



Contact: Jennifer Merchant  
Phone: 717.214.2200 / 267.761.8140

**For Immediate Release**

## **Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA) Applauds Former Regulators for Continued Support of Competition**

**HARRISBURG, PA (November 13, 2007)** – Last week, 35 former state utility commissioners circulated an open letter to policymakers in support of restructured electric markets throughout the United States. The letter focused on one simple fact: “educated and empowered consumers will make decisions that are in their best interests and force the market to respond.”

Members of the Retail Energy Supply Association applaud the efforts of the former regulators and agree that a competitive market will benefit all of Pennsylvania’s electricity consumers.

According to the experience and knowledge of the former commissioners, regulation caused severe overruns in project costs and provided no incentives for investments in infrastructure and energy conservation. However, in competitive markets, operational efficiency is key. When producers have to compete for customers, they work hard to reduce costs and improve service and ultimately, consumers benefit.

Competitive electric markets also remove obstacles that have traditionally stood in the way of efforts to develop alternative energy options. For example, in 1999, Pennsylvania’s first wind farm was built and connected to the PJM grid. It was built not by a utility, but by a company willing to invest in a new technology. Today, Pennsylvania has over six operating wind farms.

RESA member companies fully support the efforts of the former state utility commissioners and agree that given the opportunity in a competitive market, Pennsylvania’s customers will shop and compare, which will ultimately control costs and increase innovation.

***About RESA:***

The Retail Energy Supply Association is a broad and diverse group of retail energy suppliers devoted to promoting competitive retail energy markets for all of Pennsylvania’s residential, commercial and industrial consumers. In Pennsylvania, RESA member companies serve thousands of customers – including residential homes, businesses, schools & universities, sports stadiums and several city, township and county entities – in the utility service territories that have fully transitioned to a competitive market.

Member companies include: Commerce Energy, ConEdison Solutions, Direct Energy Services, Gexa Energy, Hess Corporation, Integrys Energy Services, Liberty Energy Inc., Reliant Energy Retail Services, LLC, Sempra Energy Solutions, Strategic Energy, SUEZ Energy Resources NA, Inc. and US Energy Savings Corporation.

For more information about RESA, please visit [www.resausa.org/pa](http://www.resausa.org/pa).

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