BY THE BOARD:

On March 22, 2007, Syed M. Tariq-Shuaib (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) requesting a hearing regarding charges of Public Service Electric and Gas Company (Respondent) for utility services.

After the filing of Respondent’s answer, the Board, on May 7, 2007, transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Gail M. Cookson.

While this matter was pending at OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and executed a Stipulation of Settlement (Stipulation) that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on March 31, 2008 and submitted to the Board on April 3, 2008, to which the Settlement was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Cookson found that the agreement was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.
Pursuant to the Stipulation, Respondent will credit Petitioner's account XXXXXXXX 95 $2,384.17, and Respondent will remove Petitioner's name from account number XXXXXXXX 43. Additionally, Respondent will remove Petitioner's name from account number XXXXXXXX 51 if, within 10 days of the Settlement, Petitioner provides Respondent with a lease reflecting the name of the tenant responsible for utilities for that account. Respondent also agrees that Petitioner may pursue his property damage claim in the proper forum.

After review and consideration of the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement, which are attached hereto and made a part hereof, the Board HEREBY FINDS that the terms of the Settlement represent a fair and reasonable resolution of all outstanding contested issues. Accordingly, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety.

DATED: 5/9/08

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER

CHRISTINE V. BATOR
COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities.
SYED M. TARIQ-SHUAIB

v.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY
BPU DOCKET NO. GC07030201U
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 05926-07

SERVICE LIST

Syed M. Tariq-Shuaib
428 E. 25th Street
Paterson, New Jersey 07514

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq.
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza – T5G
Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194

Eric Hartsfield, Director
Julie Ford-Williams
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Jessica Campbell, DAG
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07102
On June 11, 2007, this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to-15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F 1 to-13. The matter was scheduled for an evidentiary hearing on March 31, 2008. On March 31, 2008, the parties reported that a settlement had been reached and submitted a Stipulation of Settlement signed by both parties.
Accordingly, I have reviewed the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and FIND:

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by the signatures of the parties or their representatives.

2. The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with law.

I CONCLUDE that the agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and therefore, it is ORDERED that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be and are hereby concluded.

hereby FILE my initial decision with the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

March 31, 2008
DATE

GAIL M. COOKSON, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: 4/3/08

Mailed to Parties:

DATE

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

pb
This matter having been brought before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities by the Petitioner, Syed M. Tariq-Shuaib (“Petitioner”), against Respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company (“PSE&G” or “Respondent”) and transferred to the Office of Administrative Law before the Honorable Jeffrey Gerson, A.L.J., for utility service rendered by PSE&G to the Petitioner, 428 E. 25th Street, Paterson, NJ 07514, and the Parties having agreed to settle this matter, hereby set forth the terms and conditions of their settlement agreement as follows:

1. PSE&G will credit Petitioner’s account number 31 439 278 95 in the amount of $2,000.00.

2. PSE&G will take account number 61 190 103 43 with a balance of $635.94 out of Petitioner’s name.

3. PSE&G agrees that Petitioner may pursue his property damage claim in the proper venue.

Petitioner: Syed M. Tariq-Shuaib

By: [Signature]

Date: 3/31/08

Respondent PSE&G

By: [Signature]

Edward B. Sullivan
Manager Customer Operations

Date: 3/31/08
Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

We are hereby forwarding to you the following decisions from the office of Administrative Law. Receipt is acknowledged as of the next business day of the date indicated below. Should a listed decision not be included in this batch, please call 973-648-6008.

OAL Docket No. PUC Case Name
5926-07 Syed M. Tariq-ullah

Date: 4/13/08

Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102