature

Cindy Hean
Name (Please Print)



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State of: Pennsylvania

County of: Lancaster

Sworn to and subscribed before me

Date: 2/14/16

Beverly A. Pfeiffer
Notary Public Signature

HIGHER EDUCATION

UConn sets up community for black men

BY RASHAD MOBB (Associated Press)

STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut is creating a community for black men inside a new dorm on the campus, following the lead of some other predominantly white schools in an effort to boost graduation and retention rates among male African-American students.

The program is designed to be more comprehensive than minority-based student organizations or fraternities on most campuses. UConn's SOLO-ARZIS House will be open to anyone interested in the African-American experience, whether or not they are black.

The students will be living in a new dormitory set to open in the fall of 2016, with about 700 other students who are in other learning communities — such as one for women who are engineering, math or science majors and another

for students interested in ecology and environmental protection. Shaker Abdallah, UConn's assistant vice president for equity and diversity, said since the establishment of his school's community grades among its residents have improved. He said it has also helped combat what is known as "stigmatism" when a black man on campus frequently finds him-

self the only African-American member of a social or academic circle and is unlikely asked to represent his race. "They get a chance to come back to the Hundley House and eat," he said. "They get to realize 'I do belong here. Here's a strong group of folks who look like me, have experiences like me and we get to work through these things.'"

At UConn, there are about 800 African-American men out of about 2,000 undergraduates on the rural campus in Storrs. Their graduation rate is about 56 percent, compared to 81 percent of all male students and 83 percent of undergraduates. Anthony Matthews, vice president for equity and diversity, said since the school's community grades among its residents have improved. He said it has also helped combat what is known as "stigmatism" when a black man on campus frequently finds him-

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Bill would pay people stipends to not commit crimes

BY MICHAEL ALBUQUERQUE

WASHINGTON — They say crime doesn't pay, but that might not be entirely true in the District of Columbia as lawmakers look for ways to discourage people from becoming repeat offenders.

The D.C. Council voted unanimously Tuesday to approve a bill that includes a proposal to pay residents a stipend not to commit crimes. It's based on a program in Richmond, California, that advocates say has contributed to deep reductions in crime there. Under the bill, city officials would identify up to 200 people a year who are considered at risk of becoming victims of violent crime. These people would be directed to participate in behavioral therapy and other programs. If they fulfill those obligations and stay out of trouble, they would be paid

\$9,000 per year. The bill doesn't specify the value of the stipend, but participants in the California program receive up to \$10,000 per year. Councilmember Keyon McDuffie, a Democrat who wrote the legislation, said it was part of a comprehensive approach to reducing violent crime in the city, which experienced a 14 percent increase in homicides last year. Homicides and violent crime are still down significantly since the 2000s, and even more so since the early 1990s when the District was dubbed the nation's "murder capital."

McDuffie argued that spending \$9,000 a year in stipends "pales in comparison" to the cost of someone being hospitalized, along with the costs of incarcerating the offender. "I want to prevent violent crime — particularly gun violence —

by addressing the root cause and creating opportunities for people, particularly those individuals who are at the highest risk of offending," McDuffie, a former prosecutor, said in a letter to councilmembers last week. Democratic Mayor Muriel Bowser has not committed to funding the program, which would cost \$19 million over four years, including \$40,000 a year in stipend payments, according to the District's independent chief financial officer. Without the mayor's support, it would be up to the Council to find money for it through new taxes or cuts in existing programs. The program would be run independently of the police department, and participants would remain anonymous. Its goal would be to recruit people who are at risk of violence but don't have criminal records pending.

Richmond's experience

In Richmond, 79 percent of "fellows" participating in the program have not been suspected of involvement in any gun crimes since joining the program, and 84 percent have not been injured by gunfire, the program's executive director, DeVone Ragan, said in a report to the Council.

Richmond experienced a 77 percent drop in homicides between 2007, when the program was launched, and 2014, although how much can be specifically attributed to the stipends is unclear.

Longtime civic activist Dorothy Brilli is the only person to testify against the stipend program at a lengthy hearing last July, saying it would waste taxpayer dollars.

"These incentive programs don't work," Brilli told the council.

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"These incentive programs don't work," Brilli told the council.

Door open to pot in private clubs

Lawmakers in the nation's capital have opened the door to allowing people to smoke marijuana in clubs that charge a membership fee.

The D.C. Council voted unanimously Tuesday to establish a task force to study how the city could allow pot smoking in places other than

people's homes. Possession of up to 2 ounces of pot for personal use has been legal in the District of Columbia since early last year. Congress has blocked local officials from any further liberalization of the city's pot laws.

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Notice of Filing of Default Service Procurement Plan PPL Electric Utilities has filed a default service procurement plan with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) covering the four-year period from June 1, 2017, to May 31, 2021. The utility is required by state law to purchase generation supply at the least cost over time for customers who do not switch to an alternate supplier. PPL Electric Utilities is proposing to use semi-annual procurements in April and October of each year to purchase this generation supply.

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A need for Zika data

Officials say Brazil has not shared enough virus samples or other info

From wire reports

RIO DE JANEIRO • U.N. and U.S. health officials say Brazil has yet to share enough samples and disease data needed to answer the most worrying question about the Zika outbreak: whether the virus is actually responsible for the increase in the number of babies born with abnormally small heads in Brazil.

The lack of data is frustrating efforts to develop diagnostic tests, drugs and vaccines. Laboratories in the United States and Europe are relying on samples from previous outbreaks. Scientists say having so little to work with is hampering their ability to track the virus's evolution.

One major problem appears to be Brazilian law. At the moment, it is technically illegal for Brazilian researchers and institutes to share genetic material, including blood samples containing Zika and other viruses.

"It's a very delicate issue, this sharing of samples. Lawyers have to be involved," said Dr. Marcos Espinal, director of communicable diseases in the World Health Organization's regional office in Washington.

Espinal said he hoped the issue might be resolved "in the discussions between the U.S. and Brazilian presidents. He said WHO's role was mainly to be a broker to encourage countries to share but so far Brazil had probably provided fewer than 20 samples.

The WHO declared the virus and its suspected link to birth defects an international public health emergency this



Marcia Maria, who is seven months pregnant, waits to be examined at the IMIP hospital in Recife, Pernambuco state, Brazil, on Wednesday. The Zika virus, spread by the Aedes aegypti mosquito, is believed to be linked with occurrences of microcephaly in newborns, but no link has been proven.

THE LATEST

- Pennsylvania health officials still don't know if any of the 11 state residents who might have been exposed to the Zika virus actually have it. As of press time, one of the test samples had come back negative. Seven others were pending. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rejected three samples because they didn't meet testing criteria. State health officials have said it can take about two weeks to receive test results.
- In Texas, a sexually transmitted case of Zika has scientists scrambling to understand how much of a risk infection through sex is for the usually mosquito-spread disease.
- The current Zika epidemic is on track to cause millions of infections in Latin America and the Caribbean, but no transmission was reported in the United States until the Dallas case.
- Florida officials have declared a public health

- emergency in four counties with confirmed Zika virus cases, underscoring the increasing concern in the United States.
- U.S. health officials have added two more countries to the travel advisory for pregnant women: Jamaica and Tonga.
- Anyone who has traveled to areas affected by the Zika virus is urged by U.S. health officials to wait a month before giving blood.
- Health officials in Australia this week confirmed two cases of the Zika virus in residents who most likely were infected on a visit to Haiti.
- The virus is overshadowing the final preparations for the Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, even eclipsing concerns over deep budget cuts and severe water pollution. Friday marks six months until the opening of the games Aug. 5.

— from staff and wire reports

week, a rare move that fight it. An outbreak of the Zika virus, which is transmitted by mosquitoes, was

detected in Brazil in May and has since moved into more than 20 countries in Latin America.

— from wire reports

Syria peace talks on hold until Feb. 25, envoy says

GENEVA • The peace talks in the Syrian civil war are taking a break. The fighting is not.

U.N. Special Envoy for Syria Staffan de Mistura announced Wednesday there will be a "temporary pause" in the indirect peace talks between the government and opposition, saying the process will resume Feb. 25.

De Mistura's office said the talks will take a "recess" by the end of Friday and resume "no later than 25 February, and possibly much earlier."

The delay reflects the rocky start of the talks this week, in which neither the government nor the opposition even acknowledged that the negotiations had officially begun.

The conflict that began in March 2011 has killed at least 250,000 people, displaced 11 million and given an opening for the Islamic State group to seize large parts of the country.

North's planned rocket test raises tensions in Korea

SEOUL, South Korea • South Korea warned Wednesday of "searing" consequences if North Korea doesn't abandon plans to launch a long-range rocket that critics call a banned test of ballistic missile technology.

The South's rhetoric about unspecified harsh consequences comes less than a month after North Korea's defiant fourth nuclear test and as diplomats at the U.N. work on strong new sanctions against the North.

This week, North Korea informed international organizations of its plans to launch an Earth observation satellite on a rocket between Feb. 8 and 25, and if North Korea's past patterns are any clue, angry warnings by its neighbors and Washington probably won't dissuade a launch.

France looks to extend its state of emergency

PARIS • Despite widespread protests across the country in recent days, the French government confirmed Wednesday that it will seek a three-month extension of the state of emergency it declared after the attacks that killed 130 people.

The extension is one of several pieces of legislation the French government has been pushing for in the aftermath of the attacks, including a bill that would increase the powers of the police and anti-terrorism investigators, as well as a much-debated proposal to strip the citizenship of people convicted of terrorism.

President François Hollande declared the state of emergency a day after the coordinated attacks Nov. 13, which were carried out by teams of Islamic State gunmen. The French Parliament voted later to extend it for a three-month period that expires Feb. 26. Lawmakers are expected to approve the new extension.

— from wire reports

Notice of Filing of Default Service Procurement Plan

PPL Electric Utilities has filed a default service procurement plan with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) covering the four-year period from June 1, 2017, to May 31, 2021.

The utility is required by state law to purchase generation supply at the least cost over time for customers who do not switch to an alternate supplier. PPL Electric Utilities is proposing to use semi-annual procurements in April and October of each year to purchase this generation supply.

The company proposes to solicit supply contracts for 6- and 12-month increments for residential and small commercial and industrial customers. All power for large commercial and industrial customers would be purchased on an hourly basis in the open market.

PPL Electric Utilities proposes to make its first procurement under the new plan in April 2017 with its final procurement in October 2020.

PPL Electric Utilities proposes to continue to provide the current Time of Use rate option to residential and small commercial and industrial customers. PPL Electric Utilities also proposes to continue its Standard Offer Referral Program to encourage greater consumer participation in the competitive electric market.

You may examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the proposed plan and the reasons for it. Copies of this material are kept at the following PPL Electric Utilities offices:

- Two North Ninth Street, Allentown
- 600 Larch Street, Scranton
- 1801 Brookwood Street, Harrisburg
- 4810 Lycoming Mall Drive, Montoursville
- 827 Hausman Road, Allentown
- 651 Delp Road, Lancaster

A complete copy of the filing is also electronically available on the PPL Electric Utilities website at www.pplelectric.com. Upon request, PPL Electric Utilities will send you a copy of its default service procurement plan. The company can be contacted at 1-800-DIAL-PPL (1-800-342-5775).

You can submit comments on or a complaint against the proposed default service procurement plan with the PUC for consideration as the PUC reviews the plan. Send your comments or complaint by mail to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

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