

1. Resilience Planning

The Pennsylvania PUC's resiliency goals are aimed at increasing energy security and reliability by fostering the development of cost-effective and energy-efficient CHP technologies. The energy technologies that are a part of the PUC's strategy to improve utility energy resilience include [CHP](#) and other distributed energy resources (DERs), such as energy storage, fuel cells, and solar PV. The State of [Pennsylvania's climate change plan](#) also suggests that CHP technologies be installed at key facilities to ensure the resilience of critical infrastructure and meet climate and emissions goals.

The PUC is encouraging utilities to incorporate resiliency projects – such as those focused on storm hardening – into their Long Term Infrastructure Improvement Plans (LTIIP's). The LTIIPs will focus on increasing utility reliability and safety by upgrading and replacing aging utility infrastructure throughout Pennsylvania. The PUC has also convened a number of public and private sector stakeholders to prepare and bring awareness to 'Black Sky' events, which are capable of producing power outages that last significantly longer than typical weather or operational outages. The PUC encourages operations managers to conduct resiliency assessments of their facilities. Free resiliency assessments are offered through the PUC's local, state and federal homeland security partners, including:

- The Federal Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) [Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessments](#). Entities can work through their regional [DHS Protective Security Advisors \(PSAs\)](#) for those assessments.
- The Business, Industry, and Infrastructure Subcommittee of the South Central PA Task Force offers [Facility Vulnerability Assessments](#) for critical infrastructure in the south central region of PA, including the Capitol Region.

2. Program or Project Implementation

The PUC has adopted a program approach to CHP implementation and released a policy statement in April 2018 to help advance the development of CHP technologies. The statement is intended to encourage electric and natural gas distribution companies to incorporate CHP into their energy efficiency and resiliency planning efforts. It is also aimed at encouraging these companies to design interconnection processes and rates for owners and operators of CHP facilities, and establishes biennial reporting requirements. A CHP stakeholder working group was created in conjunction with the adoption of the policy statement, and will bring together utilities, commission staff, and public advocates. The meetings will focus on the availability of financial incentives for CHP, interconnection applications and fees, and streamlining the permitting process for CHP. Ad-hoc stakeholder meetings that include agencies such as the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have been held to discuss details and areas of future work.

3. Lessons Learned

The PUC identified a number of key takeaways and lessons learned from its resiliency planning and CHP-related efforts. First, it is important to gain experience in contacting facilities with the potential to implement CHP, and collect the right facility information. This should be followed by working with utilities on CHP projects at targeted facilities and understanding individual perspectives. Making both time and the right staffing resources available is also important, while not preferentially treating one consumer sector (institutional, industrial etc.) or generation technology over the other. The PUC has also identified key policy areas that affect CHP deployment, and is focused on discussing barriers and potential

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solutions within the regulatory framework that could ultimately benefit individual CHP projects. The PUC finds collaborations with other agencies such as the PA DEP, and the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) is a good approach to encouraging CHP for resiliency purposes.

4. Additional Information

- ▶ [Press release – policy statement for CHP working group](#)
- ▶ [Press release – preparation for Black Sky outage events](#)
- ▶ [Pennsylvania PUC – CHP](#)
- ▶ [Regulatory Approaches to Grid Resiliency and Security](#)
- ▶ [Pennsylvania State of CHP Page](#)