

**SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO REVISE THE LEVELS OF ITS SOCIETAL BENEFITS CLAUSE (“SBC”) CHARGES AND ITS TRANSPORTATION INITIATION CLAUSE (“TIC”) CHARGE
BPU DOCKET NO. GR23070475**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE on July 31, 2023, South Jersey Gas Company (“South Jersey” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) requesting an increase in the overall level of its Societal Benefits Clause (“SBC”) charges through an increase to its Remediation Adjustment Clause (“RAC”) charge and a decrease to its Clean Energy Program (“CLEP”) charge (both components of the SBC), as well as an increase to its Transportation Initiation Clause (“TIC”) charge (“Petition”).

The RAC recovers costs associated with environmental remediation of former manufactured gas plant sites, while the CLEP recovers costs associated with energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The TIC recovers capital expenditures and operating costs, including consulting and transaction costs, associated with the Electronic Data Interchange. The SBC and TIC provide no profit to the Company. These clauses allow the Company to pass through only the costs incurred to conduct the related mandated programs.

Set forth below are the current versus proposed rates, all of which are inclusive of New Jersey Sales and Use Taxes, that will permit customers to determine the effect of the proposed increased rates. Any assistance required by customers in understanding these rates will be furnished by the Company upon request.

The impact of the proposed changes as compared to rates in effect on November 1, 2023, for a residential heating customer using 100 therms of gas, is to increase the customer's monthly bill by \$0.10 from \$181.24 to \$181.34, an increase of approximately 0.06% based on rates in effect November 1, 2023.

| | <u>RAC</u> | <u>CLEP</u> | <u>TIC</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Current Rate | \$0.054031 | \$0.031280 | \$0.000244 | \$0.085555 |
| Proposed Rate | <u>\$0.058983</u> | <u>\$0.026858</u> | <u>\$0.000776</u> | <u>\$0.086617</u> |
| Rate (Decrease)/Increase | <u>\$0.004952</u> | <u>(\$0.004422)</u> | <u>\$0.000532</u> | <u>\$0.001062</u> |
| Dollar (Decrease)/Increase | \$0.49 | (\$0.44) | \$0.05 | \$0.10 |
| Percentage (Decrease)/Increase | 0.27% | (0.24)% | 0.03% | 0.06% |

The Board has the statutory authority to establish South Jersey's rates at levels it finds just and reasonable as well as to establish the effective date of such rates. Therefore, the Board may establish the rates at levels and/or an effective date other than those proposed by South Jersey.

Any assistance required by customers in ascertaining the impact of the proposed rate increase will be provided by the Company upon request.

A copy of South Jersey's Petition can be reviewed on the Company's website at www.southjerseygas.com under regulatory information. The Petition is also available to review online through the Board's website, <https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us> where you can search by the above-captioned docket number. The Petition and Board file may also be reviewed at the Board located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor, Trenton, NJ, with an appointment. To make an appointment, please call (609) 913-6298.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Company's Petition:

Date: December 5, 2023

Hearing Times: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 265 791 718 009

Passcode: wpVL3G

(Access the Microsoft Teams App or Microsoft Teams on the web. On the left side of the screen, click the "Teams" icon. Select "Join or 'create a team'". Press "Join" and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode when prompted.)

or

Dial In: 1-609-594-2077

Conference ID: 483 065 667 followed by #

A copy of this Notice of Public Hearings in this matter is being served upon the clerk, executive or administrator of each municipality and county within the Company's service territory.

Representatives of the Company, Board Staff and the New Jersey Division Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing Meeting ID or the Dial-In Number set forth above and may express their views on the Petition. All comments will be made part of the final record of the proceeding to be considered by the Board. In order 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 hearing to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted

directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s [Public Document Search](#) tool. 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. 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 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 at <https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

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

Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

South Jersey Gas Company
Brent Schomber
President and Chief Operating Officer