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**House of Representatives**  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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May 9, 2025

President and CEO Kevin Walker  
Board of Directors  
Duquesne Light Company  
411 Seventh Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

To Duquesne Light President and CEO Kevin Walker and Members of the Board:

I am writing regarding the prolonged power outage following the severe storm on April 29, 2025. While I recognize the storm was extraordinary, the duration and scale of the outage — in some cases lasting up to a week — raise serious concerns about Duquesne Light's readiness and resilience.

Extreme weather events are no longer rare. Climate change is contributing to more frequent and destructive storms, making it imperative that Duquesne Light not only respond effectively but invest in infrastructure that reduces the likelihood and impact of future outages.

I appreciate the tireless work of your crews and staff during this difficult time. Nonetheless, significant questions remain about the company's response, communication, and long-term strategy. To ensure better preparedness for future events, I respectfully seek answers to the following:

**Response and Restoration**

- What caused delays in restoring power to some areas for up to a week?
- How were restoration priorities determined and communicated, and how might those priorities change based on recent events?

**Communication**

- What is your plan to gather and make use of feedback from community members who experienced prolonged outages?
- How will Duquesne Light better ensure timely and accurate updates to customers during future outages?
- How will communication methods, including the outage map, be reviewed and improved moving forward?
- How can coordination with city services — such as tree and debris removal — improve?

**Resilience and Investment**

- What steps are being taken to strengthen the grid against future storms?
- What infrastructure improvements are planned to prevent similar widespread outages?

This outage was more than an inconvenience — it created serious hardships for many, especially seniors, medically vulnerable individuals, parents of young children and those without access to shelter, refrigeration, or reliable

communication. I trust that the Board shares my concern that outages of this magnitude are unacceptable and that every effort must be made to prevent their recurrence.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and to learning more about how Duquesne Light intends to better protect our communities and infrastructure in the face of a changing climate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan B. Frankel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" being more prominent.

Dan B. Frankel  
State Representative, 23<sup>rd</sup> District