

Agenda Date: 9/23/20 Agenda Item: 8A

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 <u>www.nj.gov/bpu/</u>

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DIVISIONS OF CLEAN ENERGY AND ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF <u>P.L.</u> 2018, <u>c.</u> 17 REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND PEAK DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS ORDER DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER, SETTING MANNER OF SERVICE AND BAR DATES

DOCKET NO. QO19010040

Parties of Record:

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel
Philip J. Passanante, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Atlantic City Electric Company
Robert H. Oostdyk, Jr., Esq., Murphy McKeon P.C., on behalf of Butler Power and Light Company
Andrew K. Dembia, Esq., Regulatory Affairs Counsel, New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Joshua R. Eckert, Esq., Counsel, Jersey Central Power and Light Company
Joseph F. Accardo, Jr., Esq., Vice President – Regulatory and Deputy General Counsel, Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Margaret Comes, Esq., Associate Counsel, Rockland Electric Company
Deborah M. Franco, Esq., Regulatory Affairs Counsel, SJI Industries

BY THE BOARD:

# **Background and Procedural History**

On January 13, 2008, <u>L.</u> 2007, <u>c.</u> 340 ("RGGI Act") was signed into law based on the New Jersey Legislature's findings that energy efficiency ("EE") and conservation measures must be essential elements of the state's energy future and that greater reliance on EE and conservation will provide significant benefits to the citizens of New Jersey. The Legislature also found that public utility involvement and competition in the conservation and EE industries are essential to maximize efficiencies.

Pursuant to Section 13 of the RGGI Act, codified as N.J.S.A. 48:3-98.1(a)(1), an electric or gas public utility may provide and invest in EE and conservation programs in its service territory on a regulated basis. Upon petition such investment in EE and conservation programs may be eligible for rate treatment approval by the Board, including a return on equity, or other incentives or rate mechanisms that decouple utility revenue from sales of electricity and gas. Ratemaking treatment

may include placing appropriate technology and program costs investments in the utility's rate base, or recovering the utility's technology and program costs through another ratemaking methodology approved by the Board.

By Order dated June 10, 2020, the Board approved an EE transition framework for EE programs implemented pursuant to the Clean Energy Act, <u>L.</u> 2018, <u>c.</u> 17, including requirements for the utilities to establish programs that reduce the use of electricity and natural gas within their territories.<sup>1</sup> New Jersey electric and gas utilities required to file a petition are Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE"), Elizabethtown Gas Company ("ETG"), Jersey Central Power and Light Company ("JCP&L"), New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG"), Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G"), Rockland Electric Company ("RECO"), and South Jersey Gas Company ("SJG").

At the time of the issuance of the June 2020 Order, PSE&G already had an EE filing pending before the Board. The Board addresses PSE&G's EE filing in <u>I/M/O the Petition of Public Service</u> <u>Electric and Gas Company for Approval of Its Clean Energy Future - Energy Efficiency ("CEF-EE") Program on a Regulated Basis</u>, BPU Docket Nos. GO18101112 and EO10121113, Order dated September 23, 2020.

In the June 2020 Order, the Board directed New Jersey's other electric and gas companies to file three-year program petitions by September 25, 2020 for approval by the Board by May 1, 2021 and implementation beginning July 1, 2021.

# DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

The Board determined that the petitions expected to be filed should be retained by the Board for hearing. As authorized by N.J.S.A. 48:2-32, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>DESIGNATES</u> President Fiordaliso or his designee as the presiding commissioner for the ACE, JCP&L, and RECO filings, who is authorized to rule on all motions that arise during the proceedings and modify any schedules that may be set as necessary to secure just and expeditious determination of the issues. Additionally, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>DESIGNATES</u> Commissioner Chivukula as the presiding commissioner for the ETG, NJNG, and SJG filings, who is authorized to rule on all motions that arise during the proceedings and modify any schedules that may be set as necessary to secure just and expeditious determination of the issues.

Further, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>DIRECTS</u> that any entity seeking to intervene or participate in any of the utilities' filings file the appropriate application with the Board by October 2, 2020. Any party wishing to file a motion for admission of counsel, <u>pro hac vice</u>, should do so concurrently with any motion to intervene or participate. Any response to motions should be filed no later than October 9, 2020.

In addition, in compliance with the Board's Order in Docket No. EO20030254, all parties are <u>HEREBY DIRECTED</u> to serve all documents electronically. No hard copies shall be filed until the Board lifts the restrictions imposed in that Order. The Board <u>HEREBY DIRECTS</u> Staff to post this Order to the Board's website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In re the Implementation of P.L. 2018, c. 17 Regarding the Establishment of Energy Efficiency and Peak <u>Demand Reduction Programs</u>, BPU Docket Nos. QO19010040, QO19060748, QO17091004, Order dated June 10, 2020 ("June 2020 Order").

The effective date of this Order is September 30, 2020.

DATED: September 23, 2020

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO PRESIDENT

Your-Anna Holden

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA COMMISSIONER

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ATTEST:

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AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH SECRETARY

# IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF P.L. 2018, c. 17 REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND PEAK DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS - DOCKET NO. QO19010040

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