

Agenda Date: 11/21/17

Agenda Item: 2L

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

		ENERGY
IN THE MATTER OF THE BOARD'S REVIEW OF THE PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF THE ENERGY STRONG PROGRAM	) ) )	ORDER  DOCKET NO. E013020155 and G013020156

## Parties of Record:

Joseph Accardo, Esq., Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel
Janine G. Bauer, Esq., Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein & Blader, P.C. for AARP
Steven S. Goldenberg, Esq., Fox Rothschild, LLP, for New Jersey Large Energy Users
Coalition ("NJLEUC")

Roger Schwarz, Esq., Roger M. Schwartz Governmental Affairs, for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 94, Local 855 of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry, Local 601 of the Utility Workers Union of America and Local 153 of the Office of Professional Employees International Union (collectively "PSE&G Unions")

Vincent M. Giblin, Esq., Pitta & Giblin, LLP for International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union 825

Albert G. Kroll, Esq., Kroll Heineman Carton, LLC for New Jersey Laborers' – Employer's Cooperation and Education Trust ("NJLECET")

John Finnigan, Esq., Duane Morris, LLP for Environmental Defense Fund ("EDF")

Aaron Kleinbaum, Esq., Eastern Environmental Law Center for the Sierra Club – New Jersey Chapter and the New Jersey Environmental Federation ("Environmental Intervenors")

**Thomas P. Scrivo, Esq.**, McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP for Ferreira Construction Company, Inc. ("Ferreira Construction")

#### BY THE BOARD:

On May 21, 2014, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") issued an Order ("May Order") approving a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") entered in the Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Company") Energy Strong Program ("ES Program") in Docket Nos. EO13020155 and GO13020156. The May Order provided PSE&G with approval to invest up to \$1.0 billion (\$0.6 billion electric and \$0.4 billion gas) to harden its infrastructure to

make it less susceptible to damage from wind, flying debris and water damage in anticipation of future major storm events and to strengthen the resiliency of the Company's delivery system, with costs to be recovered through periodic base rate adjustments. A specific tenant of the Stipulation and the Order required PSE&G to file its next base rate case no later than November 1, 2017. On September 27, 2017 a base rate case pre-filing meeting was held with PSE&G, Rate Counsel and Board staff in attendance wherein PSE&G discussed its impending petition which was to be filed with two (2) months actual data and ten (10) months of projected and several scheduled data updates to be filed in 2018. Thereafter, PSE&G filed a letter request on October 10, 2017 requesting a one (1) month extension to file its base rate petition so as to allow it to file with three (3) months actual data and nine (9) months projected data.

On October 12, 2017, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") filed a letter with the Board stating that it consented to PSE&G's request to file its base rate petition one (1) month late to allow for the inclusion of three (3) months of actual data and nine (9) months projected data. Rate Counsel also reiterated its objection to base rate cases being filed with less than five (5) months actual data and seven (7) months projected data as required by the Board in the Elizabethtown Water Case.<sup>2</sup>

On October 20, 2017 the Board granted PSE&G's request for a one (1) month extension and issued an Order on October 20, 2017, requiring PSE&G to file a base rate case on or before December 1, 2017.

On November 14, 2017 PSE&G filed a letter with the Board Secretary's office requesting a second extension to file the base rate case in order to allow the Company to file the base rate case no later than February 1, 2018. The Company stated the base rate case would be based on a July 2017 to June 2018 test year, and the extension would enable PSE&G to submit five (5) months of actual data and seven (7) months of projected data in its February 1, 2018 petition.

Accordingly, based on the Board's review and consideration of the request, and for good cause shown, the Board <u>HEREBY GRANTS</u> the request of PSE&G to file a base rate case by no later than February 1, 2018 with five (5) months of actual data and seven (7) months of projected data.

<sup>2</sup> In re Elizabethtown Water Co. Rate Case, BPU Docket No. WR8504330 (May 23, 1985) ("Elizabethtown Water Case").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Board's Review of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company for Approval of the Energy Strong Program, at 6, (May 21, 2014) (citing the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement.))

The effective date of the Order shall be December 1, 2017.

DATED: 1/21/17

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

RICHARD S. MROZ PRESIDENT

JÖSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA

COMMISSIONER

DIANNE SOLOMON COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

IRENE KIM ASBURY SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities

# IN THE MATTER OF THE BOARDS REVIEW OF THE PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF THE ENERGY STRONG PROGRAM Docket Nos. E013020155 & G013020156

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