Agenda Date: 12/20/19 Agenda Item: IXA



STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

A Regular Board meeting of the Board of Public Utilities was held on November 13, 2019, at the State House Annex, Committee Room 11, 125 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

Public notice was given pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18 by posting notice of the meeting at the Board's Trenton Office, on the Board's website, filing notice of the meeting with the New Jersey Department of State and the following newspapers circulated in the State of New Jersey:

Asbury Park Press Atlantic City Press Burlington County Times Courier Post (Camden) Home News Tribune (New Brunswick) North Jersey Herald and News (Passaic) The Record (Hackensack) The Star Ledger (Newark) The Trenton Times

The following members of the Board of Public Utilities were present:

Joseph L. Fiordaliso, President Mary-Anna Holden, Commissioner Dianne Solomon, Commissioner Upendra J. Chivukula, Commissioner Robert M. Gordon, Commissioner

President Fiordaliso presided at the meeting and Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary of the Board, carried out the duties of the Secretary.

It was announced that the next regular Board Meeting would be held on December 6, 2019 at the State House Annex, Committee Room 11, 125 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

CONSENT AGENDA

I. AUDITS

EE19040447L	or Energy Consultant Initial Registrations Capacity Markets Partners, LLC	I – EA
EE19091023L	Dynamis Energy, LLC	I–EA
	d/b/a United Energy Services	
EE19091233L	Clear Point Energy, Inc.	I – EA
Energy Agent, Priva	ate Aggregator and/or Energy Consultant Ren	ewal Registrations
EE19080922L	Blitz Ventures, Inc.	R – EA
	d/b/a EnergyBot	
EE19050569L	Hovey Energy, LLC	R – EA
EE19040520L	KWH Savings, LLC	R – EA
EE19091216L	Broadleaf, LLC	R – EA
	d/b/a Broadleaf Energy	
EE19091075L	Consumer Energy Solutions, Inc.	R – EA
EE19091232L	Management Services Partners, LLC	R – EA
EE19080910L	Stanwich Energy Advisors	R – EA
GE19070828L	New Jersey Business & Industry Assoc.	R – PA
EE19091307L	Resource Energy Solutions, LLC	R – EA/PA
GE19091308L		
EE19080941L	Power Kiosk, LLC	R – EA/PA/EC
GE19080942L		
EE19080992L	Woodruff Energy US, LLC	R – EA/PA/EC
GE19080993L		
EE19050646L	NORESCO, LLC	R – EA/PA/EC
GE19050647L		
EE19040453L	EMEX, LLC	R – EA/PA/EC
GE19040454L	d/b/a EMEX Power, LLC	
EE19040524L	Mondre Energy, Inc.	R – EA/PA/EC
GE19040525L		

Electric Power Supplier	Initial License	
EE19050623L	DTE Atlantic, LLC	I – ESL

Electric Power and/or Natural Gas Supplier Renewal LicensesEE18090993LDirect Energy Business Marketing, LLCR – EGSLGE18090992L

BACKGROUND: The Board must register all energy agents, private aggregators, and consultants, and the Board must license all third party electric power suppliers and natural gas suppliers. N.J.S.A. 48:3-78 to -79. On May 10, 2019, <u>P.L.</u> 2019, <u>c.</u> 100-101 was signed into law providing that third party electric power and natural gas supplier licenses issued by the Board may be renewed without expiring if certain conditions are met. An electric power supplier and/or natural gas supplier license shall not expire so long as the licensee pays to the Board a license renewal fee accompanied by an annual information update on a form prescribed by the Board. The renewal fee and annual information update form must be submitted within 30 days prior to the anniversary date of the last approved licensing application. <u>P.L.</u> 2019, <u>c.</u> 100-101 became operative 60 days following the date

of enactment. As such, any third party suppliers with a license expiring prior to July 9, 2019 were still required to submit the previous renewal application form. Any third party supplier renewal application that was filed prior to July 9, 2019 has been, and will continue to, be processed by Board Staff for approval or denial in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:4-5.7. The anniversary date for companies with a pending application will be the date that the renewal application receives Board approval. An energy agent, private aggregator, or energy consultant registration shall be valid for one year from the date of issue. Annually thereafter, licensed electric power suppliers and natural gas suppliers, as well as energy agents, private aggregators, and energy consultants, are required to renew timely their licenses and registrations in order to continue to do business in New Jersey.

Staff recommended that the following applicant be issued initial registrations as an energy agent for one year:

- Capacity Markets Partners LLC
- Dynamis Energy, LLC d/b/a United Energy Services
- Clear Point Energy, Inc.

Staff also recommended that the following applicants be issued renewal registrations as an energy agent, private aggregator and/or energy consultant for one year:

- Blitz Ventures, Inc. d/b/a EnergyBot
- Hovey Energy, LLC
- KWH Savings LLC
- Broadleaf, LLC d/b/a Broadleaf Energy
- Consumer Energy Solutions, Inc.
- Management Services Partners LLC
- Stanwich Energy Advisors
- New Jersey Business & Industry Association
- Resources Energy Solutions, LLC
- Power Kiosk LLČ
- Woodruff Energy US LLC
- NORESCO, LLC
- EMEX, LLC d/b/a EMEX Power, LLC
- Mondre Energy, Inc.

In addition, Staff recommended that the following applicant be issued an initial license as an electric power supplier:

• DTE Atlantic, LLC

Finally, Staff recommended that the following applicants be issued renewal licenses as an electric power and/or natural gas supplier:

• Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

II. ENERGY

A. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. ER15-1387 – PJM Tariff Filing re: Transmission Owner's Revisions to Open Access Transmission Tariff on Allocation of Costs to Local Transmission Owners.

BACKGROUND: This matter involved Staff, on behalf of the Board, filing a doc-less intervention in this proceeding as a "state commission" under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Rules of Practice and Procedure on October 15, 2019. The FERC e-filing rules allow for doc-less interventions, which serve to establish the Board as a party to the proceeding. At present, Staff is monitoring the federal proceeding on behalf of the Board. Staff recommended the Board ratify this intervention.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

B. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. ER20-45 PJM Interconnection, LLC submits tariff filing: Revisions to Operating Agreement, Schedule 6, sec 1.5 re: Commission's 8/30/19 Order.

BACKGROUND: This matter involved Staff, on behalf of the Board, filing a doc-less intervention in this proceeding as a "state commission" under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Rules of Practice and Procedure on October 10, 2019. The FERC e-filing rules allow for doc-less interventions, which serve to establish the Board as a party to the proceeding. At present, Staff is monitoring the federal proceeding on behalf of the Board. Staff recommended the Board ratify this intervention.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

III. CABLE TELEVISION

A. Docket No. CE19030293 – In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast Garden State, LP, for a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Township of Berlin, County of Camden, State of New Jersey.

BACKGROUND: On March 1, 2019, Comcast of Garden State, LP filed a petition for an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Township of Berlin (Township) based on the automatic renewal provision, for a term to expire on February 15, 2029.

The petition is based on the Township's ordinance granting renewal municipal consent, which was adopted December 22, 2003. The Township's ordinance granted a term of 15 years with an automatic renewal term of 10 years. The initial term expired on February 15, 2019.

Staff recommended approval of the proposed Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval. This Certificate shall expire on February 15, 2029.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

IV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. Docket No. TM19091153 – In the Matter of the Verified Joint Petition of DSCI, LLC, U.S. TelePacific Holdings Corp., and Tango Private Holdings II, LLC for Approval to Transfer Indirect Control of DSCI, LLC to Tango Private Holdings II, LLC.

BACKGROUND: On September 11, 2019, DSCI, LLC (DSCI), U.S. TelePacific Holdings Corp. and Tango Private Holdings II, LLC (collectively, the Petitioners) submitted a Verified Petition to the Board requesting approval for Tango to acquire indirect control of DSCI (the Transaction). Following closing of the Transaction, the same services will continue to be offered in New Jersey at the same rates, terms, and conditions to customers.

By letter dated October 16, 2019, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel submitted comments, stating that it did not oppose the approval of Petitioners' requests in this matter.

After review, Staff recommended approval of the Petitioners' request.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

V. WATER

A. Docket Nos. BPU WR19060769 and OAL PUC 09375-2019 – In the Matter of the Petition of Mount Olive Villages Sewer Company, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Sewer Service and Other Tariff Changes.

BACKGROUND: On June 28, 2019 Mount Olive Villages Sewer Company (Company), Inc. filed a petition with the Board requesting an increase in rates for wastewater service in the amount of \$215,865.00 or 33.12%.

The matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on July 10, 2019. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jacob Gertsman was assigned to the case. A telephone pre-hearing conference was convened on July 31, 2019, and a procedural schedule was agreed to by the parties.

On July 3, 2019 the Company filed a letter with the Board stating that it will not implement rates on an interim basis prior to the effective date of the Board's Suspension Order resulting from the Board's August 7, 2019 Agenda meeting.

The Company proposed rates to become effective for service on and after August 1, 2019. On July 3, 2019, the Company submitted a letter with the Board stating that it would not implement rates on an interim basis prior to the effective date of the Board's Suspension Order resulting from the Board's August 7, 2019 agenda meeting.

On August 7, 2019, the Board issued an Initial Suspension Order which suspended the Company's proposed rate increase until December 1, 2019.

On October 2, 2019, a public hearing was held at the Mount Olive Township Municipal Building in Budd Lake, New Jersey at 5:30 p.m. ALJ Gail Cookson presided over the hearing. Approximately 27 members of the public appeared at the hearing, and 10 people provided comments in opposition to the proposed rate increase. Those who provided comments for the record addressed issues of financial hardship on senior citizens if the rate case is approved.

In view of the fact that this proceeding will not be completed by December 1, 2019, Staff recommended that the Board issue a Further Suspension Order further suspending the proposed rates until April 1, 2020.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

B. Docket Nos. BPU WR19060770 and OAL PUC 09375-2019 – In the Matter of the Petition of Mount Olive Villages Water Company, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Water Service and Other Tariff Changes.

BACKGROUND: On June 28, 2019, Mount Villages Water Company, Inc. (Company) filed a petition with the Board requesting an increase in rates for water service in the amount of \$186,160.00 or 71.79%.

The matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on July 10, 2019. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jacob Gertsman was assigned to the case. A telephone pre-hearing conference was convened on July 31, 2019 and a procedural schedule was agreed to by the parties.

The Company proposed rates to become effective for service on and after August 1, 2019. On July 3, 2019, the Company submitted a letter with the Board stating that it would not implement rates on an interim basis prior to the effective date of the Board's Suspension Order resulting from the Board's August 7, 2019 agenda meeting.

On August 7, 2019, the Board issued an Initial Suspension Order, which suspended the Company's proposed rate increase until December 1, 2019.

On October 2, 2019, a public hearing was held at the Mount Olive Township Municipal Building in Budd Lake, New Jersey at 5:30 p.m. ALJ Gail Cookson presided over the hearing. Approximately 27 members of the public appeared at the hearing, and 10 people provided comments in opposition to the proposed rate increase. Those who provided comments for the record addressed issues of financial hardship on senior citizens if the rate case is approved.

In view of the fact that this proceeding will not be completed by December 1, 2019, Staff recommended that the Board issue a Further Suspension Order further suspending the proposed rates until April 1, 2020.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

VI. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY

There were no items in this category.

VII. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

A. Docket Nos. BPU WC18080902U and OAL PUC 15258-2018S – In the Matter of AEFII Urban Renewal, LLC and Savoy Urban Renewal, LLC, Petitioner v. New Jersey American Water Company, Respondent – Billing Dispute.

BACKGROUND: This matter involved a billing dispute between AEF Urban Renewal, LLC/Savoy Urban Renewal, LLC (Petitioner) and New Jersey American Water Company (NJAW or Company). The petition was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing as a contested case. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Judith Lieberman filed an Initial Decision in this matter with the Board on October 16, 2019, approving the stipulation of settlement (Stipulation) of the parties.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter, NJAW, within 30 days of this fully executed Settlement Agreement, will write to the Asbury Sewer Authority. Within this letter the Company will state the following: Please be advised that for the period of November 4, 2017 to January 3, 2018, the water usage for which NJAW, final billed the Petitioner was 690,500 gallons, not the 1,380,500 that we understand the Asbury Park Sewer Authority used to bill the Petitioner for sewer usage on or about January 2, 2018.

The Board, at its discretion, has the option of accepting, modifying or rejecting the Initial Decision of ALJ Lieberman. Staff recommended the Board adopt the Initial Decision of ALJ Lieberman.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

B. Docket Nos. BPU GC19030320U and OAL PUC 10231-2019N – In the Matter of Sandra Brignoni, Petitioner v. Elizabethtown Gas, Respondent – Billing Dispute.

BACKGROUND: This matter involved a billing dispute between Sandra Brignoni (Petitioner) and Elizabethtown Gas (ETG). The petition was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing as a contested case. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Margaret M. Monaco filed an Initial Decision in this matter with the Board on October 4, 2019, approving the stipulation of settlement (Stipulation) of the parties.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter, ETG agreed to settle this matter for \$7,500.00. Beginning November 2019, the Petitioner agreed to pay \$104.17 per month for 72 months until the \$7,500.00 balance is paid. ETG will provide the Petitioner with a new account and she further agreed to make her payments within 10 days of the first of every month.

The Board, at its discretion, has the option of accepting, modifying or rejecting the Initial Decision of ALJ Baron. Staff recommended the Board adopt the Initial Decision of ALJ Monaco.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

C. Docket Nos. BPU WC18050505U and OAL PUC 13026-2018S – In the Matter of Kenneth and Christine Marotta, Petitioner v. New Jersey American Water, Respondent – Billing Dispute.

BACKGROUND: This matter involved a billing dispute between Kenneth and Christine Marotta (Petitioners) and New Jersey American Water Company (NJAW). The petition was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing as a contested case. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Andrew M. Baron filed an Initial Decision in this matter with the Board on October 4, 2019, approving the stipulation of settlement (Stipulation) of the parties.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter, NJAW agreed to credit the Petitioner's account in the amount of \$532.73, leaving a balance due of \$992.97. The Petitioner agreed to make an initial payment of \$200.00 and then begin a 5 month installment plan. The installment plan includes 4 payments of \$158.00 and a final payment of \$160.97. On October 17, 2019, Staff was informed by NJAW that the credit was applied and the installment plan was successfully completed.

The Board, at its discretion, has the option of accepting, modifying or rejecting the Initial Decision of ALJ Baron. Staff recommended the Board adopt the Initial Decision of ALJ Baron.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

VIII. CLEAN ENERGY

There were no items in this category.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Approval of the Minutes for the October 7, 2019 Agenda Meeting.

BACKGROUND: Staff presented the regular agenda meeting minutes of October 7, 2019, and recommended that they be accepted.

DECISION: The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

After appropriate motion, the consent agenda was approved.

Roll Call Vote:President FiordalisoAyeCommissioner HoldenAyeCommissioner SolomonAyeCommissioner ChivukulaAyeCommissioner GordonAye

AGENDA

1. AUDITS

There were no items in this category.

2. ENERGY

Stacy Peterson, Director, Division of Energy, presented these matters.

A. Docket Nos. BPU EC17090969 and OAL PUC 02000-18 – In the Matter of Donald McKay, Petitioner v. Jersey Central Power and Light Company, Respondent.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On February 9, 2017, Donald McKay (Petitioner) filed a petition (Petition) with the Board seeking monetary reimbursement from Jersey Central Power and Light Company (JCP&L) for a project at Petitioner's home residence. On November 14, 2017, JCP&L submitted its answer to the Petition.

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on February 2, 2018 for hearing as a contested case. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Irene Jones. On April 11, 2019, a plenary hearing was held before ALJ Jones, where the Petitioner and a JCP&L engineer testified. Post-hearing briefs were filed after the hearing. On August 29, 2019, ALJ Jones issued an Initial Decision dismissing the Petition.

Staff recommended Board approval of the Initial Decision.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

B. Docket No. EO18020196 – In the Matter of the Petition of Atlantic City Electric Company for Approval of an Infrastructure Investment Program, and Related Cost Recovery Mechanism, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:3-2A.1, et seq.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On April 18, 2019, the Board issued an Order (April 2019 Order) approving a Stipulation of Settlement (Stipulation) entered in the Atlantic City Electric Company I (ACE) infrastructure Investment Program. The April 2019 Order provided ACE with approval to invest approximately \$96 million of capital investments with accelerated cost recovery. A specific tenant of the Stipulation and the April 2019 Order set forth a schedule for roll ins related to investments.

The first roll in was to be filed on November 1, 2019, with rates in effect by April 1, 2020 [and reflect six months of investments from July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019]. The second roll in was to be filed on November 1, 2020 (and reflect one year of investments from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020).

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On October 25, 2019, ACE filed a letter requesting a modification of the Stipulation that was approved in the April 2019 Order. Specifically, ACE requested to modify the roll in schedule to allow for the first filing to be made on May 1, 2020 with rates to be effective October 1, 2020 (for investments made between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020) and the second filing to be made on November 1, 2020 (for investments made between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020) and the 2020 and December 31, 2020).

In the letter, ACE indicated that the Company concluded that although progress is being made on the projects, it was unlikely that \$9.6 million would be placed in service to meet the \$9.6 million filing threshold for its initial November 1, 2019 rate filing. ACE further indicated that there were several reasons the Company has been challenged to meet the \$9.6 million threshold including: (1) initiating spending on some projects prior to the beginning of the July 1, 2019 investment period; (2) the projected in service date for some projects; and (3) significant spending is presently scheduled to occur in the fourth quarter of 2019, but could be subject to weather or other delays.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the modification to the Stipulation approved in the April 2019 Order. Staff further recommended that the Board direct ACE to retain an independent monitor for the program by March 1, 2020.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

C. Docket Nos. BPU GR19040486 and OAL PUC 06692-2019N – In the Matter of the Petition of Elizabethtown Gas Company for Approval of Increased Base Tariff Rates and Charges for Gas Service, Changes to Depreciation Rates and Other Tariff Revisions.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On April 18, 2019, Elizabethtown Gas Company (Elizabethtown or Company), filed a petition with the Board for approval of an increase in its operating revenues of approximately \$65.03 million, to be effective for gas service provided on or after May 19, 2019. The Company also sought Board approval to implement new depreciation rates. Elizabethtown's petition also requested a return on equity of 10.40%.

According to the petition, the Company's current base rates and charges for natural gas service are not sufficient at their current level to ensure it can continue to attract the necessary capital to support further investments that enable it to provide ongoing safe and reliable service to its customers. Additionally, Elizabethtown stated that its request for rate relief is also driven by a need to recover greater depreciation expense, as well as increases to the operations and maintenance costs incurred by the Company since its last base rate case. Elizabethtown also proposed to establish a regulatory asset in which the incremental costs associated with a transmission integrity management program incurred between rate cases will be tracked and deferred for later review and recovery in rates.

By Order dated May 8, 2019, the Board suspended the proposed rate increase until September 19, 2019 and on September 11, 2019, the Board further suspended the implementation of rates until January 19, 2020.

This matter was subsequently transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) as a contested case, and was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Irene Jones for consideration and hearing. A prehearing conference was held by ALJ Jones and a Pre-Hearing Order and Procedural Schedule were issued on July 25, 2019.

On July 16, 2019, Elizabethtown updated its petition to include nine months of actual data and three months of estimated data. As a result, the requested rate increase was modified to approximately \$65.88 million. On October 2, 2019, Elizabethtown further updated the petition, including revised schedules demonstrating the Company's actual results for the 12 month test year, reflecting a revenue requirement of approximately \$65.50 million.

Throughout the course of the proceeding, the Company, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel, and Board Staff (collectively, the Parties) held numerous discovery and settlement conferences. Subsequently, the Parties executed a stipulation of settlement (Stipulation) resolving this matter. On October 30, 2019, ALJ Jones issued her Initial Decision in this matter approving the Stipulation, finding that the Stipulation is voluntary, consistent with the law and fully disposes of all issues in controversy.

Staff recommended that the Board issue an Order approving the Initial Decision and Stipulation for service rendered on and after November 15, 2019. Staff further recommended that the Board direct Elizabethtown to file revised tariffs consistent with the Board's Order by November 15, 2019.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

D. Docket No. GR19030420 – In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company for Approval of an Increase in Gas Base Rates and for Changes in its Tariff for Gas Service, Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and 48:2-21.1; and for Changes to Depreciation Rates for Gas Property Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-18; and

Docket Nos. BPU GR181010196 and OAL PUC 06769-2019S – In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company's Request for Deferred Accounting Authority for Costs Related to New Information Technology Systems.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On October 5, 2018, New Jersey Natural Gas Company (NJNG or Company) filed a petition (2018 Deferred Accounting Petition) with the Board seeking deferred accounting treatment for costs associated with upgrades to the Company's information technology (IT) systems. NJNG requested Board approval to defer on its books actual incurred costs with Project NEXT and not otherwise recovered through its current base rates and that it would be addressed in its' base rate case, along with the appropriate amortization period. Subsequently, NJNG filed a motion to consolidate the 2018 Deferred Accounting Petition with the base rate case.

On March 29, 2019, NJNG filed a petition (2019 Base Rate Case Petition) for approval of an increase in its operating revenues of approximately \$128.224 million, to be effective for gas service provided on or after April 29, 2019. The Company also sought Board approval to implement new depreciation rates, including cost of removal rates that the Company submits are more appropriate and will allow fuller recovery of its expected costs as it replaces aging infrastructure, as well as certain other tariff changes.

NJNG also requested a return on equity of 10.875%. According to the 2019 Base Rate Case Petition, the Company's current base rates and charges for natural gas service are not sufficient at their current level and, if left unchanged, will impair NJNG's ability to meet operating and maintenance expenses, tax and fixed charges, and its ability to earn a reasonable rate of return.

Additionally, NJNG sought approval to establish a Phase II of this proceeding to address the cost recovery for the Company's Southern Reliability Link intra-state gas transmission project, which commenced construction in November 2018 and is anticipated to be inservice during 2020.

By Order dated May 8, 2019, the Board suspended the proposed rate increase until August 29, 2019, and on August 7, 2019, the Board further suspended the implementation of rates until December 29. 2019.

On May 14, 2019, both matters were transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) as contested cases, and were consolidated and assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jacob S. Gertsman for consideration and hearing. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was held by ALJ Gertsman on June 14, 2019. On August 23, 2019, a Pre-Hearing Order and Procedural Schedule were issued.

On July 2, 2019, NJNG updated its petition to include nine months of actual data and three months of estimated dated. The requested rate increase was modified to \$129.838 million. On September 27, 2019 NJNG updated its petition to include 12 months of actual data. As a result, the requested rate increase was modified to \$134.313 million.

Throughout the course of the proceeding, the Company, Board Staff, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (Rate Counsel) as well as other parties held numerous discovery and settlement conferences. Following discussions among the parties, the Company, Board Staff, Rate Counsel, and the United States Department of Defense and all other Federal Executive Agencies executed a stipulation of settlement (Stipulation) resolving this matter. Public Service Electric and Gas Company and the New Jersey Shareholders Association submitted a letter of non-objection. On October 30, 2019, ALJ Gertsman issued his Initial Decision in this matter approving the Stipulation, finding that the

Stipulation is voluntary, consistent with the law and fully disposes of all issues in controversy.

Staff recommended that the Board issue an Order approving the Initial Decision and Stipulation for service rendered on or after November 15, 2019. Staff further recommended that the Board direct NJNG to file revised tariffs consistent with the Board's Order by November 15, 2019.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

E. Docket No. GR19060766 – In the Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company for Approval of the Next Phase of the Gas System Modernization Program and Associated Cost Recovery Mechanism (GSMP II) (June 2019 GSMP Rate Filing).

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On June 27, 2019, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G or Company) filed a petition with the Board seeking approval for gas base rate changes to provide for cost recovery associated with certain capitalized investment costs for the extension of the Company's Gas System Modernization Program (GSMP II) through August 31, 2019. The Company sought approval to recover a revenue requirement of \$19.7 million.

On September 16, 2019, the Company provided updated schedules, which replaced the estimated data in the initial schedules with actual data through August 31, 2019. The Company's proposed revenue requirement decreased from \$19.7 million to \$17.3 million.

On October 11, 2019, the Company provided a second update to certain schedules to update rate design after new rates became effective October 1, 2019. There was no change to the Company's revenue requirements with the purpose of the second update to correct base rates.

On October 24, 2019, following review of the June 2019 Petition, updated schedules and discovery responses, PSE&G, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel, and Board Staff (Staff) executed a Stipulation and Agreement (Stipulation) that allows the Company to recover a gas revenue requirement of \$17.3 million.

Staff recommended that the Board issue an Order adopting the Stipulation. In addition, Staff recommended that the Board direct PSE&G to file revised tariff sheets consistent with its Order by December 1, 2019.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

F. Docket No. ER19040428 – In the Matter of the Provision of Basic Generation Service (BGS) for the Period Beginning June 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: This involved a recommendation for securing electric power supplies for non-shopping Basic Generation Service (BGS) customers for the period beginning June 1, 2020. The recommendation is to allow the Electric Distribution Companies (EDCs) to conduct two descending clock auctions (Auctions) similar to those approved by the Board for the past 18 years. The Auctions will secure full electricity requirements for hourly-priced service for the largest electric customers, and the full electricity requirements for smaller commercial and residential customers. The Auctions will be conducted in February 2020.

The Board issued an Order on April 18, 2019, opening a proceeding to determine how to procure the remaining one third of the State's BGS- Residential and Small Commercial Pricing (BGS-RSCP) and the annual BGS- Commercial and Industrial Pricing (BGS-CIEP) requirements for the period beginning June 1, 2020.

The Board directed each of the EDCs, as well as other interested parties, to file proposals for the procurement of BGS service, consistent with its April 18, 2019 Order, by July 1, 2019.

BGS filings were received from the EDCs via a joint BGS filing (Initial Proposal) on July 1, 2019. Initial Comments on the BGS proposals were filed on or about September 4, 2019. A legislative-type hearing was held on September 19, 2019. The EDCs filed a Supplemental Proposal (Supplemental Proposal) on October 8, 2019. Final Comments were filed on October 25, 2019.

The EDCs jointly proposed two simultaneous, multi-round, descending clock auctions for the procurement of services to meet the full electricity requirements (i.e. energy, capacity, ancillary services, transmission, etc.) of retail customers that have not chosen a third party supplier.

One auction would procure service for a one-year period, beginning June 1, 2020, for the larger Commercial and Industrial customers on the EDCs' systems through an auction to provide hourly-priced service (the CIEP Auction). The customers in this category represent approximately 3,071 Megawatts (MW) of load to be procured through bidding on an expected 41 full-requirements tranches of approximately 75 MW each. This is the same type of Auction that the Board approved last year in Docket No. ER18040356.

Staff also addressed related policy issues raised by various parties during the proceeding, including:

- 1. Changes to the timeline for the Auctions;
- 2. Solar Renewable Energy Certificates and Renewable Energy Certificates transfers to EDCs;
- 3. Changes to Supplier Master Agreements (SMAs);
- 4. The PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM) capacity market construct;
- 5. Issues related to the draft Energy Master Plan; and
- 6. Issues related to Renewable Portfolio Standards.

The second auction would procure one-third of the service requirements for all other customers of all four EDCs for a three-year period beginning June 1, 2020, through an auction (BGS-RSCP Auction) for approximately 4,576 MW of load to be served through 53 full-requirements tranches of approximately 80 to 90 MW each. This is similar to the Auction the Board approved last year in Docket No. ER18040256.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the basic descending clock auction process, the auction rules, the Board approval process, and the SMAs that were successfully employed for the past few years. Staff also recommended that the Board require the EDCs to file an amended BGS Compliance Filing by November 29, 2019. Staff further recommended that the Board give Staff the authority to review the EDCs' compliance filings, and should Staff find that the EDCs' filings comply with the Board's Order in this matter, grant Staff the authority to issue a Board Secretary's Letter approving the compliance filings.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

Cynthia L. M. Holland, Esq., Director, Office of Federal and Regional Policy, presented these matters.

G. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. ER19-2722 – PJM Tariff Filing with FERC Re: Fast-Start Compliance Filing.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Staff, on behalf of the Board, filed a Motion for Leave to Answer and Answer to the October 9 filing of PJM with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) in the above captioned docket on October 25, 2019. This matter arises from a compliance directive issued by the Commission to PJM on the issue of Fast-Start Pricing in the energy market. Generally, the Commission required PJM to consider additional costs for certain "Fast-Start" units (units with total start-up + notification time of 1-hr or less) in PJM's energy market pricing. The Board filed comments in this docket on September 20, 2019. Those comments responded to certain technical issues raised by PJM's August 30, 2019 compliance filing, as discussed below. Many of the issues raised in the comments had also been identified by the PJM

Independent Market Monitor. The Board is a party to this proceeding. Staff recommended that the Board ratify the Motion for Leave to Answer an Answer filed on October 25, 2019.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden Commissioner Solomon Commissioner Chivukula	Aye Aye Aye Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Ауе

H. Docket No. ER19010009 – FERC Docket No. AD19-18 – Joint Staff White Paper on Notices of Penalty Pertaining to Violations of Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Staff, on behalf of the Board, filed limited Comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) to the Joint White Paper published by the Staff of the Commission and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) in the above captioned docket on October 28, 2019. The Joint White Paper was published on August 27, 2019. It sets out a proposed new format for NERC Notices of Penalty involving violations of Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards. Staff recommended ratification of the limited Comments at this time.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

I. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. ER19-2915 – PJM Tariff Filing re: Revisions to Operating Agreement on Cost Commitment.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Staff, on behalf of the Board filed Comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) in response to PJM Interconnection, LLC's (PJM) Revisions to Operating Agreement filing on October 21, 2019. PJM's September 9 filing proposed changes to PJM's cost commitment strategies. The proposed changes support the Board's long-standing desire to lower transmission costs by fostering competition; therefore, Staff filed comments in support of the PJM revisions. In the Comments, Staff urged the Commission and PJM to continue this momentum and continue exploring opportunities through cost commitment. The Board intervened on October 3, 2019, and is a party to this case. Staff recommended ratification of the Comments at this time.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden Commissioner Solomon	Aye Aye Ave
	Commissioner Chivukula Commissioner Gordon	Aye Aye

J. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. RP19-343 Texas Eastern Transmission, LP re: 2018 Rate Case Filing.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Staff presented this matter to discuss a recent settlement reached between Texas Eastern and its customers in this rate case proceeding. The Board is a party to this proceeding. The total cost of service is set at \$1.45 billion, down from the requested \$1.85 billion. The various New Jersey Gas Distribution Companies served by Texas Eastern have chosen to support or otherwise not oppose the filing. Staff recommended that the Board not oppose the settlement.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

K. Docket No. ER19010009 – In the Matter of Federal Energy Items for 2019 – FERC Docket No. ER19-2105 – PJM Interconnection, LLC re: Transmission Owner Border Rate Adjustment.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Staff, on behalf of the Board, filed a Motion for Leave to Answer and Answer in the above captioned docket in accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) deadline of November 4, 2019. The aforementioned docket concerns updates to the Border Rate (i.e. charges for service to the Border of PJM-NYISO), filed by the PJM Transmission Owners on June 11, 2019, that would further disadvantage New Jersey ratepayers. The Board is a party to this case, having intervened on June 13, 2019, and filed a Protest on September 27, 2019. Staff recommended ratification of the Answer filed on November 4, 2019.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

L. Docket No. EF19070774 – In the Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-7 and 48:3-9 for Authority, from January 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2021, to Sell and/or Encumber Property and Purchase Issue and Sell Debt.

Benjamin Witherell, Chief Economist, Office of the Economist, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On June 27, 2019, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board requesting authority from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 to issue and sell New Long-Term debt in the aggregate principal amount of not more than \$3.2 billion secured and unsecured, with maturities up to 40 years.

The Petitioner also requested authority to execute and deliver one or more indentures or supplemental indentures and/or one or more pledges, Uniform Commercial Code financing statements and related agreements and instruments, creating one or more encumbrances and/or liens on the property and/or assets of Petitioner and providing for pledges, transfers or sales of assets and/or issuance of its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds and/or Medium-Term Notes and/or debenture bonds and/or promissory notes and/or other debt instruments and/or evidences of indebtedness, secured or unsecured, having maturities of from 1 to 40 years; to purchase through tender offer, open market or negotiated transactions, redeem at a premium or defease any or all of its currently outstanding debt payable more than 12 months after the date of original issuance at or above par to achieve cost savings or more efficient management of its capital structure.

The New Long-Term Debt will be used to provide funds for the financing of Petitioner's physical plant and facilities, construction and/or other general corporate purposes, acquisition opportunities and/or to reimburse its treasury for funds expended. The funds will also be used to refinance \$693.4 million of maturing debt.

The timing and specific form of any Transaction, the amount, the price to be paid to Petitioner, the rate of interest, maturity, redemption provisions and prices and the type, terms and conditions of the Transactions will depend upon the market conditions at the time of issuance and sale; such New Long-Term Debt will have maturities of up to 40 years, may include conventional, floating or variable rate, put, call, remarketing, swaps, options or other terms and conditions and consist of one or more of the types of securities, instruments or evidences of indebtedness and be issued and/or sold pursuant to one or more of the Transactions.

The New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel reviewed this matter, and by letter dated October 23, 2019, did not object to the Board approval of this petition.

The Office of the Economist, after review of the information submitted in this proceeding, found that the action requested is in accordance with the law and in the public interest, and therefore recommended approval of this petition.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden Commissioner Solomon	Aye Aye Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

M. Docket Nos. BPU ER19050552 and OAL PUC 07548-2019N – In the Matter of the Verified Petition of Rockland Electric Company for Approval of Changes in its Electric Rates, its Tariff for Electric Service, and its Depreciation Rates; and for Other Relief.

Heather Weisband, Esq., Senior Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On October 7, 2019, Navigant Consulting, Inc. (Navigant) was retained by the Board to conduct the following: 1) A Cost Benefit Analysis of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program of Rockland Electric Company (RECO) in the above docketed matter (Capstone Report); and 2) An analysis of AMI nationwide (AMI Standards Report). The Capstone Report was due on November 6, 2019, and the AMI Standards Report is due on November 27, 2019.

On August 23, 2017, the Board issued an Order placing a moratorium on pre-approval of AMI. RECO completed full AMI deployment in May 2019 and submitted for recovery in its 2019 Base Rate Filing. Pursuant to the mandate in the RECO AMI Case, the Board required a Cost Benefit Analysis of RECO's AMI deployment.

At the September 11, 2019 Public Agenda Meeting, the Board authorized Staff to issue a Request for Quotation (RFQ) to provide consulting services to evaluate RECO's AMI program, and to better understand the state of AMI across the country. The contract could, upon determination of the Board, be used for additional AMI programs proposed by other Utilities. Following Treasury waiver process practice, the RFQ was issued to a number of professional firms identified as having expertise in this field. Following the receipt of responses and evaluation by a committee, it was determined that Navigant represented the best value to the State, price and other factors considered, and recommended Navigant for contract award.

On October 7, 2019, the Board concurred with the Evaluation Committee's recommendation, and authorized President Fiordaliso to enter into a contract with Navigant to provide consulting services to evaluate RECO's AMI program, and to better understand the state of AMI across the country.

The Capstone Reports concludes that, "there is a high likelihood that RECO's AMI program will be cost-effective with a benefit-cost ratio of 1.5 over a 20-year period from the ratepayer impact measure cost test perspective, based on analysis of the estimated costs and benefits of RECO's AMI program." Navigant also examined the case from a societal cost test perspective which "enables the business case to consider benefits to customers and society, such as avoided customer outage costs and reduced carbon emissions." When applying the societal cost test, the benefit-cost ratio ranged from 1.5 to 1.8. Additionally, Navigant concluded that RECO's AMI program is a "fundamental investment" to support the key goals of the New Jersey Energy Master Plan.

Staff recommended that Navigant's Capstone Report be accepted for filing purposes and be made available to the public via the Board's website.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden Commissioner Solomon Commissioner Chivukula	Aye Aye Aye Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

3. CABLE TELEVISION

A. Docket No. CS18121288 – In the Matter of the Alleged Failure of Altice USA, Inc. to Comply with Certain Provisions of the New Jersey Cable Television Act, N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq., and the New Jersey Administrative Code, N.J.A.C. 14:18-1.1 et seq.

Paul Flanagan, Executive Director, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: This matter involved Staff recommending the Board issue an Order requiring Altice, f/k/a Cablevision (Altice or Company) to:

- 1) Immediately cease its policy failing to pro-rate bills for customers ending service prior to the end of the billing cycle;
- Conduct an audit of its customer records to determine the number of customers affected by this policy;
- 3) Issue refunds to all affected customers; and
- 4) Remit a one-time non-recoverable contribution totaling \$10,000.00 toward the Altice Advantage Internet program to provide low cost internet service to New Jersey customers who are eligible for or participate in the National School Lunch Program; or eligible for or receives Supplemental Security Income and are 65 years of age or older; or a veteran and receives state or federal public assistance.

The Company filed for relief from certain Board rules, including N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.8, Method of billing. The Company was granted the requested relief by Board Order in 2011.

In 2015, Cablevision filed a Petition seeking approval of its merger with Altice. In its filing, the Company indicated that Altice "shall abide by all of its obligations under existing local franchise agreements throughout the terms of such agreements", and averred that it intended to operate under existing rates, terms and service conditions. Further, the Company also indicated no specific plans were in place to change the customer service structure, or to undertake actions affecting the public interest.

The Board approved the Petition in May 2016, and adopted a Stipulation of Settlement wherein Altice agreed that it "will abide by applicable customer service standards, performance standards, and service metrics delineated under N.J.A.C. Title 14, including but not limited to Chapters 3, 10 and 18 and N.J.S.A. 48:5A, including but not limited to, requirements related to billing practices and termination."

The Company continued to pro-rate customer bills from the grant of the waiver in 2011 until October 2016, when the Company, without notice to the Board, amended its policy and discontinued pro-ration of bills for customers that discontinued service prior the end of the billing cycle.

In response to Board Staff inquiry regarding the change in the policy, the Company argued that the 2011 Waiver granted by the Board allowed the Company to discontinue prorating customer bills.

Following the change in policy, the Board received over 100 complaints from consumers seeking refunds from the Company who were billed for services not received following discontinuance of service prior to the end of the billing cycle.

After reviewing the complaints, in December of 2018, the Board issued an Order to Show Cause, requiring Altice to show cause before the Board why it should not be ordered to cease and desist immediately its failure to properly prorate customer bills; why the Board should not find Altice's actions for failure to properly prorate customer bills from the period of October 2016 to the present to constitute a violation of the Rule Relief Order and Merger Order; why a monetary penalty for failure to comply with the Rule Relief Order and Merger Order should not be assessed; and why the Board should not order Altice to issue refunds to all customers that have suffered harm from Altice's failure to properly prorate customer bills.

The Company was properly served with the Order to Show Cause and ordered to file an answer by January 15, 2019. It filed a request for an extension of time to answer by January 31, 2019, which was granted.

Altice filed its Answer on January 31, 2019. The New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel filed their response to Altice's Answer on March 6, 2019. Altice filed its Reply to Rate Counsel's comments on April 2, 2019.

Staff recommended that the Board find that:

- 1) Altice, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.8, the Rule Relief Order, and the Merger Order, is required to prorate customer bills, and that its failure to do so violates the Rule, the Relief Order and the Merger Order;
- 2) Altice is in violation of the Rule Relief Order and Merger Order and must therefore immediately Cease and Desist from its failure to comply with existing rules governing the Company that require Altice to prorate monthly bills;
- 3) Altice must conduct an audit of its customer billing records from the date the Company ceased proration of customer bills for initiation and termination of service, in October 2016, and report to the Board the names and account numbers of all customers who were improperly billed and the amount each customer was improperly billed due to the Company's failure to prorate within 30 days of the effective date of this order;
- 4) Altice must refund customers, within 60 days from the date of this order, the appropriate amount to account for the improper billing undertaken by the Company since 2016; and

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5) Altice shall remit a one-time non-recoverable contribution totaling \$10,000.00 toward the Altice Advantage Internet program to provide low cost internet service to New Jersey customers who are eligible for or participate in the National School Lunch Program; or eligible for or receives Supplemental Security Income and are 65 years of age or older; or a veteran and receives state or federal public assistance.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden	Aye Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

4. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

There were no items in this category.

5. WATER

A. Docket No. WF19091004 – In the Matter of the Petition of Gordon's Corner Water Company for Authority to Make, Executive and Deliver a Promissory Note, Term Loan Agreement and Such Other Instruments as May be Required by CoBank, ACB, in Connection with Said Loan Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-7, N.J.S.A. 48:3-9 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.9 (2019).

Benjamin Witherell, Chief Economist, Office of the Economist, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Gordon's Corner Water Company, filed a Petition with the Board on September 3, 2019, seeking authority to make, execute and deliver a Promissory Note, Term Loan Agreement and such other instruments as may be required by the lender, CoBank, ACB, in connection with a certain multiple advance senior secured term loan.

The Petitioner has received a commitment from CoBank for a multiple advance senior secured term loan in an amount up to \$2,000,000.00, upon the terms and conditions set forth in CoBank's commitment letter dated July 17, 2019. The loan will be for a term of 21 years with a fixed rate of interest to be established in accordance with the aforesaid loan commitment at the time the loan proceeds are advanced

The proceeds of the \$2,000,000.00 multiple advance senior secured term loan will be used by the Petitioner to finance the construction of Well #14, and for certain upgrades to Water Treatment Plant #1 in Manalapan Township.

The Office of the Economist, after review of the information submitted in this proceeding, found that the action requested is in accordance with the law and in the public interest and therefore recommended approval of this petition.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

6. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY

There were no items in this category.

7. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

There were no items in this category.

8. CLEAN ENERGY

A. Docket No. EO12090832V – In the Matter of the Implementation of L.2012, c. 24, The Solar Act of 2012; and

Docket No. EO12090862V – In the Matter of the Implementation of L. 2012, c. 24, N.J.S.A. 48:3-87(T) – A Proceeding to Establish a Program to Provide SRECs to Certified Brownfield, Historic Fill and Landfill Facilities; and

Docket No. QO18010052 – Syncarpha Gems, LLC – Gems Landfill.

Scott Hunter, Manager, Division of Clean Energy, presented these matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On January 17, 2018, Syncarpha GEMS, LLC submitted its application to the Board to have its project certified as being located on a properly closed sanitary landfill facility pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87(t) (Subsection (t)) of the Solar Act. Syncarpha GEMS, LLC's 4.2 MWdc project is proposed to be constructed on the property, which is owned by GEM's Landfill, Inc. and located at Block 14003, Lots 25 & 26 in Gloucester Township, Camden County, New Jersey. Following review of the application and the advisory memorandum provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

Subsection (t) of the Solar Act of 2012, L. 2012, c. 24, enacted July 23, 2012, codified in part at N.J.S.A. 48:3-87 (t), provides for Board establishment of a certification program for approval of certain grid supply solar electric power generation facilities located on properly closed landfills, brownfields, and areas of historic fill that seek eligibility for Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs). On January 23, 2013, after conducting a public proceeding that the Board commenced on October 4, 2012, the Board established a certification program and directed staff to work with NJDEP to develop an application.

Staff received an advisory memo from NJDEP on October 9, 2019, for the application described below and recommended that the Board grant conditional certification to Syncarpha GEMS, LLC for its proposal to build a 4.2 MWdc solar facility project proposed to be located at the GEM's Landfill located in Gloucester Township, New Jersey.

Staff consulted with the NJDEP regarding Syncarpha GEMS, LLC's request for certification of its potential solar generation facility pursuant to Subsection (t) of the Solar Act. The applicant seeking certification submitted the required documentation to enable NJDEP to determine whether the proposed site was a "properly closed sanitary landfill" as defined by the Solar Act. NJDEP reviewed the application and supplied an advisory memorandum to Staff on the land use classification and the remediation status of the proposed site.

On the basis of NJDEP's determination, information contained in the application, and other relevant factors, Staff recommended that the Board conditionally certify the applicant's project as a "properly closed sanitary landfill" pursuant to Subsection (t). NJDEP determined that the 21 acre area on which the solar electric power generation facility will be located constitutes a "properly closed sanitary landfill" pursuant to the Solar Act. Staff also recommends that the Board direct the applicant to file its SREC registration within 14 days of the date of the Order and explicitly grant conditional certification based on the application date of January 17, 2018.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

Benjamin Goldstein, Program Specialist, Division of Clean Energy, presented this matter.

B. Docket No. QG19101350 – In the Matter of the Clean Energy Program Authorization of Commercial and Industrial Program Energy Efficiency Incentives Exceeding \$500,000.00 – Digital Realty Trust, LP.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: Digital Realty Trust LP (Digital Realty or Company) submitted an application under the Fiscal Year 2019 Large Energy Users Program (LEUP) pursuant to the New Jersey Clean Energy Program Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program Plan Filing for Fiscal Year 2019. The Company requested Board approval of a financial incentive of \$870,781.60 for energy efficiency upgrades for two data centers at Digital Realty's Clifton, NJ campus. The total cost of these upgrades is \$1,350,214.00.

Annually, the project is anticipated to conserve 3,388,288 kWh of electricity and reduce peak demand by an anticipated 387 kW. The proposed project has an estimated annual energy cost savings of \$298,169.00 and includes an additional \$22,500.00 in operational

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and maintenance savings. The payback period without incentives is 3.93 years; when factoring in the incentives, the payback period is reduced to 1.22 years. Implementation of these measures will also assist in compliance with N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.10, which requires the owner or operator of commercial buildings over 25,000 square feet to benchmark the building's energy and water use. The required inspection of sites that receive funding through the LEUP following the installation of energy efficient measures will not only help to ensure adherence to agreed-upon performance and energy savings baselines, but will also allow for a more defined pathway for commercial building owners to report their energy usage.

Based on the certifications and the information provided by the Program Manager and Program Administrator, Staff recommended approval of the application for the total estimated incentive amount of \$870,781.60 and issuance of a standard commitment letter to the applicant, setting forth the terms and conditions of this commitment.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

C. Docket No. EO12090832V – In the Matter of the Implementation of L. 2012, c. 24, The Solar Act of 2012; and

Docket No. QO19101419 – In the Matter of EnterSolar, LLC – Request for SREC Extension – Signature Flight Support – TEB South-NJSSRE-1537861832.

Paul Flanagan, Executive Director, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: EnterSolar, LLC (Petitioner) sought an extension of time to complete a solar energy project under the Board's Solar Renewable Energy Certificate Registration Program (SRP). The Petitioner received an initial acceptance in SRP with a completion date of April 19, 2019, followed by a 6-month extension to October 19, 2019. Since the Board's rules do not provide for a second extension, the Petitioner now seeks a waiver and a further extension. The Petitioner attributes the delay necessitating the second petition to an unusually long wait for a permit approval from the Federal Aviation Administration because of the month-long federal government shut down in early 2019. According to the Petitioner, the project is now completed.

The Petitioner documented its actions and the long delay in receiving the Federal Aviation Administration approval, as well as the completion of the project. Thus, Staff believed that the delay was unforeseen and unforeseeable, and that the Petitioner has demonstrated significant progress. Staff recommended that the Board grant the Petitioner a 30-day extension to December 23, 2019.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

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James Ferris, Bureau Chief of New Technology, Division of Clean Energy, presented these matters.

D. Docket No. QO18121289 – In the Matter of the Board of Public Utilities Offshore Wind Solicitation for 1,100 MW – Evaluation of the Offshore Wind Applications – Executive Session.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: This matter was initially discussed in Executive Session and it involved a request by Offshore Wind to replace their design basis turbine with a different turbine.

The Board's regulations and guidelines permit an applicant to replace or update equipment identified in their proposal with more technologically advanced equipment provided that it is equal to or better than the equipment identified in their application and that there will be no increase in Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificate (OREC) price and no reduction in local content.

On October 2, 2019, Offshore Wind submitted a petition to the Board seeking authorization to replace their design basis turbine with a more technologically advanced turbine.

Board Staff (Staff) reviewed the petition and issued two sets of clarifying questions to Offshore Wind. Answers to all questions were received and reviewed by Staff. In addition, Staff requested the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to review any potential environmental impact associated with the proposed change in turbine.

Based on the petition, the responses to clarifying questions and the NJDEP findings, Staff found that the proposed turbine is equal to or better than the turbine identified in the proposal, that there will be no increase in OREC price, and that there will be no decrease in local content.

Based on discussions in executive session, Staff recommended that the Board approve Offshore Wind's petition.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

E. Docket No. QO19010099 – In the Matter of US Department of Energy – The State Energy Program Competitive Award for Program Year 2017 – New Jersey Underserved Communities Electric Vehicle Affordability Program – Executive Session.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: This matter was initially discussed in Executive Session and it involved a contract to develop an actionable plan to provide underserved communities access to plug-in electric vehicles.

On January 11, 2018, the Board applied for a grant from the United States Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to develop an actionable plan to provide underserved communities access to plug-in electric vehicles.

On February 27, 2019, the Board accepted the grant award in the amount of \$100,000.00. On September 10, 2019, a request for responses was issued to 10 New Jersey public research institutions to develop the plan. On October 22, 2019, Staff received five responses. On November 1, 2019, an evaluation committee of Board Staff convened to discuss and technically score proposals.

Based on the evaluation committee's work, Staff recommended that the Board award a contract as discussed in executive session.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

F. Docket No. QO19091240 – In the Matter of the Petition of SunPower Corporation Seeking a Declaratory Judgement Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and/or a Waiver Pursuant to the Waiver Rule, N.J.A.C. 14:1-1.2(b).

Scott Hunter, Manager, Division of Clean Energy, presented these matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: On September 17, 2019, SunPower Corporation (SunPower or Petitioner), a solar developer, filed a petition with the Board seeking a declaratory ruling that the energy generated from the solar facility it proposed to build (Solar Facility) will be considered "generated on the customer's side of the meter". On October 28, 2019, Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) filed a motion to intervene, assuring that the Board's ruling on the Petition could have a direct impact on PSE&G's operations and its customers, including an impact on the Company's evaluation process for future net-metering projects.

Given the central role played by the Electric Distribution Companies in the implementation of the Board's net metering rules, Staff concurred with PSE&G that the Board's ruling upon the underlying petition could have a significant impact upon PSE&G and could potentially affect its evaluation of future net metering projects. Staff recommended that the Board grant the motion to intervene. **DECISION:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

G. Docket Nos. GO18101112 and EO18101113 – In the Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company for Approval of Its Clean Energy Future-Energy Efficiency Program on a Regulated Basis.

Stacy Richardson, Legal Specialist, Office of Chief Counsel, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: This matter involved reconsideration of two parties' motions to intervene in the Public Service Electric and Gas CEF-EE Program Component proceedings. Multiple third party supplier companies (Market Participants) have filed a motion seeking reconsideration of the Board's denial of Market Participants' motion to intervene. The Board denied Market Participants' motion for interlocutory review because it believed that their interests would be adequately represented by another party to the proceeding and because it did not wish to slow the administrative process.

Since that time, Market Participants have presented the Board with an affidavit from a representative of the other party, Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance, stating that it does not represent the interests of the Market Participants. In addition, the Board has approved a stipulation between the parties that may potentially add over 200 days to the procedural schedule. Given these new facts since the Board's issuance of the underlying Order, Staff recommended that the Board grant the motion for reconsideration and reverse its earlier denial of intervener status.

Another participant, Sunrun, filed a letter on September 13, 2019, asking the Board to exercise its discretion to relax the rules regarding participant status and allow Sunrun, in effect, to enjoy the rights of an intervener. Sunrun did not file a motion for intervention nor make any other timely attempt to seek review of the Board's Order.

Staff recommended that the Board approve Direct Energy's motion.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

Staff recommended that the Board deny Sunrun's request.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso Commissioner Holden	Aye Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

9. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Docket No. QO19101423 – In the Matter of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the New Jersey Division of Property Management and Construction, Department of Treasury and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Regarding the State Facilities Initiatives Program Budget.

Thomas Walker, Director, State Energy Services Division, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: The State's previous economic growth strategy calls for meeting New Jersey's energy needs through efficiency improvements and conservation gains and, pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. (EDECA), the Board's Division of Clean Energy (OCE) annually establishes a comprehensive resource analysis (CRA) of energy programs, funding levels, and initiatives that promote energy efficiency, of which the State Facilities Initiatives (SFI) program is an integral part. The Board's Division of State Energy Services, which encompasses the State Energy Office (SEO), works hand-in-hand with the New Jersey Division of Property Management and Construction (DPMC) to upgrade systems in state government facilities to achieve maximum levels of energy efficiency and reduction along with energy savings. Part of the funding for this work is through the SFI line item in the annual OCE budget. The SFI program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed and dated November 13, 2019 between DPMC and the Board, sets forth the roles and responsibilities of the parties in connection with the SFI.

The Board conducted an initial CRA, as memorialized in its Order dated March 9, 2001, and several subsequent CRA proceedings, which established the annual funding level for a suite of programs designed to encourage greater energy efficiency, as well as promote the employment of technologies that exploit the advantages of renewable energy resources. Collectively, these programs are commonly known as New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP).

An original MOU dated February 24, 2017 between DPMC and Board established the governance, allocation, reservation, administration, and disbursement of \$7.5 million in funds (2017 Allocation) from NJCEP for the implementation of energy improvements at the Hughes Justice Complex and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection facilities utilizing the SFI within the CEP for Fiscal Year 2017. In the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) OCE Compliance Filing, the Board allocated \$3,100,000.00 of the FY18 OCE budget to the SFI. In the Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) OCE Compliance Filing, the Board authorized the allocation of \$20,000,000.00 of the FY19 OCE budget to the SFI. In the Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) OCE Compliance Filing, the Board has allocated \$8 million of the FY20 OCE budget to the SFI.

Per EDECA, OCE funding may be used for purposes such as, but not limited to, defraying the costs of demand-side energy management programs, consisting of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The 2018 OCE Compliance Filing, the 2019 OCE Compliance Filing, and the 2020 OCE Compliance Filing do not identify any specific State facilities for allocations made to the SFI program. However, the SEO works in partnership with the DPMC and other Treasury agencies within the Energy Capital Committee (ECG) to identify facility projects within the state at governmental and or quasi-governmental mandated agencies and implement energy reduction, energy savings, and energy efficiency projects. Therefore, the SFI is routinely used to fund ECG projects, along with a line of credit established by the committee.

Staff recommended that the Board find that the designated project lists is reasonable and appropriate. Staff also recommended the Board to agree that the procedures between DPMC and the Board described in the MOU are appropriate. In addition, Staff recommended the Board to approve the MOU and to authorize President Fiordaliso to execute it on behalf of the Board, and finally, Staff recommended the Board direct Staff to take the appropriate measures to implement the MOU and also to come before the Board every May with information how the projects are going.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	Aye
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	Aye
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	Aye

B. Docket No. EG19070771 – In the Matter of the Energy Assistance Grant as Authorized Under N.J.S.A. 48:2-29.39 and N.J.S.A. 46:30B-74(b) – Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric Program – Executive Session.

Paul Flanagan, Executive Director, presented this matter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: President Fiordaliso recused himself from this matter. This matter was first discussed in Executive Session and it involved Staff recommendations on the contract award as discussed in the Executive Session.

DECISION: After discussion, the Board voted as follows.

Roll Call Vote:	President Fiordaliso	recused
	Commissioner Holden	Aye
	Commissioner Solomon	No
	Commissioner Chivukula	Aye
	Commissioner Gordon	No

EXECUTIVE SESSION

After appropriate motion, the following matters, which involved pending litigation attorney/client privilege and contract negotiation pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)7 was discussed in Executive Session.

8. CLEAN ENERGY

D. Docket No. QO18121289 – In the Matter of the Board of Public Utilities Offshore Wind Solicitation for 1,100 MW – Evaluation of the Offshore Wind Applications.

The substance of this discussion shall remain confidential except to the extent that making the discussion public is not inconsistent with law.

E. Docket No. QO19010099 – In the Matter of US Department of Energy – The State Energy Program Competitive Award for Program Year 2017 – New Jersey Underserved Communities Electric Vehicle Affordability Program.

The substance of this discussion shall remain confidential except to the extent that making the discussion public is not inconsistent with law.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

B. Docket No. EG19070771 – In the Matter of the Energy Assistance Grant as Authorized Under N.J.S.A. 48:2-29.39 and N.J.S.A. 46:30B-74(b) – Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric Program.

The substance of this discussion shall remain confidential except to the extent that making the discussion public is not inconsistent with law.

After appropriate motion, the Board reconvened to Open Session.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

ide Camacho Welch

AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Date: December 20, 2019