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**PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.**

(a Delaware corporation)

5,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

**PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

Dated: December 9, 2002

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PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.

(a Delaware corporation)

5,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

(Par Value \$0.01 Per Share)

PURCHASE AGREEMENT

December 9, 2002

MERRILL LYNCH & CO.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith

Incorporated

as Representative of the several Underwriters

North Tower

World Financial Center

New York, New York 10281-1209

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pepco Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “Company”), confirms its agreement with Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (“Merrill Lynch”) and each of the other Underwriters named in Schedule A hereto (collectively, the “Underwriters”, which term shall also include any underwriter substituted as hereinafter provided in Section 10 hereof), for whom Merrill Lynch is acting as representative (in such capacity, the “Representative”), with respect to the issue and sale by the Company and the purchase by the Underwriters, acting severally and not jointly, of the respective numbers of shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Company (“Common Stock”) set forth in said Schedule A, and with respect to the grant by the Company to the Underwriters, acting severally and not jointly, of the option described in Section 2(b) hereof to purchase all or any part of 750,000 additional shares of Common Stock to cover over-allotments, if any. The aforesaid 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock (the “Initial Securities”) to be purchased by the Underwriters and all or any part of the 750,000 shares of Common Stock subject to the option described in Section 2(b) hereof (the “Option Securities”) are hereinafter called, collectively, the “Securities”.

The Company understands that the Underwriters propose to make a public offering of the Securities promptly after this Agreement has been executed and delivered.

The Company has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) a registration statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-100478) for the registration of various securities, including the Securities, under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”), and the offer and sale thereof from time to time in accordance with Rule 415 of the rules and regulations of the Commission under the 1933 Act (the “1933 Act Regulations”). Such registration statement has been declared effective by the Commission. Such registration

statement, including the exhibits and schedules thereto, at the time it became effective, is referred to herein as the “Registration Statement”; and the final prospectus and the final prospectus supplement relating to the offering of the Securities, in the forms first furnished to the Underwriters by the Company for use in connection with the offering of the Securities, are collectively referred to herein as the “Prospectus”; provided, however, that all references to the “Registration Statement” and the “Prospectus” shall also be deemed to include all documents filed pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “1934 Act”) prior to the execution and delivery hereof which are incorporated therein by reference pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act. A “preliminary prospectus” shall be deemed to refer to (i) any prospectus used before the Registration Statement became effective and (ii) any prospectus that omitted information to be included upon pricing in a form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations and was used after the Registration Statement became effective and prior to the initial delivery of the Prospectus to the Underwriters by the Company. For purposes of this Underwriting Agreement, all references to the Registration Statement, Prospectus or preliminary prospectus or to any amendment or supplement to any of the foregoing shall be deemed to include the copy of such document filed with the Commission pursuant to its Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval system (“EDGAR”).

All references in this Agreement to financial statements and schedules and other information which is “described”, “disclosed”, “referred to”, “contained”, “included” or “stated” in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (or other references of like import) shall be deemed to mean and include all such financial statements and schedules and other information which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be; and all references in this Agreement to amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement, any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to mean and include the filing of any document under the 1934 Act which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, such preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be.

#### SECTION 1. Representations and Warranties

(a) *Representations and Warranties by the Company.* The Company represents and warrants to each Underwriter as of the date hereof, as of the Closing Time referred to in Section 2(c) hereof, and, if any Option Securities are purchased, as of each Date of Delivery referred to in Section 2(b) hereof, as follows:

(i) Compliance with Registration Requirements. The Company meets the requirements for use of Form S-3 under the 1933 Act. The Registration Statement has become effective under the 1933 Act and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued under the 1933 Act and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted by the Commission or are pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, are contemplated by the Commission, and any request on the part of the Commission for additional information with respect to the Registration Statement has been complied with.

At the time the Registration Statement became effective and at the Closing Time (and, if any Option Securities are purchased, at the Date of Delivery), the Registration Statement, and any amendments and supplements thereto complied and will comply in all material respects with the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations and did not and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. Neither the Prospectus nor any amendments or supplements thereto, at the time the Prospectus or any such amendment or supplement was issued and at the Closing Time (and, if any Option Securities are purchased, at the Date of Delivery), included or will include an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or will omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The representations and warranties in this subsection shall not apply to statements in or omissions from the Registration Statement or Prospectus made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished to the Company in writing by any Underwriter expressly for use in the Registration Statement or Prospectus.

Each preliminary prospectus and the prospectus filed as part of the Registration Statement as originally filed or as part of any amendment thereto, or filed pursuant to Rule 424 under the 1933 Act, complied when so filed in all material respects with the 1933 Act Regulations and each preliminary prospectus and the Prospectus delivered to the Underwriters for use in connection with this offering was identical to the electronically transmitted copies thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

(ii) Incorporated Documents. The documents incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, at the time they were or hereafter are filed with the Commission, complied and will comply in all material respects with the requirements of the 1934 Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder (the “1934 Act Regulations”), and, when read together with the other information in the Prospectus, at the time the Registration Statement became effective, at the time the Prospectus was issued and at the Closing Time (and if any Option Securities are purchased, at the Date of Delivery), did not and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading.

(iii) Independent Accountants. The accountants who audited the financial statements and supporting schedules included in the Registration Statement are independent public accountants within the meaning of Regulation S-X of the Commission.

(iv) Financial Statements. The financial statements, together with the respective schedules and notes relating thereto, included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, present fairly the financial position of the Company, Potomac Electric Power Company (“Pepco”) or Conectiv, as the case may be, and such entity’s consolidated subsidiaries at the dates indicated and the statement of operations, stockholders’ equity and cash flows of such entity and its consolidated subsidiaries for

the periods specified; said financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods involved, except as otherwise stated therein. The selected financial data and the summary financial information included in the Prospectus present fairly the information shown therein and have been compiled on a basis consistent with that of the audited financial statements included in the Registration Statement. The pro forma financial statements and the related notes thereto included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus present fairly the information shown therein, have been prepared in accordance with the Commission’s rules and guidelines with respect to pro forma financial statements and have been properly compiled on the bases described therein, and the assumptions used in the preparation thereof are reasonable and the adjustments used therein are appropriate to give effect to the transactions and circumstances referred to therein.

(v) No Material Adverse Change in Business. Since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Prospectus, except as otherwise stated therein, there has been no change in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the earnings or business affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, which would have a Material Adverse Effect. For purposes of this Agreement, “Material Adverse Effect” means a material adverse effect on the condition, financial or otherwise, or the earnings or business affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business.

(vi) Good Standing of the Company. The Company has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement; and the Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(vii) Good Standing of Subsidiaries. Each “significant subsidiary” of the Company (as such term is defined in Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X) each of which is listed on Schedule C hereto, and each additional subsidiary listed on Schedule C hereto (together with the significant subsidiaries, each a “Designated Subsidiary” and, collectively, the “Designated Subsidiaries”) has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not result in a Material Adverse Effect; all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each Designated Subsidiary has been duly authorized and



validly issued, is fully paid and non-assessable and, except for preferred stock, is owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance, claim or equity; none of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any Designated Subsidiary was issued in violation of the preemptive or similar rights of any securityholder of such Designated Subsidiary.

(viii) Merger. The Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of February 9, 2001 among Pepco, the Company and Conectiv (the “Merger Agreement”) was duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company, Pepco and Conectiv, was duly approved by the stockholders of Pepco and Conectiv; the mergers contemplated by the Merger Agreement (collectively, the “Merger”) have occurred on the terms contemplated by the Merger Agreement and by all regulatory orders with respect to the Merger; except as disclosed in the Prospectus, there are no regulatory or other proceedings challenging the Merger or its effects, which proceedings could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect; and there are no proceedings, pending or threatened, which could adversely affect the validity, full payment or non-assessability of the Company’s outstanding capital stock.

(ix) Capitalization. The authorized, issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company is as set forth in the Prospectus (except for issuances subsequent to September 30, 2002, if any, pursuant to this Agreement, pursuant to reservations referred to in the Prospectus or pursuant to employee benefit plans, non-employee director plans and shareholder plans of the Company and its subsidiaries. The shares of issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company have been duly authorized and validly issued and are fully paid and non-assessable; none of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company was issued in violation of the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company.

(x) Authorization of Agreement. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

(xi) Authorization and Description of Securities. The Securities have been duly authorized for issuance and sale to the Underwriters pursuant to this Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to this Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth herein, will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable; the description of the Common Stock contained in the Prospectus is accurate in all material respects; no holder of the Securities will be subject to personal liability in respect of liabilities of the Company solely by reason of being a holder of the Securities; and the issuance of the Securities is not subject to the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company.

(xii) Absence of Defaults and Conflicts. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its certificate or articles of incorporation or by-laws or in default in the performance or observance of any obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan or credit agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which it or any of them may be bound, or to which any of

the property or assets of the Company or any subsidiary is subject (collectively, “Agreements and Instruments”) except for such defaults as have not resulted, and are not reasonably expected to result, in a Material Adverse Effect; and the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein (including the issuance and sale of the Securities and the use of the proceeds from the sale of the Securities as described in the Prospectus under the caption “Use of Proceeds”) and compliance by the Company with its obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and do not and will not, whether with or without the giving of notice or passage of time or both, conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default or Repayment Event (as defined below) under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries pursuant to, the Agreements and Instruments (except for such conflicts, breaches or defaults or liens, charges or encumbrances that would not result in a Material Adverse Effect), nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the certificate or articles of incorporation or by-laws of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any applicable law, statute, rule, regulation, judgment, order, writ or decree of any government, government instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of their assets, properties or operations. As used herein, a “Repayment Event” means any event or condition that gives the holder of any note, debenture or other evidence of indebtedness (or any person acting on such holder’s behalf) the right to require the repurchase, redemption or repayment of all or a portion of such indebtedness by the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

(xiii) Absence of Labor Dispute. No labor dispute with the employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries exists or, to the knowledge of the Company, is imminent, and the Company is not aware of any existing or imminent labor disturbance by the employees of any of its or any of its subsidiaries principal suppliers, manufacturers, customers or contractors, which, in either case, could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(xiv) Absence of Proceedings. There is no action, suit, proceedings, inquiry or investigation before or brought by any court or governmental agency or body, domestic or foreign, now pending, or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened, against or affecting the Company or any subsidiary, that (A) is required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement and is not so disclosed as required, (B) could reasonably be expected to materially and adversely affect the consummation of the transactions contemplated in this Agreement or the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder or (C) except as disclosed in the Prospectus, could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The aggregate of all pending legal or governmental proceedings to which the Company or any subsidiary is a party or of which any of their respective properties or assets is the subject which are not described in the Registration Statement, including ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business, could not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(xv) Accuracy of Exhibits. All contracts or documents which are required to be described in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or the documents incorporated

by reference therein or to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement have been so described and filed as required.

(xvi) Absence of Further Requirements. All filings with, and authorizations, approvals, consents, licenses, orders, registrations, qualifications or decrees of, any court or governmental authority or agency that are necessary or required for the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder, in connection with the offering, issuance or sale of the Securities hereunder or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, have been obtained, except such as may be required under the 1933 Act or the 1933 Act Regulations or under state securities laws.

(xvii) Possession of Licenses and Permits. The Company and its subsidiaries possess such permits, licenses, approvals, consents and other authorizations (collectively, “Governmental Licenses”) issued by the appropriate federal, state, local or foreign regulatory agencies or bodies necessary to conduct the business now operated by them and are in compliance with the terms and conditions of all such Governmental Licenses, except where the failure so to possess any such Governmental License or to comply therewith would not, singly or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; all of the Governmental Licenses are valid and in full force and effect, except where the invalidity of such Governmental Licenses or the failure of such Governmental Licenses to be in full force and effect would not have a Material Adverse Effect; and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation or modification of any such Governmental Licenses the revocation or modification of which would, singly or in the aggregate, result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(xviii) Title to Property. The Company and its subsidiaries have good and marketable title to all real property owned by the Company and its subsidiaries and good title to all other properties owned by them, in each case, free and clear of all mortgages, pledges, liens, security interests, claims, restrictions or encumbrances of any kind except such as (a) are described in the Prospectus or (b) do not, singly or in the aggregate, materially affect the value of such property and do not materially interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such property by the Company or any of its subsidiaries; and all of the leases and subleases material to the business of the Company and its subsidiaries, considered as one enterprise, and under which the Company or any of its subsidiaries holds properties described in the Prospectus, are in full force and effect, and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has any notice of any claim of any sort asserted by anyone adverse to the rights of the Company or such subsidiary under any of the leases or subleases mentioned above, or affecting or questioning the rights of the Company or such subsidiary to the continued possession of the leased or subleased premises under any such lease or sublease, that, if the subject of an adverse decision, ruling or finding, would have a Material Adverse Effect.

(xix) Investment Company Act. The Company is not, and upon the issuance and sale of the Securities as herein contemplated and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in the Prospectus will not be, an “investment company” or an entity “controlled” by an “investment company” as such terms are defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”).

(xx) Environmental Laws. Except as described in the Prospectus and except as would not, singly or in the aggregate, result in a Material Adverse Effect, (A) neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of any federal, state, local or foreign statute, law, rule, regulation, ordinance, code, policy or rule of common law or any judicial or administrative interpretation thereof, including any judicial or administrative order, consent, decree or judgment, relating to pollution or protection of human health, the environment (including, without limitation, ambient air, surface water, groundwater, land surface or subsurface strata) or wildlife, including, without limitation, laws and regulations relating to the release or threatened release of chemicals, pollutants, contaminants, wastes, toxic substances, hazardous substances, petroleum or petroleum products (collectively, “Hazardous Materials”) or to the manufacture, processing, distribution, use, treatment, storage, disposal, transport or handling of Hazardous Materials (collectively, “Environmental Laws”), (B) the Company and its subsidiaries have all permits, authorizations and approvals required under any applicable Environmental Laws and are each in compliance with their requirements, (C) there are no pending, or to the knowledge of the Company, threatened administrative, regulatory or judicial actions, suits, demands, demand letters, claims, liens, notices of noncompliance or violation, investigation or proceedings relating to any Environmental Law against the Company or any of its subsidiaries and (D) to the knowledge of the Company, there are no events or circumstances that could reasonably be expected to form the basis of an order for clean-up or remediation, or an action, suit or proceeding by any private party or governmental body or agency, against or affecting the Company or any of its subsidiaries relating to Hazardous Materials or Environmental Laws.

(xxi) Internal Controls. (A) the Company has established and maintains disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rule 13a-14(c) under the 1934 Act, “Disclosure Controls”); and such Disclosure Controls are (i) designed to ensure that material information relating to the Company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is properly recorded, processed, summarized and communicated to the Company’s senior management, including its principal executive officer and its principal financial officer, by others within those entities as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure, (ii) evaluated by the Company’s senior management on a quarterly basis and (iii) to the best knowledge of the Company, effective in all material respects to perform the functions for which they were established.

(B) The Company has devised and maintains in effect a system of internal accounting controls (“Accounting Controls”); and such Accounting Controls are (i) designed to provide reasonable assurances that transactions involving the Company and its subsidiaries are properly authorized, that the assets of the Company and its subsidiaries are safeguarded against unauthorized or improper use, and that such transactions are properly recorded and reported to permit preparation of the Company’s consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP, all as contemplated in Section 13(b)(2)(B) of the 1934 Act and (ii) to the best knowledge of the Company, effective in all material respects to perform the functions for which they were designed.

(C) Based on the most recent evaluation of the Company’s internal controls, all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal controls which could

adversely affect the Company's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data required to be disclosed by the Company in its 1934 Act reports within the time periods specified in the 1934 Act Regulations, any material weaknesses in such internal controls and any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in such internal controls have been identified and reported to the Company's auditors and the audit committee of the board of directors.

(D) Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, since November 13, 2002, there have been no material changes in the Company's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect such internal controls, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

(b) *Officer's Certificates.* Any certificate signed by any officer of the Company delivered to the Representative or to counsel for the Underwriters shall be deemed a representation and warranty by the Company to each Underwriter as to the matters covered thereby.

## SECTION 2. Sale and Delivery to Underwriters; Closing

(a) *Initial Securities.* On the basis of the representations and warranties herein contained and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Company agrees to sell to each Underwriter, severally and not jointly, and each Underwriter, severally and not jointly, agrees to purchase from the Company, at the price per share set forth in Schedule B, the number of Initial Securities set forth in Schedule A opposite the name of such Underwriter, plus any additional number of Initial Securities which such Underwriter may become obligated to purchase pursuant to the provisions of Section 10 hereof.

(b) *Option Securities.* In addition, on the basis of the representations and warranties herein contained and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Company hereby grants an option to the Underwriters, severally and not jointly, to purchase up to an additional 750,000 shares of Common Stock at the price per share set forth in Schedule B, less an amount per share equal to any dividends or distributions declared by the Company and payable on the Initial Securities but not payable on the Option Securities. The option hereby granted will expire 30 days after the date hereof and may be exercised in whole or in part from time to time only for the purpose of covering over-allotments which may be made in connection with the offering and distribution of the Initial Securities upon notice by the Representative to the Company setting forth the number of Option Securities as to which the several Underwriters are then exercising the option and the time and date of payment and delivery for such Option Securities. Any such time and date of delivery (a "Date of Delivery") shall be determined by the Representative(s), but shall not be later than seven full business days after the exercise of said option, nor in any event prior to the Closing Time, as hereinafter defined. If the option is exercised as to all or any portion of the Option Securities, each of the Underwriters, acting severally and not jointly, will purchase that proportion of the total number of Option Securities then being purchased which the number of Initial Securities set forth in Schedule A opposite the name of such Underwriter bears to the total number of Initial Securities, plus any additional number of Option Securities which such Underwriter may become obligated to purchase pursuant to the provisions of Section 10

hereof, subject in each case to such adjustments as the Representative in its discretion shall make to eliminate any sales or purchases of fractional shares.

(c) *Payment.* Payment of the purchase price for, and delivery of certificates for, the Initial Securities shall be made at the offices of the Company at 701 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20068 or at such other place as shall be agreed upon by the Representative and the Company, at 9:00 A.M. (Eastern time) on the **fourth** business day after the date hereof (unless postponed in accordance with the provisions of Section 10), or such other time not later than ten business days after such date as shall be agreed upon by the Representative and the Company (such time and date of payment and delivery being herein called “Closing Time”).

In addition, in the event that any or all of the Option Securities are purchased by the Underwriters, payment of the purchase price for, and delivery of certificates for, such Option Securities shall be made at the above-mentioned offices, or at such other place as shall be agreed upon by the Representative and the Company, on each Date of Delivery as specified in the notice from the Representative to the Company.

Payment shall be made to the Company by wire transfer of immediately available funds to a bank account designated by the Company, against delivery to the Representative for the respective accounts of the Underwriters of certificates for the Securities to be purchased by them. It is understood that each Underwriter has authorized the Representative, for its account, to accept delivery of, receipt for, and make payment of the purchase price for, the Initial Securities and the Option Securities, if any, which it has agreed to purchase. Merrill Lynch, individually and not as representative of the Underwriters, may (but shall not be obligated to) make payment of the purchase price for the Initial Securities or the Option Securities, if any, to be purchased by any Underwriter whose funds have not been received by the Closing Time or the relevant Date of Delivery, as the case may be, but such payment shall not relieve such Underwriter from its obligations hereunder.

(d) *Denominations; Registration.* Certificates for the Initial Securities and the Option Securities, if any, shall be in such denominations and registered in such names as the Representative may request in writing at least one full business day before the Closing Time or the relevant Date of Delivery, as the case may be. The certificates for the Initial Securities and the Option Securities, if any, will be made available for examination and packaging by the Representative in Washington, D.C. not later than 10:00 A.M. (Eastern time) on the business day prior to the Closing Time or the relevant Date of Delivery, as the case may be.

(e) *Delivery of Global Securities.* In lieu of the delivery to the Underwriters of certificates representing the Securities at the Closing Time and on each Date of Delivery, as contemplated above, the Company, with the approval of the Representative, may deliver one or more global Securities to a custodian for The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), to be held by DTC initially for the accounts of the several Underwriters.

### SECTION 3. Covenants of the Company

(a) *Compliance with Securities Regulations and Commission Requests.* The Company, subject to Section 3(b), will notify the Representative immediately, and confirm the

notice in writing, (i) when any post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement shall become effective, or any supplement to the Prospectus or any amended Prospectus shall have been filed, (ii) of the receipt of any comments from the Commission with respect to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, (iii) of any request by the Commission for any amendment to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement to the Prospectus or for additional information with respect to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, and (iv) of the issuance by the Commission of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or of any order preventing or suspending the use of any preliminary prospectus, or of the suspension of the qualification of the Securities for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, or of the initiation or threatening of any proceedings for any of such purposes. Following the execution and delivery of this Agreement, the Company will promptly file the Prospectus pursuant to Rule 424(b) and will take such steps as it deems necessary to ascertain promptly whether the form of prospectus transmitted for filing under Rule 424(b) was received for filing by the Commission. The Company will make every reasonable effort to prevent the issuance of any stop order and, if any stop order is issued, to obtain the lifting thereof at the earliest possible moment.

(b) *Delivery of Registration Statements.* The Company has furnished or will deliver to the Representative and counsel for the Underwriters, without charge, signed copies of the Registration Statement as originally filed and of each amendment thereto (including exhibits filed therewith or incorporated by reference therein and documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference therein) and signed copies of all consents and certificates of experts, and will also deliver to the Representative, without charge, a conformed copy of the Registration Statement as originally filed and of each amendment thereto (without exhibits) for each of the Underwriters. The copies of the Registration Statement and each amendment thereto furnished to the Underwriters will be identical to the electronically transmitted copies thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

(c) *Delivery of Prospectuses.* The Company has delivered to each Underwriter, without charge, as many copies of each preliminary prospectus as such Underwriter reasonably requested, and the Company hereby consents to the use of such copies by the Underwriters for purposes permitted by the 1933 Act. The Company will furnish to each Underwriter, without charge, during the period when the Prospectus is required to be delivered under the 1933 Act, such number of copies of the Prospectus (as amended or supplemented) as such Underwriter may reasonably request. The Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto furnished to the Underwriters will be identical to the electronically transmitted copies thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR, except to the extent permitted by Regulation S-T.

(d) *Continued Compliance with Securities Laws.*

(i) The Company will comply with the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations and the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations so as to permit the completion of the distribution of the Securities as contemplated in this Agreement and in the Prospectus.

(ii) The Company will immediately notify the Representative, and confirm such notice in writing, of (x) any filing made by the Company of information relating to

the offering of the Securities with any securities exchange or any other regulatory body in the United States or any other jurisdiction and (y) prior to the completion of the distribution of the Securities by the Underwriters as evidenced by a notice in writing from Merrill Lynch on behalf of the Underwriters to the Company, any material changes in or affecting the condition, financial or otherwise, or the earnings or business affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise which (i) make any statement in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus false or misleading or (ii) are not disclosed in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus.

(iii) Upon any notification pursuant to clause (ii) above or if during the period referred to in clause (ii)(y) above any event shall occur as a result of which it is necessary, in the reasonable opinion of the Company or of the Underwriters or their respective counsel (A) to amend the Registration Statement or amend or supplement the Prospectus in order that the Prospectus will not include any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein not misleading in the light of the circumstances existing at the time it is delivered to a purchaser, or (B) to amend the Registration Statement or amend or supplement the Prospectus in order to comply with the requirements of the 1933 Act or the 1933 Act Regulations, the Company will promptly prepare and file with the Commission, subject to Section 3(e), such amendment or supplement as may be necessary to correct such statement or omission or to make the Registration Statement or the Prospectus comply with such requirements, and the Company will furnish to the Underwriters such number of copies of such amendment or supplement as the Underwriters may reasonably request.

(e) *Review of Amendments and Supplements.*

(i) In the case of amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus which are not to be effected by means of a filing with the Commission of a document to be incorporated by reference therein, and are to be made prior to the completion of distribution of the Securities by the Underwriters as evidenced by a notice in writing from Merrill Lynch on behalf of the Underwriters to the Company, the Company will not effect any such amendment or supplement without the consent of the Representative on behalf of the Underwriters, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Neither the consent of the Representative, nor the delivery of any such amendment or supplement by any Underwriter, shall constitute a waiver of any of the conditions set forth in Section 5 hereof.

(ii) In the case of amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus which are to be effected by means of a filing with the Commission of a document to be incorporated by reference therein and are to be made prior to the completion of the distribution of the Securities by the Underwriters as evidenced by a notice in writing from Merrill Lynch on behalf of the Underwriters to the Company, the Company will furnish to the Representative on behalf of the Underwriters, at least 24 hours, or such shorter period as is reasonably required by the circumstances, prior to the filing thereof with the Commission, a draft of each such document.



(iii) Merrill Lynch on behalf of the Underwriters shall notify the Company in writing of the completion of the distribution of the Securities by the Underwriters promptly thereafter.

(f) *Blue Sky Qualifications.* The Company will use its best efforts, in cooperation with the Underwriters, to qualify the Securities for offering and sale under the applicable securities laws of such states and other jurisdictions as the Representative may designate and to maintain such qualifications in effect as long as required for the distribution of the Securities; provided, however, that the Company shall not be obligated to file any general consent to service of process or to qualify as a foreign corporation or as a dealer in securities in any jurisdiction in which it is not so qualified or to subject itself to taxation in respect of doing business in any jurisdiction in which it is not otherwise so subject.

(g) *Rule 158.* The Company will timely file such reports pursuant to the 1934 Act as are necessary in order to make generally available to its securityholders as soon as practicable an earnings statement for the purposes of, and to provide the benefits contemplated by, the last paragraph of Section 11(a) of the 1933 Act.

(h) *Use of Proceeds.* The Company will use the net proceeds received by it from the sale of the Securities in the manner specified in the Prospectus under “Use of Proceeds”.

(i) *Listing.* The Company will use its best efforts to effect the listing of the Securities on the New York Stock Exchange.

(j) *Restriction on Sale of Securities.* During a period of 90 days from the date of the Prospectus, the Company will not, without the prior written consent of Merrill Lynch, (i) directly or indirectly, offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase or otherwise transfer or dispose of any share of Common Stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for Common Stock or file any registration statement under the 1933 Act with respect to any of the foregoing or (ii) enter into any swap or any other agreement or any transaction that transfers, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, the economic consequence of ownership of the Common Stock, whether any such swap or transaction described in clause (i) or (ii) above is to be settled by delivery of Common Stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise. The foregoing sentence shall not apply to (A) the Securities to be sold hereunder, (B) any shares of Common Stock issued by the Company upon the exercise of an option or warrant or the conversion of a security outstanding on the date hereof, (C) any shares of Common Stock issued or options to purchase Common Stock granted pursuant to existing employee benefit plans of the Company, (D) any shares of Common Stock issued pursuant to any non-employee director stock plan or stockholder dividend reinvestment and stock purchase plan or (E) shares of Common Stock issued in connection with any business combination entered into by the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

(k) *Reporting Requirements.* The Company, during the period when the Prospectus is required to be delivered under the 1933 Act, will file all documents required to be filed with the Commission pursuant to the 1934 Act within the time periods required by the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations.

#### SECTION 4. Payment of Expenses

(a) *Expenses.* The Company will pay all expenses incident to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, including (i) the preparation, printing and filing of the Registration Statement (including financial statements and exhibits) as originally filed and of each amendment thereto, (ii) the preparation, printing and delivery to the Underwriters of this Agreement, any Agreement among Underwriters and such other documents as may be required in connection with the offering, purchase, sale, issuance or delivery of the Securities, (iii) the preparation, issuance and delivery of the certificates for the Securities to the Underwriters, including any stock or other transfer taxes and any stamp or other duties payable upon the sale, issuance or delivery of the Securities to the Underwriters, (iv) the fees and disbursements of the Company's counsel, accountants and other advisors, (v) the qualification of the Securities under securities laws in accordance with the provisions of Section 3(f) hereof, including filing fees and the reasonable fees (not to exceed \$5,000) and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection therewith and in connection with the preparation of the Blue Sky Survey and any supplement thereto, (vi) the printing and delivery to the Underwriters of copies of each preliminary prospectus and of the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto, (vii) the preparation, printing and delivery to the Underwriters of copies of the Blue Sky Survey and any supplement thereto, (viii) the fees and expenses of any transfer agent or registrar for the Securities and (ix) the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Securities on the New York Stock Exchange.

(b) *Termination of Agreement.* If this Agreement is terminated by the Representative in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 or Section 9(a)(i) hereof, the Company shall reimburse the Underwriters for all of their out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby, including the reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters.

SECTION 5. Conditions of Underwriters' Obligations. The obligations of the several Underwriters hereunder are subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company contained in Section 1 hereof or in certificates of any officer of the Company delivered pursuant to the provisions hereof, to the performance by the Company of its covenants and other obligations hereunder, and to the following further conditions:

(a) *Effectiveness of Registration Statement.* The Registration Statement has become effective and at Closing Time no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement shall have been issued under the 1933 Act or proceedings therefor initiated or threatened by the Commission, and any request on the part of the Commission for additional information shall have been complied with to the reasonable satisfaction of counsel to the Underwriters. The Prospectus shall have been filed with the Commission in accordance with Rule 424(b).

(b) *Opinions of Counsel for Company.* At Closing Time, the Representative shall have received the opinions, dated as of Closing Time, of William T. Torgerson, Esq., Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the Company, and Covington & Burling, counsel for the Company, substantially in the form of Exhibits A and B hereto, respectively, together with signed or reproduced copies thereof for each of the other Underwriters.

(c) *Opinion of Counsel for Underwriters.* At Closing Time, the Representative shall have received the favorable opinion, dated as of Closing Time, of Thelen Reid & Priest LLP, counsel for the Underwriters, as to such matters as the Representative shall reasonably request, together with signed or reproduced copies of such letter for each of the other Underwriters. In giving such opinion such counsel may rely, as to all matters governed by the laws of jurisdictions other than the law of the State of New York, the federal law of the United States and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, upon the opinions of counsel to the Company. Such counsel may also state that, insofar as such opinion involves factual matters, they have relied, to the extent they deem proper, upon certificates of officers of the Company and its subsidiaries and certificates of public officials.

(d) *Officers' Certificate.* At Closing Time, there shall not have been, since the date hereof or since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Prospectus, any material adverse change in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the earnings or business affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, and the Representative shall have received a certificate of the President or a Vice President of the Company and of the chief financial or chief accounting officer of the Company, dated as of Closing Time, to the effect that (i) there has been no such material adverse change, (ii) the representations and warranties in Section 1(a) hereof are true and correct with the same force and effect as though expressly made at and as of Closing Time, (iii) the Company has complied with all agreements and satisfied all conditions on its part required by this Agreement to be performed or satisfied at or prior to Closing Time, and (iv) no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are pending or to the knowledge of the signers, are contemplated by the Commission.

(e) *Accountant's Comfort Letter.* At Closing Time, the Representative shall have received from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP a letter dated as of the Closing Time, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Representative, together with signed or reproduced copies of such letter for each of the other Underwriters containing statements and information of the type customarily included in accountants' "comfort letters" to underwriters with respect to the financial statements of, and certain financial information relating to, the Company, Pepco and Conectiv contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus.

(f) *Approval of Listing.* At Closing Time, the Securities shall have been approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange, subject only to official notice of issuance.

(g) *Conditions to Purchase of Option Securities.* In the event that the Underwriters exercise their option provided in Section 2(b) hereof to purchase all or any portion of the Option Securities, the representations and warranties of the Company contained herein and the statements in any certificates furnished by the Company hereunder shall be true and correct as of each Date of Delivery and, at the relevant Date of Delivery, the Representative shall have received:

(i) Officers' Certificate. A certificate, dated such Date of Delivery, of the President or a Vice President of the Company and of the chief financial or chief accounting officer of the Company confirming that the certificate delivered at the Closing

Time pursuant to Section 5(d) hereof remains true and correct as of such Date of Delivery.

(ii) Opinions of Counsel for Company. The favorable opinions of William T. Torgerson, Esq., Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the Company, and Covington & Burling, counsel for the Company, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to counsel for the Underwriters, dated such Date of Delivery, relating to the Option Securities to be purchased on such Date of Delivery and otherwise to the same effect as the opinions required by Section 5(b) hereof.

(iii) Opinion of Counsel for Underwriters. The favorable opinion of Thelen Reid & Priest LLP, counsel for the Underwriters, dated such Date of Delivery, relating to the Option Securities to be purchased on such Date of Delivery and otherwise to the same effect as the opinion required by Section 5(c) hereof.

(iv) Bring-down Comfort Letter. A letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Representative and dated such Date of Delivery, substantially in the same form and substance as the letter furnished to the Representative pursuant to Section 5(f) hereof, except that the “specified date” in the letter furnished pursuant to this paragraph shall be a date not more than five days prior to such Date of Delivery.

(h) *Additional Documents.* At Closing Time and at each Date of Delivery, counsel for the Underwriters shall have been furnished with such documents and opinions as they may reasonably require for the purpose of enabling them to pass upon the issuance and sale of the Securities as herein contemplated, or in order to evidence the accuracy of any of the representations or warranties, or the fulfillment of any of the conditions, herein contained; and all proceedings taken by the Company in connection with the issuance and sale of the Securities as herein contemplated shall be reasonably satisfactory in form and substance to the Representative and counsel for the Underwriters.

(i) *Termination of Agreement.* If any condition specified in this Section shall not have been fulfilled when and as required to be fulfilled, this Agreement, or, in the case of any condition to the purchase of Option Securities, on a Date of Delivery which is after the Closing Time, the obligations of the several Underwriters to purchase the relevant Option Securities, may be terminated by the Representative by notice to the Company at any time at or prior to Closing Time or such Date of Delivery, as the case may be, and such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except as provided in Section 4 and except that Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8 shall survive any such termination and remain in full force and effect.

## SECTION 6. Indemnification

(a) *Indemnification of Underwriters.* The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter and each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act or Section 20 of the 1934 Act as follows:

(i) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material

fact contained in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact included in any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto), or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;

(ii) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, to the extent of the aggregate amount paid in settlement of any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or of any claim whatsoever based upon any untrue statement or omission, or any alleged untrue statement or omission in either case of the nature described in clause (i) above; provided that any such settlement is effected with the written consent of the Company; and

(iii) against any and all expense whatsoever, as incurred (including the fees and disbursements of counsel chosen by Merrill Lynch), reasonably incurred in investigating, preparing or defending against any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, to the extent that any such expense is not paid under (i) or (ii) above;

provided, however, that this indemnity agreement shall not apply to any loss, liability, claim, damage or expense to the extent arising out of any untrue statement or omission or alleged untrue statement or omission made in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by any Underwriter expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) or any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto).

(b) *Indemnification of Company, Directors and Officers.* Each Underwriter severally agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its directors, each of its officers who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act or Section 20 of the 1934 Act against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense described in the indemnity contained in subsection (a) of this Section, as incurred, but only with respect to untrue statements or omissions, or alleged untrue statements or omissions, made in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) or any preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by such Underwriter expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) or such preliminary prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto).

(c) *Actions against Parties; Notification.* Each indemnified party shall give notice as promptly as reasonably practicable to each indemnifying party of any action commenced against it in respect of which indemnity may be sought hereunder, but failure to so notify an indemnifying party shall not relieve such indemnifying party from any liability hereunder to the

extent it is not materially prejudiced as a result thereof and in any event shall not relieve it from any liability which it may have otherwise than on account of this indemnity agreement. In the case of parties indemnified pursuant to Section 6(a) above, counsel to the indemnified parties shall be selected by Merrill Lynch, and, in the case of parties indemnified pursuant to Section 6(b) above, counsel to the indemnified parties shall be selected by the Company. An indemnifying party may participate at its own expense in the defense of any such action; provided, however, that counsel to the indemnifying party shall not (except with the consent of the indemnified party) also be counsel to the indemnified party. In no event shall the indemnifying parties be liable for fees and expenses of more than one counsel (in addition to any local counsel) separate from their own counsel for all indemnified parties in connection with any one action or separate but similar or related actions in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances. No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of the indemnified parties, settle or compromise or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever in respect of which indemnification could be sought under this Section 6 or contribution could be sought under Section 7 hereof (whether or not the indemnified parties are actual or potential parties thereto), unless such settlement, compromise or consent (i) includes an unconditional release of each indemnified party from all liability arising out of such litigation, investigation, proceeding or claim and (ii) does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act by or on behalf of any indemnified party.

#### SECTION 7. Contribution

If the indemnification provided for in Section 6 hereof is for any reason unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party in respect of any losses, liabilities, claims, damages or expenses referred to therein, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the aggregate amount of such losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses incurred by such indemnified party, (i) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand from the offering of the Securities pursuant to this Agreement or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in clause (i) above but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and of the Underwriters on the other hand in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such losses, liabilities, claims, damages or expenses, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations.

The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand in connection with the offering of the Securities pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to be in the same respective proportions as the total net proceeds from the offering of the Securities pursuant to this Agreement (before deducting expenses) received by the Company and the total underwriting discount received by the Underwriters, in each case as set forth on the cover of the Prospectus bear to the aggregate initial public offering price of the Securities as set forth on such cover.

The relative fault of the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether any such untrue or

alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company or by the Underwriters and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission.

The Company and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 7 were determined by pro rata allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above in this Section 7. The aggregate amount of losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses incurred by an indemnified party and referred to above in this Section 7 shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in investigating, preparing or defending against any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 7, no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the Securities underwritten by it and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damages which such Underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of any such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission.

No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the 1933 Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation.

For purposes of this Section 7, each person, if any, who controls an Underwriter within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act or Section 20 of the 1934 Act shall have the same rights to contribution as such Underwriter, and each director of the Company, each officer of the Company who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act or Section 20 of the 1934 Act shall have the same rights to contribution as the Company. The Underwriters' respective obligations to contribute pursuant to this Section 7 are several in proportion to the number of Initial Securities set forth opposite their respective names in Schedule A hereto and not joint.

#### SECTION 8. Representations, Warranties and Agreements to Survive Delivery

All representations, warranties and agreements contained in this Agreement or in certificates of officers of the Company submitted pursuant hereto, shall remain operative and in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation made by or on behalf of any Underwriter or controlling person, or by or on behalf of the Company, and shall survive delivery of the Securities to the Underwriters.

#### SECTION 9. Termination of Agreement

(a) *Termination; General.* The Representative(s) may terminate this Agreement, by notice to the Company, at any time at or prior to Closing Time (i) if there has been, since the time of execution of this Agreement or since the respective dates as of which information is

given in the Prospectus (exclusive of any amendment or supplement thereto made after the time of the execution and delivery of this Agreement), any material adverse change in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the earnings or business affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, or (ii) if there has occurred any material adverse change in the financial markets in the United States or in the international financial markets, any outbreak of hostilities or escalation thereof or other calamity or crisis or any change or development involving a prospective change in national or international political, financial or economic conditions, in each case the effect of which is such as to make it, in the judgment of the Representative, impracticable or inadvisable to market the Securities or to enforce contracts for the sale of the Securities, or (iii) if trading in any securities of the Company has been suspended or materially limited by the Commission or the New York Stock Exchange, or if trading generally on the American Stock Exchange or the New York Stock Exchange or in the NASDAQ System has been suspended or materially limited, or minimum or maximum prices for trading have been fixed, or maximum ranges for prices have been required, by any of said exchanges or by such system or by order of the Commission, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. or any other governmental authority, or a material disruption has occurred in commercial banking or securities settlement or clearance services in the United States or (iv) if a banking moratorium has been declared by either Federal or New York authorities.

(b) *Liabilities.* If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to this Section, such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except as provided in Section 4 hereof, and provided further that Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8 shall survive such termination and remain in full force and effect.

#### SECTION 10. Default by One or More of the Underwriters

If one or more of the Underwriters shall fail at Closing Time or a Date of Delivery to purchase the Securities which it or they are obligated to purchase under this Agreement (the "Defaulted Securities"), the Representative shall have the right, within 24 hours thereafter, to make arrangements for one or more of the non-defaulting Underwriters, or any other underwriters, to purchase all, but not less than all, of the Defaulted Securities in such amounts as may be agreed upon and upon the terms herein set forth; if, however, the Representative shall not have completed such arrangements within such 24-hour period, then:

(i) if the number of Defaulted Securities does not exceed 10% of the number of Securities to be purchased on such date, the non-defaulting Underwriters shall be obligated, severally and not jointly, to purchase the full amount thereof in the proportions that their respective underwriting obligations hereunder bear to the underwriting obligations of all non-defaulting Underwriters, or

(ii) if the number of Defaulted Securities exceeds 10% of the number of Securities to be purchased on such date, this Agreement, or, with respect to any Date of Delivery which occurs after the Closing Time, the obligation of the Underwriters to purchase and of the Company to sell the Option Securities to be purchased and sold on such Date of Delivery, shall terminate without liability on the part of any non-defaulting Underwriter.



No action taken pursuant to this Section shall relieve any defaulting Underwriter from liability in respect of its default.

In the event of any such default which does not result in a termination of this Agreement or, in the case of a Date of Delivery which is after the Closing Time, which does not result in a termination of the obligation of the Underwriters to purchase and the Company to sell the relevant Option Securities, as the case may be, either the Representative or the Company shall have the right to postpone Closing Time or the relevant Date of Delivery, as the case may be, for a period not exceeding seven days in order to effect any required changes in the Registration Statement or Prospectus or in any other documents or arrangements. As used herein, the term "Underwriter" includes any person substituted for an Underwriter under this Section 10.

#### SECTION 11. Notices

All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if received by mail or transmitted by any standard form of telecommunication. Notices to the Underwriters shall be directed to the Representative at North Tower, World Financial Center, New York, New York 10281-1201, attention of Mr. Jeffrey Kulik; and notices to the Company shall be directed to it at 701 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20068, attention of Treasurer.

#### SECTION 12. Parties

This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Underwriters and the Company and their respective successors. Nothing expressed or mentioned in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to give any person, firm or corporation, other than the Underwriters and the Company and their respective successors and the controlling persons and officers and directors referred to in Sections 6 and 7 and their heirs and legal representatives, any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under or in respect of this Agreement or any provision herein contained. This Agreement and all conditions and provisions hereof are intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Underwriters and the Company and their respective successors, and said controlling persons and officers and directors and their heirs and legal representatives, and for the benefit of no other person, firm or corporation. No purchaser of Securities from any Underwriter shall be deemed to be a successor by reason merely of such purchase.

#### SECTION 13. GOVERNING LAW AND TIME

THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. SPECIFIED TIMES OF DAY REFER TO NEW YORK CITY TIME.

#### SECTION 14. Effect of Headings

The Article and Section headings herein and the Table of Contents are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction hereof.

#### SECTION 15. Underwriters Counsel

The Company and the Underwriters acknowledge that Thelen Reid & Priest LLP (a) is acting as counsel to the Underwriters in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby and (b) has acted, and will continue to act, as counsel to certain subsidiaries of the Company in connection with certain federal income tax matters, and the Company and the Underwriters consent to such dual representation.

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If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding of our agreement, please sign and return to the Company a counterpart hereof, whereupon this instrument, along with all counterparts, will become a binding agreement between the Underwriters and the Company in accordance with its terms.

Very truly yours,

PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.

By /s/ A. W. WILLIAMS  
Title: Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

CONFIRMED AND ACCEPTED,  
as of the date first above written:

MERRILL LYNCH & CO.  
MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH  
INCORPORATED

By /s/ JEFFREY KULIK  
Authorized Signatory

For itself and as Representative of the other Underwriters named in Schedule A hereto.

## SCHEDULE A

<u>Name of Underwriter</u>	<u>Number of Initial Securities</u>
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated.....	3,250,000
Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated .....	1,750,000
	<hr/>
Total .....	<u>5,000,000</u>

SCHEDULE B

PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.

5,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

(Par Value \$0.01 Per Share)

1. The initial public offering price per share for the Securities, determined as provided in said Section 2, shall be \$19.13.

2. The purchase price per share for the Securities to be paid by the several Underwriters shall be \$18.3839, being an amount equal to the initial public offering price set forth above less \$0.7461 per share; provided that the purchase price per share for any Option Securities purchased upon the exercise of the over-allotment option described in Section 2(b) shall be reduced by an amount per share equal to any dividends or distributions declared by the Company and payable on the Initial Securities but not payable on the Option Securities.

## SCHEDULE C

### List of Designated Subsidiaries

Potomac Electric Power Company  
Conectiv  
Atlantic City Electric Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Conectiv Energy Holding Company  
Pepco Energy Services, Inc.  
Potomac Capital Investment Corporation  
Pepco Communications, Inc.  
Conectiv Delmarva Generation, Inc.  
Conectiv Energy Supply Inc.

Exhibit A

FORM OF OPINION OF WILLIAM TORGERSON, ESQ.

[LETTERHEAD OF PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.]

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Pepco Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and have acted as counsel to the Company in connection with the negotiation, execution and delivery of the Purchase Agreement, dated December 9, 2002, among the Company and Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, and Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated (the "Purchase Agreement"). This opinion is being delivered to you in accordance with Section 5(b) of the Purchase Agreement. Capitalized terms not defined herein have the respective meanings set forth in the Purchase Agreement.

In connection with rendering the opinions set forth herein, I, or my representatives, have reviewed an executed copy of the Purchase Agreement, the Registration Statement on Form S-3, Registration No. 333-100478 (the "Registration Statement"), the Prospectus, and the form of the certificate for the Common Stock. I, or my representatives, also have examined or caused to be examined originals, or copies that have been certified or otherwise identified to my or their satisfaction as being true copies, of such other instruments, certificates and other documents or records as I or they have deemed necessary or appropriate to enable me to render the opinions set forth below. In my or my representatives' review and examination, I or they have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to me or them as originals, and the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to me or them as copies.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the reservations and exceptions set forth herein, I am of the opinion that:

1. The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware.
2. The Company has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in, and contemplated by, the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under the Purchase Agreement.
3. The Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not result in a Material Adverse Effect.
4. All of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of the Company have been duly authorized and validly issued and are fully paid and non-assessable; and none of

the outstanding shares of common stock of the Company was issued in violation of the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company.

5. The Securities have been duly authorized for issuance and sale to the Underwriters pursuant to the Purchase Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to the Purchase Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth in the Purchase Agreement, will be validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable and no holder of the Securities is or will be subject to personal liability in respect of liabilities of the Company solely by reason of being a holder of Securities.

6. The issuance of the Securities is not subject to the preemptive or other similar rights of any securityholder of the Company.

7. Each Designated Subsidiary has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not result in a Material Adverse Effect; and all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each Designated Subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and non-assessable and, to the best of my knowledge, and except for outstanding preferred stock, is owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance, claim or equity.

8. The Purchase Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

9. The Registration Statement has been declared effective by the Commission under the 1933 Act; the Prospectus has been filed in the manner and within the time period required by Rule 424(b); and, to the best of my knowledge, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued under the 1933 Act and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are pending or threatened by the Commission.

10. The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus (other than the financial statements, including the notes thereto, and financial schedules and other financial data included or incorporated by reference therein, or omitted therefrom, as to which I express no opinion), when they were filed with the Commission, complied as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the 1934 Act and the rules and the 1934 Act Regulations.

11. The form of certificate used to evidence the Common Stock complies in all material respects with all applicable statutory requirements, with any applicable requirements of the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the Company and the requirements of the New York Stock Exchange.



12. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, there is not pending or, to the best of my knowledge, threatened any action, suit, proceeding, inquiry or investigation, to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party, or to which the property of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is subject, before or brought by any court or governmental agency or body, domestic or foreign, which could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, or which could reasonably be expected to materially and adversely affect the consummation of the transactions contemplated in the Purchase Agreement or the performance by the Company of its obligations thereunder.

13. To the best of my knowledge, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its certificate of incorporation or by-laws and no default by the Company or any of its subsidiaries exists in the due performance or observance of any obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, loan agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party and that is described or referred to in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the Registration Statement except such violations and defaults as have not had and will not have a Material Adverse Effect.

14. No filing with, or authorization, approval, consent, license, order, registration, qualification or decree of, any court or governmental authority or agency, domestic or foreign is necessary or required in connection with the due authorization, execution and delivery of the Purchase Agreement or for the offering, issuance, sale or delivery of the Securities, except such as have already been obtained or such as may be required under state securities laws.

15. The execution, delivery and performance of the Purchase Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated in the Purchase Agreement (including the issuance and sale of the Securities and the use of the proceeds from the sale of the Securities as described in the Prospectus under the caption "Use Of Proceeds") and compliance by the Company with its obligations under the Purchase Agreement do not and will not, whether with or without the giving of notice or lapse of time or both, conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default or Repayment Event under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any property or assets of the Company or any subsidiary thereof pursuant to any contract, indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan or credit agreement, note, lease or any other agreement or instrument, known to me, to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which it or any of them may be bound, or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any subsidiary thereof is subject (except for such conflicts, breaches or defaults or liens, charges or encumbrances as would not have a Material Adverse Effect), nor will such action result in any violation of (a) the provisions of the certificate of incorporation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (b) any law, statute, rule, or regulation that in my experience customarily applies to transactions of the type contemplated by the Purchase Agreement and/or the Securities other than state securities laws, rules and regulations, or (c) any judgment, order, writ or decree, known to me, of any government, government instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of their respective properties, assets or operations.

I am not passing upon and do not assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus and make no representations that I have independently verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness of such statements, except insofar as such statements refer specifically to me. However, based on my examination of the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, on my general familiarity with the affairs of the Company and on my participation in conferences with officials and other representatives of, and other counsel for, the Company, with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the independent accountants of the Company, and with your representatives and your counsel, I do not believe that the Registration Statement (except for financial statements, including the notes thereto, financial schedules and other financial data included or incorporated by reference therein or omitted therefrom, statements in or omissions from the Joint Proxy Statement Prospectus included in the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-57042) under the section captioned "Opinion of the Financial Adviser to Pepco," the section captioned "Opinion of the Financial Adviser to Conectiv" and in Annex D and Annex E thereto, as to all of which I express no belief), at the time the Registration Statement became effective, contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or that the Prospectus (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement), at the time the Prospectus was issued, [or the Prospectus as supplemented by [identify specific supplement] (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement) at the time such [identify document] was filed] contained, or the Prospectus [as so supplemented] (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement) at the Closing Time contains, an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

I am a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia, and I express no opinion herein as to any laws other than the laws of the District of Columbia, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, the federal laws of the United States and, with respect to the opinions set forth in paragraph 6, the Virginia Stock Corporation Act and the New Jersey Business Corporation Act.

The opinions contained herein are rendered solely for your benefit and may not be relied on by any other person. The opinions expressed in this letter are limited to the matters set forth herein, and no opinion should be inferred beyond those opinions expressly stated. I assume no obligation to advise you of any facts that come to my attention, or any changes in law, subsequent to the date hereof.

Very truly yours,

William T. Torgerson

Exhibit B

FORM OF OPINION OF COVINGTON & BURLING

[LETTERHEAD OF COVINGTON & BURLING]

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to Pepco Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the negotiation, execution and delivery of the Purchase Agreement, dated December 9, 2002, among the Company and Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, and Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated (the "Purchase Agreement"). This opinion is being delivered to you in accordance with Section 5(b) of the Purchase Agreement. Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms used herein have the respective meanings provided in the Purchase Agreement.

We have reviewed the Purchase Agreement, the Registration Statement on Form S-3, Registration No. 333-100478 (the "Registration Statement"), the Prospectus, the form of the certificate for the Common Stock, and such corporate records, certificates and other documents, and such questions of law, as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for the purposes of rendering this opinion.

We have assumed that all signatures are genuine, that all documents submitted to us as originals are authentic and that all copies of documents submitted to us conform to the originals. We have assumed further that the Company is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware.

We have made no investigation for the purpose of verifying the assumptions set forth herein.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the qualifications set forth below, we are of the opinion that:

1. The Securities have been duly authorized for issuance and sale to the Underwriters pursuant to the Purchase Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to the Purchase Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth in the Purchase Agreement, will be validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable and no holder of the Securities is or will be subject to personal liability in respect of liabilities of the Company solely by reason of being a holder of Securities.

2. The Purchase Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

3. The issuance of the Securities is not subject to the preemptive rights of any securityholder of the Company under the certificate of incorporation of the Company or the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware.

4. The Registration Statement has been declared effective by the Commission under the 1933 Act; the Prospectus has been filed in the manner and within the time period required by Rule 424(b); and, to the best of our knowledge, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued under the 1933 Act and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are pending or threatened by the Commission.

5. The Registration Statement, the Prospectus, excluding the documents incorporated by reference therein, [and each amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement and Prospectus, excluding the documents incorporated by reference therein -- only include if required], as of their respective effective or issue dates (other than the financial statements, including the notes thereto, and other financial and statistical data included therein or omitted therefrom, as to which we express no opinion) complied as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations.

6. The information in the Prospectus under "Description of Common Stock," and in the Registration Statement under Item 15, to the extent that it constitutes matters of law, summaries of the Company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws or legal conclusions, has been reviewed by us and is accurate in all material respects.

7. The Company is not an "investment company" or an entity "controlled" by an "investment company," as such terms are defined in the 1940 Act.

We are not passing upon and do not assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus and make no representations that we have independently verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness of such statements, except as expressly set forth in paragraph 6 above and insofar as such statements refer specifically to us. However, based on our examination of the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and participation in conferences with your representatives and those of the Company, your counsel and the Company's accountants in connection with the offer and sale of the Securities, nothing which came to our attention in the course of such review has caused us to believe that the Registration Statement (except for financial statements, including the notes thereto, financial schedules and other financial and statistical data included or incorporated by reference therein or omitted therefrom, as to which we express no comment, and except that we make no statement with regard to the Joint Proxy Statement Prospectus included in the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4, Registration No. 333-57042), at the time the Registration Statement became effective, contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or that the Prospectus (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement), at the time the Prospectus was issued, [or the Prospectus as supplemented by [identify specific supplement] (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement) at the time such [identify document] was filed] contained, or the Prospectus [as so supplemented] (except as aforesaid with respect to the Registration Statement) at the Closing Time contains, an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

We are members of the bar of the State of New York. We do not purport to be experts in, and do not express any opinion on, any laws other than the laws of the State of New York, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and, to the extent expressly referred to herein, the federal laws of the United States.

This opinion is given solely for your benefit and may not be disclosed to any other person without our written consent. This opinion may not be relied upon by any other person without our written consent. We assume no obligation to advise you of any facts that come to our attention, or any changes in law, subsequent to the date hereof.

Very truly yours,

COVINGTON & BURLING