

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3th Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY –
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN
ADVANCED METERING PROGRAM;
AND FOR OTHER RELIEF

ENERGY

AMENDED PREHEARING ORDER and
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
DOCKET NO. ER16060524

Parties of Record:

James C. Meyer, Esq., Rockland Electric Company
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel
Raghu Murthy, Esq., Environmental Defense Fund
Martin Rothfelder, Esq., Public Service Electric and Gas
Philip Passanante, Esq., Atlantic City Electric

On May 13, 2016, the Rockland Electric Company (“RECO” or “the Company”) filed a Verified Petition with the Board seeking a change in base rates and other relief (“Verified Petition”). On June 29, 2016, the Board issued its Order Amending Suspension Order, Bifurcating Petition, Designating Presiding Commissioner, Setting Manner of Service and Intervention Bar Date (“Bifurcation Order”). The Bifurcation Order directed that the portion of the Company’s Verified Petition seeking to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (“AMI”) and smart meters throughout its service territory be retained by the Board for hearing in the above-captioned docket (the “RECO AMI/Smart Meter Matter”) (with the remainder of the Verified Petition being transferred to the Office of Administrative Law).

On July 6, 2016, the Company made a letter filing with the Board identifying and filing the materials constituting the RECO AMI/Smart Meter Matter filing, including the Verified Petition (specified portions), Panel Direct Testimony (specified pages), and two schedules (AMI Business Plan and White Paper). The RECO AMI/Smart Meter Matter filing included a request that the Board issue an Order approving the Company's proposed Advanced Metering Program, including the deployment of AMI and smart meters.

The Bifurcation Order designated me as the presiding Commissioner with authority to rule on all motions that arise during the proceeding and to establish and modify schedules. The Bifurcation Order also set August 5, 2016 as the deadline for filing motions to intervene or participate in this matter.

On July 29, 2016, I issued a prehearing order, establishing a Procedural Schedule, and directing the parties to serve all documents in the RECO AMI/Smart Meter Matter electronically, while providing hard copies to the Board (with two hard copies to each party) for those documents which must be filed with the Board. This prehearing order also stated that the parties may request that designated individuals receive hard copies of discovery materials.

On September 14, 2016, I issued an order granting intervenor status to the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), and participation status to Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) and Atlantic City Electric (ACE).

Pursuant to my authority under the Bifurcation Order, I **HEREBY ISSUE** this Amended Prehearing Order in this matter containing an Amended Procedural Schedule, attached to this order as Exhibit A.

I **HEREBY DIRECT** Staff to post this Prehearing Order to the Board's website and distribute it electronically to the parties.

This provisional ruling is subject to ratification or other alteration by the Board as it deems appropriate during proceedings in this matter.

DATED: October 23, 2016

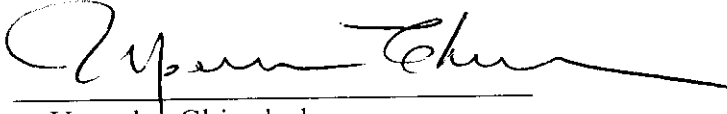
By: 
Upendra Chivukula
Commissioner

Exhibit A

Rockland Electric Company – AMI Proceeding
BPU DOCKET NO. ER16060524

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

First round discovery ongoing

August 5, 2016: Bar date for motions to intervene or participate¹

August 12, 2016: Deadline for second round discovery requests

August 26, 2016: Second round responses due

August 29-September 2, 2016: Discovery Conference/Technical Conference/Settlement Talks

September 9, 2016: Rate Counsel testimony

September 16, 2016: Discovery on Rate Counsel testimony

September 19, 2016: Public Hearings 3:30 and 6:30 in Mahwah, New Jersey

September 30, 2016: Responses to discovery on Rate Counsel testimony

September 30, 2016: EDF testimony (with curriculum vitae for witnesses and all supporting work papers).

October 5, 2016: Discovery on testimony

October 14, 2016: Responses to testimony

October 19, 2016: Rebuttal testimony

October 31, 2016: Discovery on rebuttal

November 1, 2016: Settlement Conference, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Multi-Purpose Room, Trenton, NJ

November 11, 2016: responses to discovery on rebuttal.

¹ Per Board's June 29, 2016 Order, page 2

November 29 & December 1, 2016: Evidentiary hearings with live surrebuttal and rejoinder (subject to Commissioner's availability). November 29, 2016 in the NJ State House Annex, Committee Room 3, First Floor, and December 1, 2016 in 44 S Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ. Both hearings to commence at 10:00 and end at 4:00 PM.

Discovery shall proceed on a rolling basis subject to the end dates in this schedule.

SERVICE LIST

Rockland Electric Company – Request For Approval Of An
Advanced Metering Program; and For Other Relief
BPU Docket No. ER16060524

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* Receives one hard copy

**Receives one hard copy of discovery, two hard copies of pleadings

Receives hard copies of filings with the NJBPU, but is not served with discovery

All persons receive an electronic copy of discovery (by email), unless otherwise indicated