

MAJOR PENNSYLVANIA CONSUMERS TELL GOVERNOR THEY SUPPORT COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY MARKETS

“The electricity customers who have signed this letter strongly support the development of competitive electricity markets and encourage the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to maintain its commitment to policies which allow for the continued evolution and implementation of such markets, especially the Commonwealth’s competitive retail market.”

Letter from Pennsylvania Electricity Customers to Governor Ed Rendell
January 19, 2007

Major energy consumers in Pennsylvania are realizing the benefits of competition in their state.

- “In Pennsylvania, we collectively represent 4,411 facilities and over \$120 million in annual electricity costs as consumers of electricity. Electricity is one of the most substantial costs to our business operations which ends up impacting our 122,000 employees in the state and thousands of Pennsylvania customers who visit our stores each week. A number of our facilities have realized savings on electricity by participating in the competitive market.”

Customers cite access to low-cost generation, transparency, reliability and sound investment decisions as reasons for continued support of competition in Pennsylvania.

- “We believe that regional competitive wholesale markets for electricity with independent oversight, as we have in the PJM marketplace in Pennsylvania and 12 other states, provide access to generation at the lowest available cost, promote transparency and reliability, enhance the nation’s transmission infrastructure, and provide price signals that promote sound investment decisions regarding generation, transmission, demand response, and energy efficiency.”

Customers recognize why Pennsylvania opened competitive markets.

- “There was less incentive for utilities to save money than there is under competition, and no opportunity for captive customers to choose a lower cost provider. Many of these captive customers were the businesses -- small and large -- that create jobs and grow the economy.”

Strong encouragement to allow competition to continue to evolve from its current state of transition.

- “The goal of all policymakers should be to ensure reasonably priced and reliable electricity for consumers. Competition keeps costs as low as possible, drives innovation, and produces the benefits customers are seeking.”
- “We respectfully request that you and your Administration continue developing policies that allow such benefits to be achieved and that allow customers the ability to fully participate in competitive wholesale and retail electric energy markets in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We participate in markets for virtually all goods and services, and believe that electricity competition is the path forward for Pennsylvania.”