

Agenda Date: 11/9/11 Agenda Item: VIIC

STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 S. Clinton Avenue – P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625 www.nj.gov/bpu/

**CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE** 

ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT

BPU Docket No.EC10080545U OAL Docket No. PUC01289-11

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRC AND GAS COMPANY,

Aaron Lowy, Petitioner, appearing pro se

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq., on behalf of Respondent, Public Service Electric and Gas Company

BY THE BOARD:

AARON LOWY.

Petitioner

V

Respondent

On August 19, 2010, Aaron Lowy ("Petitioner") filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting a formal hearing related to a billing dispute with Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("Respondent") for utility services rendered by Respondent.

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 <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14B-1 <u>et seq.</u> and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14F-1 <u>et seq.</u> This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Kimberly A. Moss.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and signed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on September 26, 2011, and submitted to the Board on September 29, 2011, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Moss found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it satisfied the requirements of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 1:1-19.1. Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter as well as too fully dispose of any and all matters arising out of the same issues raised in this proceeding, Respondent will adjust Petitioner's account to reflect a current balance of \$4,500.00. In return, Petitioner has agreed to pay this balance in monthly payments of \$75.00, plus current bills beginning with the October 2011 bill.

After review of the record and the Stipulation of Settlement of the parties, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>FINDS</u> that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures and that by the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement, have fully resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter.

Accordingly, the Board <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement executed by the parties in their entirety as if fully set forth herein.

DATED:

11/9/11

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

LEE A. SOLOMON PRESIDENT

E M. MMISSIONER

An Inne

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

NICHOLAS ASSELTA

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY

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

Utilities

#### AARON LOWY

## V.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

### BPU DOCKET NO. EC10080545U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC01289-11

#### SERVICE LIST

Aaron Lowy 7 Charles Street Livingston, New Jersey 07039

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq. PSEG Services Corporation 80 Park Plaza – T5G Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194

Eric Hartsfield, Director Julie Ford-Williams Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center – Suite 801 Newark, New Jersey 07102

David Wand, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street P.O. Box 45029 Newark, New Jersey 07101

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INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT OAL DKT. NO. PUC 01289-11 AGENCY DKT. NO. EC10080545U

AARON LOWY, Petitioner, v. PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,

Respondent.

Aaron Lowy, petitioner appearing pro se

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq. on behalf of respondent (PSE&G Services Corporation)

Record Closed: September 26, 2011

Decided: September 26, 2011

BEFORE KIMBERLY A. MOSS, ALJ:

On February 2, 2011, this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing as a contested case pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14B-1 to-15 and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14F 1 to- 13. Several telephone conferences and hearings were scheduled and conducted, the last one being September 12, 2011. During the pendency of the hearing the parties engaged in extensive settlement discussions. On September 26, 2011 respondent submitted the fully executed Stipulation of Settlement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## OAL DKT. NO. PUC 01289-11

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 <u>N.J.A.</u>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.

I 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 <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 52:14B-10.

26

DATE

KIMBÉRLY A. MOSS, ALJ

Date Received at Agency:

Date	Mailed	to	Parties:
ljb			

Sheree L. Kelly Assistant General Regulatory Counsel

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Law Department 80 Park Plaza, T5G, Newark, NJ 07102-4194 tel: 973.430.6468 fax: 973.430.5983 email: sheree.kelly@pseg.com BPU MAILROOM SEP 29 2011 RECEIVED Services Corporation

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September 21, 2011

Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, ALJ Office of Administrative Law 33 Washington Street Newark, NJ 07102

> Re: Aaron Lowy v. PSE&G BPU Docket No.: EC10080545U OAL Docket No.: PUC 01289-2011N

Dear Judge Moss:

Enclosed please find a signed Stipulation of Settlement with reference to the above-captioned matter.

Respectfully submitted, Sheree L. Kelly

SLK/jb Enclosure

cc: Aaron Lowy (w/enc.) Edward B. Sullivan (w/enc.)

# BPU MAILROOM

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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Aaron Lowy Petitioner v.

Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Respondent OAL Docket No. PUC 01289-2011N BPU Docket No. EC10080545U

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

This matter having been brought before the Office of Administrative Law by the Petitioner, Aaron Lowy ("Petitioner"), against Respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") for utility service rendered by PSE&G to the premises 7 Charles Street, Livingston, NJ, 07039 (the "Property") and the Parties having agreed to settle this matter, hereby set forth the terms and conditions of their settlement agreement as follows:

- 1. PSE&G will adjust Petitioner's account to reflect a current balance of \$4,500.00.
- 2. Petitioner will pay \$75.00 every month, plus current bill beginning with October 2011 bill.

Petitioner: Aaron Løwy Bv:

Date:

Respondent: PSE&G

By

Edward B. Sullivan Manager – Customer Operations

Date: