

Barbara Frederick Environmental Review Division Manager PA State Historic Preservation Office

RE: ER Project #2025PR02398.001 – PPL Building Fitout Allentown City, Lehigh County May 27, 2025

Dear Ms. Frederick,

Thank you for your review and comments regarding the above-referenced project.

We acknowledge the location of the PPL Building within the boundary of the National Register-eligible Allentown City Historic District and the potential for the building to be individually eligible due to its architectural significance and history. We appreciate your guidance and would like to provide the following update regarding the treatment of above-ground historic resources associated with this project.

The PPL Building is actively pursuing both federal and state Historic Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits. It is therefore our intent to have the building individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A Part 1 application for the project will be submitted next week to initiate this process.

Enclosed with this correspondence, please find the Pre-Rehabilitation Photo Set and corresponding Photo Key. These materials document the current condition of the building's interior, focusing particularly on the public areas such as the main lobby, elevator lobbies, and auditorium spaces. While many interior spaces were rehabilitated during prior ownership by PPL, the original circulation patterns remain largely intact, and many of the original elevator lobby finishes are preserved across multiple floors. These retained elements demonstrate the building's architectural integrity and its continued ability to convey its original early 20th-century use.

Additionally, please note that the proposed scope of work includes a new sewer connection. This work will occur entirely below grade.. It will not affect any known historic fabric or resources and is being coordinated with local utility providers to avoid any adverse impacts.

We trust that this documentation will assist in your continued review of the project. If there are any additional materials or clarifications needed, we would be glad to provide them.

Thank you again for your engagement and support in advancing the preservation goals of this important historic resource.

Principal Architect