

Agenda Date: 3/19/14 Agenda Item: IIA

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/

ENERGY

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

AMENDED 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.

On February 19, 2014, the Board issued an Order Suspending Increases, Changes or Alterations in Rates for Service ("February 19 Order"), which inadvertently suspended the proposed revisions beyond the four-month period contained in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21(d) to July 3, 2014. Accordingly, the Board hereby issues this Amended Order Suspending Increases, Changes or Alterations in Rates for Service ("Amended Order") in order to correct such error and to eliminate the fifteen (15) day time period for filing Proof of Service of the Amended Order with the Board.

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 April 30, 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.

This Order shall be effective on March 28, 2014.

DATED: 3/19/2014

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

DIÃNNE SOLOMON

PRESIDENT

M. For

JEANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER

FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

MÁRY-ÁNNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO ( SECRETARY

HEREBY CERTIFY that

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