



Agenda Date: 1/16/08
Agenda Item: VIIE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
www.nj.gov/bpu/

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

MIRIAM GHALIB,)	
)	
PETITIONER,)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION
)	SETTLEMENT
V.)	
)	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS)	BPU DOCKET NO. GC07070532U
COMPANY,)	OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 11416-07
)	
RESPONDENT)	

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On July 17, 2007, Miriam Ghalib (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board requesting a hearing regarding charges of Public Service Electric and Gas Company (Respondent) for utility services for the period of April 2001 to February 2006, which with the exception of February 2006, were estimates. Petitioner requested a statement from PSE&G setting out the electric and gas rates applicable in the period April 2001 through January 2006, and any appropriate adjustments to be made to her account.

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 N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Joann Lasala Candido.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on December 11, 2007 and submitted to the Board on December 13, 2007, to which the settlement was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Candido found that the agreement was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

Pursuant to the agreement, Petitioner withdrew her request for a hearing, and Respondent agreed to recalculate Petitioner's bills at the rates in effect for each billing period from March 21, 2001 to February 21, 2006 and issue any applicable credit to Petitioner's account.

After review and consideration, the Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and the Settlement Agreement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein. Accordingly, the petition in this matter is considered to be DISMISSED.

DATED: 1/17/08

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

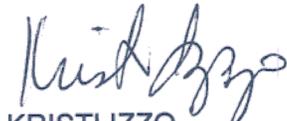

JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT


FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

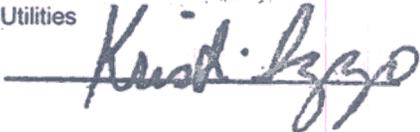

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


CHRISTINE V. BATOR
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities



**MIRIAM GHALIB
v.
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY**

**BPU DOCKET NO. GC07070532U
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 11416-07**

SERVICE LIST

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1/16/08 Agenda



State of New Jersey
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INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 11416-07

AGENCY DKT. NO. GC07070532U

CMS
JBSLOW
JRPd
PASKO
KOR WILLIAMS

MIRIAM GHALIB,

Petitioner,

v.

**PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC &
GAS COMPANY**

Respondent.



Miriam Ghalib, pro se

Sharee Kelly, Esq., appearing on behalf of respondent (PSE&G Services Corporation)

Record Closed: December 10, 2007

Decided: December 11, 2007

BEFORE JOANN LASALA CANDIDO, ALJ:

On October 25, 2007, this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to-15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F 1 to- 13. The matter was scheduled for an in person prehearing on December 10, 2007 at which time the parties settled the matter. A Stipulation indicating the terms of settlement was signed by all parties which is attached and made part hereof.

I have reviewed the record and terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and **FIND:**

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by the signatures of the parties or their representatives.
2. The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with law.

I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and therefore, it is **ORDERED** that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be and are hereby concluded.

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 (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

December 11, 2007
DATE

Joann Lasala Candido
JOANN LASALA CANDIDO, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: 12-13-07

[Signature]
Mailed to Parties:

DATE
ljb

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

RECEIVED
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NEWARK, N.J.

BHALIB

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

and

WITHDRAWAL OF FAIR HEARING REQUEST

for

DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

A hearing was requested in this case because Billing Dispute

The Petitioner and Respondent

have reached an agreement. The terms of the settlement are as follows:

Basis and Terms of Settlement or Withdrawal:

Petitioner withdraws this fair hearing request. A settlement has been reached whereby PSE + D will re-calculate the utilities bills at the rate from March 21, 2001 to February 21, 2006, and issue the appropriate credit. (rate per year at the time of dispute)

_____ is/is not entitled to benefits as of _____ in the amount of _____

This agreement becomes effective upon approval by the Division of Family Development.

Date of Settlement or Withdrawal: December 10, 2007 Mariam Akhtar
Client

- c: Client
- CWA
- DFD
- OAL Clerk (2)

Sherec L. Kelly
Agency Representative
Sherec L. Kelly
PSE+G
Inhouse



State of New Jersey
 OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
 33 Washington Street
 Newark, New Jersey 07102
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 NEWARK, N.J.

Robert J. Giordano, ALJ &
 Manager of Organizational Development

2007 DEC 13 PM 2:27
 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
 NEWARK, N.J.

NORTH

Date DEC 12 2007

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

We are hereby forwarding to you the following decisions from the office of Administrative Law. **Receipt is acknowledged as of the next business day of the date indicated below.** Should a listed decision not be included in this batch, please call 973-648-6008.

OAL Docket No. PUC	Case Name
<u>11416-07</u>	<u>MIRIAM GHALIB</u>

Board of Public Utilities
 Two Gateway Center
 Newark, New Jersey 07102

Date: 12-13-07

Board of Public Utilities