Metro Transportation of Pennsylvania LLC

2501 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 369 Erie PA 16505 (814) 282-9695

3033-

November 17, 2013

Rosemary Chiavetta Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Attn: Secretary P. O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, Pa. 17105-3265

RECEIVED MINN 22 AMID: 58 PARY'S BUREA

## Re: Docket L-2013-2349042

This revision is proposed to be effective as soon as possible, I believe Metro Transportation of Pa, LLC would be dramatically affected by this change. We take pride and deep concern for our vehicles. We do not have and inspection problems and all our cars are maintained to our high standards. It is our insurance premiums and reputation which we would be paying for it if we did not maintain our standards. We carefully buy cars that we inspect prior to purchasing and go over them to bring up to our standards if they are not. Our business has been falling for years because of demand. In our market we do not have the ability to purchase new cars so we selectively purchase ones that we can afford and be proud of. We only operate one car at a time because there is no need for two cars, except for a couple hours at the beginning of the month, but we have two to have a spare in the event of mechanical work/inspection needed. So in having a second car for a one car market makes it very expensive to upgrade to have a low mileage car and to have to replace it with no mechanical or safety reason.

This requirement really puts an undue hardship on small carriers like us. When these cars were acquired, a major deciding factor was the eight year age rule, which would enable the car to operate into the eighth year and then reviewed annually as to the condition and usability for an additional year. The cars made today last substantially longer than eight years and longer if maintained properly, which we do Implementing this new proposal as proposed creates a substantial and unrealistic financial burden upon Metro Transportation of Pa. LLC. It retroactively transforms a good faith investment decisions relying upon the then existing PUC rules to upgrade the services a substantial financial loss. By making this rule, without any transitional or grandfather component, the PUC would be creating a "stranded asset" and severely penalizing the operator of this small company for making, what at the time was a conscientious and responsible investment. The debt service on these vehicles continues into 2015. Requiring these well maintained cars to be removed from service by the end of 2014, earlier than was the basis of its acquisition, and while continuing to pay the debt service on these cars without any corresponding proceeds, would result in a severe and perhaps fatal cash flow impact on this small company.

Implementing this new proposal as proposed creates a substantial and unrealistic financial burden upon Metro Transportation of Pa.LLC.. It retroactively transforms a good faith investment decision relying upon the then existing PUC rules to upgrade the services a

00

ö

 $\sum_{i}$ 

substantial financial loss. By making this rule, without any transitional or grandfather component, the PUC would be creating a "stranded asset" and severely penalizing the operator of this small company for making, what at the time was a conscientious and responsible investment.

We take great pride in the quality and roadworthiness of our units. Our cars are inspected by State Certified Mechanics assure the safe operation of our units on the next service. We provide First Class service and to ensure that we conduct extensive preventive maintenance as well as daily care of the units. Our vehicles are inspected annually by an independent Inspection Station and are always ready for the annual PUC fleet inspection.

We respectfully request you reconsider this action and at least implement a "grandfathering" clause or extension to 10 years so that operators of units that would be significantly and adversely impacted by this unexpected rule change would be able to recover their considerable investment which made to upgrade the scope and quality of service to an area that until recently had limited alternatives.

The stated Mission Statement of the "Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission balances the needs of consumers and utilities; ensures safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protects the public interest; educates consumers to make independent and informed utility. Choices; furthers economic development; and fosters new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner". This request is a need to maintain the balance for the utilities/operators.

Respectively submitted,

Mark J. McEnery President

A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR Kosemary Chiavetta Fa. Public Urity Commission 7:0. 30× 3265 Harrisburg, Pa. 17105-3265 17105+3265 METTO TRANSPORTATION 2501 West 12th ST • •