

Agenda Date: 5/19/15 Agenda Item: VIIB

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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

REVEREND DONNA M. BEVENSEE, Petitioner)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT
v.)	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY, Respondent)))	BPU DOCKET NO. EC14090959U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC14570-14

Parties of Record:

Reverend Donna M. Bevensee, Petitioner, appearing pro se **Sheree L. Kelly, Esq.,** appearing on behalf of Respondent, Public Service Electric and Gas Company

BY THE BOARD1:

On September 9, 2014, Reverend Donna M. Bevensee ("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 to the South Mill Road residence in Princeton Junction, New Jersey.

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 John F. Russo, Jr. ("ALJ").

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and signed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on March 30, 2015, and submitted to the Board on April 6, 2015, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Russo found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy, and that it satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

¹ Commissioner Upendra J. Chivukula recused himself due to a potential conflict of interest and as such took no part in the discussion or deliberation of this matter.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter in settlement of the petition filed by Petitioner, the Respondent has agreed to credit the Petitioner's account ending in 827 02 in the amount of \$255.96. The parties further agreed that the commercial rate for the electric meter powering the garage on the property is correct and will be used for all future bills.

After review of the record and the Stipulation of Settlement of the parties, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> 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 <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement executed by the parties in their entirety as if fully set forth herein.

DATED: May 19, 2015

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

RICHARD S. MRO

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

DIANNE SOLOMON COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

IRENE KIM ASBURY SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities

REVEREND DONNA M. BEVENSEE

V.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. EC14090959U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC14570-14

SERVICE LIST

Reverend Donna M. Bevensee 3 South Mill Road Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

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

Christopher Psihoules, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street Post Office Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07101 Eric Hartsfield, Director Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Julie Ford-Williams, Chief Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

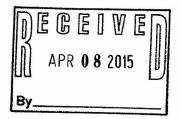


State of New Jersey OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES MAIL ROOM



INITIAL DECISION

<u>SETTLEMENT</u>

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 14570-14 AGENCY DKT. NO. EC14090959U

REVEREND DONNA M. BEVENSEE,

Petitioner,

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PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,

Respondent.

Reverend Donna M. Bevensee, petitioner, pro se

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq. for respondent

Record Closed: March 30, 2015

Decided: March 30, 2015

BEFORE JOHN F. RUSSO, JR., ALJ:

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on November 6, 2014, for determination 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 parties have agreed to a settlement and have prepared a Stipulation of Settlement indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein.

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 14570-14

The scheduled date of March 11, 2015, was adjourned in advance after the parties advised that they had negotiated a settlement.

I have reviewed the record and the terms of settlement and I **FIND**:

- 1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures on the attached settlement agreement.
- 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.

I 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.

March 30, 2015

DATE

Date Received at Agency:

Date Mailed to Parties: /bdt

JOHN F. RUSSO, JR., ALJ

4-10-15

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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Reverend Donna M. Bevensee)	
Petitioner)	OAL Docket No. PUC 14570-2014 S
)	BPU Docket No. EC14090959U
v.)	
)	STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT
Public Service Electric and Gas Company,)	
Respondent)	

This matter having been brought before the Office of Administrative Law by the Petitioner, Reverend Donna M. Bevensee ("Petitioner"), against Respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") for utility service rendered by PSE&G to the premises 3 South Mill Road, Princeton Junction, NJ (the "Property") 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 agrees to credit Petitioner's account ending in 827 02, the amount of \$255.96.
- 2. This is with the understanding that the commercial rate for the electric meter powering the garage on the property is correct and will be used for all future bills.

Petitioner: Reverend Donna M. Bevensee	Respondent: PSE&G
Donne M. Bevensee	James T. Walsh Sr. Customer Relations Consultant
Date:3/ ₁₃ / ₁₅	Date: 3-19-15