

Agenda Date: 10/15/15 Agenda Item: VIID

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/

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

STEVEN AND SHULIE KIRSCHNER, Petitioners,)))	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT
٧.)	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY, Respondent)	BPU DOCKET NO. GC15020203U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 08070-15

Parties of Record:

Steven and Shulie Kirschner, pro se Sheree L. Kelly, Esq., on behalf of Respondent, Public Service Electric and Gas Company

BY THE BOARD:1

On February 4, 2015, Steven and Shulie Kirschner ("Petitioners) 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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14B-1 <u>et seq</u>. and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14F-1 <u>et seq</u>. This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Margaret M. Monaco.

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 September 18, 2015, and submitted to the Board on September 19, 2015, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Monaco found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it satisfied the requirements of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 1:1-19.1.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter in settlement of the petition filed by Petitioner, Respondent agrees to credit petitioner's account \$2,733.03.

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.

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

Accordingly, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and the Stipulation executed by the parties in their entirety. The Stipulation is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

The effective date of this Order is October 25, 2015.

) ctober 15, 2015 DATED: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY: RICHARD S. MRO7 RRESIDENT JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO **COMMISSIONER** COMMISSIONER DIANNÉ 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

STEVEN AND SHULIE KIRSCHNER

V.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. GC15020203U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 08070-15

SERVICE LIST

Steven and Shulie Kirschner 205 Vadelinda Avenue Teaneck, NJ 08903

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq. PSEG Services Corporation 80 Park Plaza – T5-G Newark, NJ 07102

Patricia Krogman, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street Post Office Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07101-45029

Eric Hartsfield, Director 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

INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT OAL DKT. NO. PUC 08070-15 AGENCY DKT. NO. GC15020203U

STEVEN AND SHULIE KIRSCHNER,

Petitioners,

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PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND

GAS COMPANY,

Respondent.

Steven and Shulle Kirschner, petitioners, pro se

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq., for respondent

Record Closed: September 17, 2015

Decided: September 18, 2015

BEFORE MARGARET M. MONACO, ALJ:

This matter concerns a billing dispute by petitioners Steven and Shulie Kirschner against respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company. The Board of Public Utilities transmitted the matter to the Office of Administrative Law, where it was filed on June 3, 2015, for determination as a contested case. Subsequently, the parties reached a settlement of the matter and submitted the attached Stipulation of Settlement setting forth the terms of agreement. I have reviewed the record and the settlement terms and FIND:

- 1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures.
- 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 <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14B-10.

DATE

ARGARET M. MON

Date Received at Agency:

Date Mailed to Parties:

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P.02/02

STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Steven & Shulle Kirschner, Potitioners

OAL Docket No. PUC 08070-2015N BPU Docket No. EC15020203U

Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Respondent STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

This matter having been brought before the Office of Administrative Law by the Petitioner, Steven and Shulie Kirschner ("Petitioners"), against Respondent, Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") for utility service rendered by PSE&G to the premises 205 Vandelinda Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 (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 795 06 in the amount of \$2,733.03.

· Petitioner: Steven Kirschner Petitioner

Date: 917 201

Petitioner: Shulie Kirschne

Date

Respondent: PSE&O

/ James T. Walsh / Sr. Customer Relations Consultant

Date:

TOTAL P.02