



Agenda Date: 3/19/14
Agenda Item: IIB

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED PETITION OF)
ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL)
OF CHANGES IN ELECTRIC RATES, ITS TARIFF FOR)
ELECTRIC SERVICE, AND ITS DEPRECIATION)
RATES; TERMINATION OF THE SMART GRID)
SURCHARGE; ESTABLISHMENT OF A STORM)
HARDENING SURCHARGE; AND FOR OTHER)
RELIEF)

AMENDED ORDER SUSPENDING
INCREASES, CHANGES OR
ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
SERVICE

BPU DOCKET NO. ER13111135

Parties of Record:

James C. Meyer, Esq., on behalf of Rockland Electric Company, Petitioner
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On November 27, 2013, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1, Rockland Electric Company ("Petitioner" or "Rockland Electric"), a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), filed a petition for approval of an increase in its operating revenues of approximately \$19.3 million or 7.6% to be effective for electric service provided on or after January 1, 2014, as well as for certain other tariff changes and changes in its depreciation rates. The petition further requests approval from the Board to terminate the Smart Grid surcharge and to establish a storm hardening surcharge, among other relief. According to the petition, the primary reasons for the requested increase are the ongoing increased carrying costs for investments made since the Petitioner's base rates were last adjusted, coupled with new infrastructure investments, increases in the cost of labor and materials, and increases in the costs to provide health care and retiree pensions and other post-employment benefits. The Petitioner is also seeking recovery for incurred and deferred significant costs relating to Hurricane Irene, the October 2011 snow storm and Superstorm Sandy.

On February 19, 2014, the Board issued an Order Suspending Increases, Changes or Alterations in Rates for Service ("February 19 Order"), which inadvertently suspended the proposed revisions beyond the four-month period contained in N.J.S.A. 48:2-21(d) to July 3, 2014. Accordingly, the Board hereby issues this Amended Order Suspending Increases,

Changes or Alterations in Rates for Service ("Amended Order") in order to correct such error and to eliminate the fifteen (15) day time period for filing Proof of Service of the Amended Order with the Board.

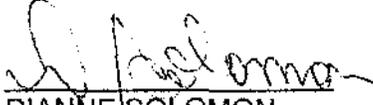
It appearing that the proposed revisions, if approved, will increase existing rates and change or alter existing classifications in Petitioner's tariff, it is **HEREBY ORDERED** that:

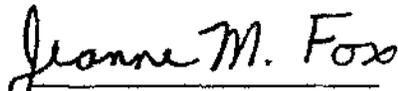
- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 (d), the proposed revisions are suspended until May 1, 2014, unless prior to that date the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for hearing on the petition by the Office of Administrative Law, file with this Board and with the Office of Administrative Law, proof of compliance with the notice provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:2-32.2 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 (b) and (c), which notice shall include a statement that any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers on any rate or schedule as the Board may determine; and
- (3) Petitioner shall, at the same time it files with the Board, also file proof of service of copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, Division of the Rate Counsel, the clerks of each affected municipality, the clerks of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of each affected County, and where appropriate, the executive officer of each affected County within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Suspension Order may be made simultaneously.

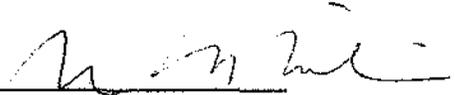
This Order shall be effective on March 28, 2014.

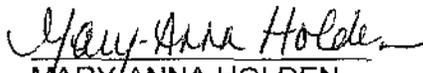
DATED: 3/19/2014

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

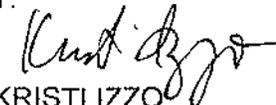

DIANNE SOLOMON
PRESIDENT


JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER

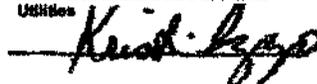

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


MARYANNA HOLDEN
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



IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED PETITION OF ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN ELECTRIC RATES, ITS TARIFF FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE, AND ITS DEPRECIATION RATES; TERMINATION OF THE SMART GRID SURCHARGE; ESTABLISHMENT OF A STORM HARDENING SURCHARGE; AND FOR OTHER RELIEF
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