

Agenda Date: 2/19/14 Agenda Item: IIB

STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

# <u>ENERGY</u>

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASED BASE TARIFF RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF REVISIONS ORDER SUSPENDING INCREASES, CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR SERVICE

BPU DOCKET NO. GR13111137

Parties of Record:

Ira G. Megdal, Esq., on behalf of South Jersey Gas Company, Petitioner Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On November 29, 2013, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.12, South Jersey Gas Company ("Petitioner" or "South Jersey"), a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), filed a petition for approval of an increase in its operating revenues of approximately \$62.6 million or 13.5% to be effective for gas service provided on or after December 30, 2013, as well as for certain other tariff changes. According to the petition, the primary reasons for the requested increase are the ongoing increasing capital expenditures for infrastructure improvements to ensure system reliability and to comply with federal pipeline safety regulations, combined with the capital expenditures associated with the implementation of two new critical information technology system improvements and a new liquefied natural gas ("LNG") Liquefaction System.

It appearing that the proposed revisions, if approved, will increase existing rates and change or alter existing classifications in Petitioner's tariff, it is <u>HEREBY</u> <u>ORDERED</u> that:

- Pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 (d), the proposed revisions are suspended until July 3, 2014, unless prior to that date the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for hearing on the petition by the Office of Administrative Law, file with this Board and with the

Office of Administrative Law, proof of compliance with the notice provisions of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-32.2 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.12 (b) and (c), which notice shall include a statement that any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers on any rate or schedule as the Board may determine; and

(3) Petitioner shall, at the same time it files with the Board, also file proof of service of copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, Division of Rate Counsel, the clerks of each affected municipality, the clerks of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of each affected County, and where appropriate, the executive officer of each affected County within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Suspension Order may be made simultaneously. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within fifteen (15) days of the date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on March 3, 2014.

DATED: 2/19/14

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

DIANNE SOLOMON PRESIDENT

Jane M For

DEANNE M. FOX

JØSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

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MARY-ANNA HOLDEN 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

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