



Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association

August 2, 2010

Honorable Joseph Preston, Jr.  
Chairman, House Consumer Affairs Committee  
Room 202 Irvis Office Building  
PO Box 202024  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2024

RE: Senate Bill 168

Dear Chairman Preston:

As the President of the Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association<sup>1/</sup> (PMEA), I am writing to express our organization's support for Senate Bill 168, printer's number 1376, which was unanimously passed in the Senate and recently referred to the House Consumer Affairs Committee. Thank you for your invitation to testify before the House Consumer Affairs Committee at the upcoming Public Hearing on Senate Bill 168. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend, and so I am submitting this letter for the record.

PMEA originally opposed this legislation, which was sponsored by Senator Mike Brubaker, because of several objections to the original bill which we believed would expose our member boroughs' citizens to higher electric rates. PMEA likewise opposed the House version of this legislation, HB 1229, for the same reasons.

However, working with Senator Brubaker and the proponents of SB 168, we arrived at carefully crafted compromise language which accommodated each of our original concerns, and which was added to SB 168 in the Senate Appropriations Committee. With those changes, we determined that the current

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<sup>1/</sup> PMEA is the trade association representing the boroughs in Pennsylvania which own and operate electric distribution systems. These boroughs provide reliable, low cost electric service to all citizens and businesses within their geographic territories. A list of those boroughs and additional information is available at the PMEA web site: <http://www.pmea-pa.org/index.htm>. Additional information on the nation's 2,000 community owned electric utilities, serving over 43 million Americans, may be found at the web site of our national organization, the American Public Power Association: [www.appanet.org](http://www.appanet.org).

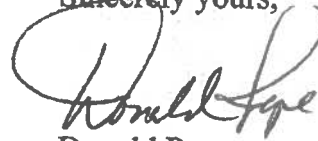
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version of SB 168 contains sufficient consumer protections, and PMEA supported SB 168 when it reached the full Senate.

Therefore, PMEA now supports the current version of the bill. Accordingly, we would request early consideration and action on SB 168, p.n. 1376 by the House Consumer Affairs Committee.

You, and any other interested parties, may feel free to contact me (724-452-6610), or our counsel, Tony Adonizio (717-730-2052), should you have questions or desire further information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Donald Pepe  
President, PMEA  
and

Borough Manager, Zelienople Borough

cc: Members of the House Consumer Affairs Committee  
Members PMEA Executive Board  
Marci L. Santoro, House Consumer Affairs Committee Legislative Assistant  
Edward C. Troxell, Director of Governmental Affairs, PSAB  
Kristin Crawford, Executive Director, Senator Mike Brubaker  
Gary A. Nace, Borough Manager, Ephrata Borough  
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