

Agenda Date: 11/9/11 Agenda Item: VIIF

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 So. Clinton Ave., P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 07625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

		CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE
DOMENICK F. D'AMICO, Petitioner V.)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRC AND GAS COMPANY, Respondent)))	BPU Docket No.EC11010017U OAL Docket No. PUC04191-11
Parties of Record:		
Domenick F. D'Amico, Petitioner		
Alexander C. Stern, Esq., PSEG Services Corporation		

BY THE BOARD:

On January 8, 2011, Domenick F. D'Amico ("Petitioner") filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting a formal hearing related to a billing dispute with Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("Respondent") for utility services rendered by Respondent.

After the filing of Respondent's answer, the Board 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") Mumtaz Bari-Brown.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and signed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation")¹ that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on September 28, 2011, and submitted to the Board on October 3, 2011, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Bari-Brown found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it

¹ Although the Docket No. EC11010017U upon the Stipulation references the Petition filed on or about February 16, 2011, the subject Petition was dated January 8, 2011 and received by the Board on or about January 20, 2011.

satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1. Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter as well as to fully dispose of any and all matters arising out of the same issues raised in this proceeding. Respondent will credit Petitioner's account in the amount of \$2,110.59. In return, Petitioner has agreed to timely pay his bills for electric and gas service going forward. He further agreed to pay his overdue August 2011 charges which. having elected Respondent's equal payment plan, were billed at \$428.00.

After review of the record and the Stipulation of Settlement of the parties, the Board HEREBY FINDS that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures and that by the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement, have fully resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter.

Accordingly, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement executed by the parties in their entirety as if fully set forth herein.

DATED: 1/9/11

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

LEE A. SOLOMON PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

OSEPH L. FIORDALISO

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

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER

DOMENICK F. D'AMICO

٧.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. EC11010017U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC04191-11

SERVICE LIST

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Alexander C. Stern, 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 – Suite 801 Newark, New Jersey 07102

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Beslow
DAG (2)
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Lee-Thomas
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INITIAL DECISION
SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 04191-2011 AGENCY DKT. NO. EC11010017U

DOMENICK F. D'AMICO,

Petitioner.

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PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY.

Respondent.

Domenick F. D'Amico, pro se

Alexander C. Stern, Esq., for respondent

Record Closed: September 28, 2011 Decided: September 28, 2011

BEFORE MUMTAZ BARI-BROWN, ALJ

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on April 8, 2011, for resolution as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to -15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F1 to -13.

A hearing was scheduled on February 1, 2012. Prior to the date of hearing the parties settled the matter. The attached Stipulation of Settlement was submitted on

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 04191-2011

September 28, 2011, indicating the terms of agreement which are incorporated herein by reference.

Having reviewed the record and the settlement terms, I FIND:

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

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

I CONCLUDE that this agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. I approve the settlement and, therefore, ORDER that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be 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 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. Lept 28, 28// DATE	Munito Buranne MUMTAZ BARKEROWN, ALJ
Date Received at Agency:	
Date Mailed to Parties:	

STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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Domenick F. D'Amico Petitioner,	BPU DOCKET NO. EC11010017U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 04191-2011N)
٧.))
Public Service Electric and Gas Company Respondent.)) STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT)
)

On or about February 16, 2011 Petitioner filed the above-referenced service dispute. Public Service Electric & Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") filed an answer to the petition and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBPU" or "Board") transmitted the matter to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") as a contested case for adjudication.

In the interests of resolving this matter without further delay, extensive effort and cost, the parties hereto agreed to settle this matter in accordance with the following terms:

- 1. Although not agreeing with the merits of the allegations expressed in the Petition, in the interests of settlement and good customer relations PSE&G agrees to credit Petitioner's utility account \$2,110.59.
- 2. Petitioner agrees to timely pay his PSE&G bills for electric and gas service going forward. Additionally, petitioner agrees to pay his overdue August 2011 charges which, having elected PSE&G's equal payment plan, were billed at \$428.00.
- 2. This agreement is in full settlement of the Petition filed by Petitioner on or about February 16, 2011 and also fully disposes of any and all matters arising out of the same issues raised in this proceeding.
- 3. The undersigned agree that this Settlement contains mutually balancing and interdependent provisions and is intended to be accepted and approved in its entirety. In the event any particular aspect of this Settlement is not accepted and approved by the Board or modified by the Board, the party that is adversely affected by the modification can either accept the modification or declare this Settlement to be null and void, and the

parties shall be placed in the same position that they were in immediately prior to its execution.

PSEG SERVICES CORPORATION Attorneys for PSE&G

DATED: 9/22/11

Alexander C. Stern, Esq.

Assistant General Regulatory Counsel

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS CO.

DATED: 9/22/2011

Edward B. Sullivan

Manager of Customer Operations

PETITIONER

DATED: 9/19/2011 By:

Domenick E DW