# NOTICE TO ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY CUSTOMERS

## A Filing and Public Hearings Notice

In the Matter of the Petition of Rockland Electric Company's Annual RGGI Surcharge Filing Reconciling Costs for Calendar Year 2021 and Estimating Costs for Calendar Year 2022

#### **BPU Docket Number ER22020034**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on February 1, 2022, Rockland Electric Company ("RECO" or "Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting review and approval to reconcile costs and revenues for its Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI") Surcharge and to update the Company's RGGI Surcharge ("Filing"). At the time of the Filing, the Company's approved RGGI programs included the Energy Efficiency ("EE") Stimulus Program ("EES Program"), Low Income Audit and Direct Install Energy Efficiency Program II and III ("Low Income Audit Programs"), Solar Renewable Energy Certificate Program I & II ("SREC Programs"), the Transitional Renewable Energy Certificate ("TREC") Program, and the Clean Energy Act Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Programs ("Clean Energy Fund Programs"). Subsequent to the Filing, the Board approved two additional RGGI Programs: the Successor Incentive Program ("SuSI Program") and the Community Solar Energy Pilot Program ("CSEP Program"). The EES Program and Low-Income Audit Programs provide EE audits and EE measures for the Company's low-income customers. The SREC Programs are solar financing programs where the Company purchases SRECs from solar projects and sells the SREC's in an auction with other New Jersey electric companies. The TREC Program is the bridge between the SREC Program and the NJ Solar Renewable Energy Certificates-II ("SuSI") program. The Clean Energy Fund Programs make available EE measures for participating customers to lower energy usage. The CSEP Program collects costs associated with community solar pilot programs.<sup>1</sup>

In the Filing, the Company proposed to increase the RGGI Surcharge rate from 0.1868 cents per kWh, including Sales and Use Tax ("SUT") (0.1750 cents per kWh, excluding SUT) to 0.3542 cents per kWh (0.3322 cents per kWh, excluding SUT) with a proposed effective date of June 1, 2022. The Company updated the Filing to include in the total RGGI Surcharge rate the SuSI Program and the CSEP Program rates. Following this update, the Company proposed to increase the RGGI Surcharge rate from 0.2112 cents per kWh, including SUT (0.1979 cents per kWh, excluding SUT) to 0.3512 cents per kWh, including SUT (0.3293 cents per kWh, excluding SUT). The present and proposed RGGI Surcharge component rates, excluding and including SUT, are provided in Table #1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Filing does not include a request to change the rates for the SREC II Program, SuSI Program, and CSEP Program Components of the RGGI Surcharge because these costs were approved by the Board in separate proceedings.

If the Filing is approved by the Board, the statewide average residential customer using 808 kWh per summer month, and 7,800 kWh on an annual basis, would see a monthly increase of \$0.91 from \$112.42 to \$113.33, or approximately 0.8%. The effect of the proposed RGGI Surcharge on typical residential electric bills, if approved by the Board, is provided in Table # 2.

The Company's Filing is posted on the Company's website at <a href="https://lite.oru.com/\_external/orurates/documents/nj/pendingelectricregulatoryfilings/2022-annual-rggi-surcharge.pdf">https://lite.oru.com/\_external/orurates/documents/nj/pendingelectricregulatoryfilings/2022-annual-rggi-surcharge.pdf</a>

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual public hearings are scheduled on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Filing:

#### VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

**DATE:** March 9, 2023 **TIMES:** 4:30 p.m. and

5:30 p.m

**LOCATION:** Webex Virtual Webinar

**JOIN:** Go to <a href="www.webex.com">www.webex.com</a> and choose "Join a Meeting" at the top of the web page. When prompted, use meeting number 132 355 3009 to access the meeting.

-or-

Join by phone:

Dial In: (844) 621-3956 United States Toll Free

**Meeting ID:** 132 355 3009

When prompted, enter the Meeting ID number to access the meeting.

Representatives of the Company, Board Staff, and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public may participate by utilizing the link or Dial-In number set forth above and express their views regarding the Filing. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters and/or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Acting Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The deadline for comments on this matter is 5 p.m. on March 23, 2023. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket listed above using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's Public Document Search. Comments are considered public documents for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Only public documents should be submitted using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's Public Document Search tool. Any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, certain rules requiring paper submissions have been temporarily waived. In addition to hard copy submissions, confidential information may also be filed electronically via the Board's e-filing system or by email to the Acting Secretary of the Board. Please include "Confidential Information" in the subject line of any email. Instructions

for confidential e-filing are found on the Board's webpage. <a href="https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/">https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/</a>.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Acting Secretary of the Board 44 South Clinton Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor PO Box 350

Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 Phone: 609-913-6241

Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Table #1
PRESENT AND PROPOSED RGGI SURCHARGE COMPONENT RATES

	Curren	ıt Rate	Proposed Rate		
RGGI Rate Component	Excl. SUT (¢/kWh)	Incl. SUT (¢/kWh)	Excl. SUT (¢/kWh)	Incl. SUT (¢/kWh)	
EES Program	0.0124	0.0132	N/A	N/A	
Low Income Audit II Program	0.0186	0.0198	0.0295	0.0315	
Low Income Audit III Program	(0.0110)	(0.0117)	(0.0023)	(0.0025)	
SREC I Program	0.0394	0.0421	0.0282	0.0301	
SREC II Program	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
TREC Program	0.0426	0.0454	0.2005	0.2138	
SuSI Program	0.0229	0.0244	0.0229	0.0244	
Clean Energy Act Program	0.0730	0.0780	0.0505	0.0539	
CSEP Program	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	
Total	0.1979	0.2112	0.3293	0.3512	

Table #2
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE

Typical Average Monthly Bill (Includes Sales and Use Tax)							
	Bill A	Increase					
	Present (1)	Proposed (2)	Amount	Percent			
650 kWh average monthly use	\$112.42	\$113.33	\$0.91	0.8%			
925 kWh average monthly use	\$163.47	\$164.76	\$1.29	0.8%			
1,500 kWh average monthly use	\$270.02	\$272.12	\$2.10	0.8%			

<sup>(1)</sup> Based upon Basic Generation Service- Residential and Small Commercial Pricing Fixed Pricing ("BGS-RSCP"), and Delivery Rates in effect January 1, 2023, and assumes that the customer receives BGS-RSCP service from RECO.

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<sup>(2)</sup> Same as (1) except includes proposed change in RGGI Surcharge.