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April 8, 2026

Mr. Steve DeFrank, Chairman
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Mr. DeFrank:

We, the Pennsylvania House Democratic Southeast Delegation, write to express our strong opposition to the recent PECO filing for rate increases for electric and natural gas services. Balancing the need for infrastructure upgrades with providing affordable utility services is a primary concern. However, we are concerned that PECO's habitual requests for rate increases over the last few years are excessive, and that this rate increase in particular will benefit for-profit large load users at the expense of Pennsylvania's long standing residential customers and small businesses.

Many of those who live and work in Southeast counties are concerned about the significant financial hardships that the proposed rate increase would create, given that, if approved, this would be PECO's third rate hike since 2022. Should PECO's rate increase be approved, the average residential customer would see an increase in their monthly electric bill of [\\$20.08 \(12.5%\)](#) and [\\$14.52 \(11.4%\)](#) for their monthly gas bill in 2027. Considering PECO's most recent rate increase that went into effect at the beginning of 2025 provided the company with record profits ([net income increasing 47.7% to \\$814 million in 2025](#)), we question the need to place an increased financial burden on Southeast consumers again so soon.

One of the reasons cited by PECO for its requested rate increase is [increased supply \(electricity\) costs which they say have increased 400%](#). With that in mind, PECO is very aware of how pressed Southeast residents and small businesses already are when it comes to paying their utility bills. If PECO's request is approved, small businesses, the backbone of our local economy, would face heightened operational costs, potentially leading to reduced services, increased costs for consumers, or even closures. Additionally, many families are already struggling to make ends meet and this increase would only exacerbate their financial woes.

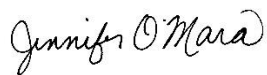
[Increased demand by data centers](#) is also cited by PECO as another reason this rate increase is needed. However, as duly elected representatives of our constituents, we firmly disagree that residential customers and small business owners should bear the cost of large, for-profit, high energy-using data centers joining the PJM grid. In fact,

last month the House passed legislation, House Bill 1834, that would, among other things, protect ratepayers from having their energy bills increased by electric distribution companies because of increased demand by commercial data centers.

In light of these significant concerns, and PECO's record profits, we respectfully urge the Public Utility Commission to reject PECO's rate increase request. Additionally, we request the Commission to hold four public hearings on this matter, one in each of the four collar counties (Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery). Holding local hearings will allow for greater accessibility and transparency for our constituents, who deserve to be a part of this process. It is imperative that we find a more balanced solution that addresses infrastructure needs without placing an undue financial burden on our communities.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, we welcome you to contact us.

Sincerely,



Rep. Jennifer O'Mara
SE Delegation Chair
165th Legislative District
Delaware County




Rep. Leanne Krueger
Democratic Caucus Administrator
161st Legislative District
Delaware County



Rep. Tina M. Davis
Democratic Caucus Secretary
141st Legislative District
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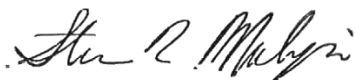
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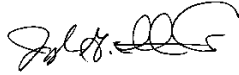
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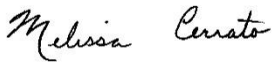
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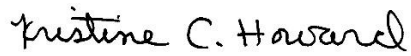
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167th Legislative District
Chester County



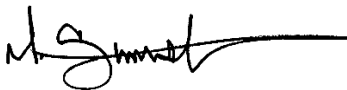
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140th Legislative District
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Rep. Greg Scott
54th Legislative District
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Rep. Regina Young
185th Legislative District
Delaware & Philadelphia Counties