



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, a bill was enacted by the New Jersey Legislature (P.L. 1907, c. 197) and signed into law on May 15, 1907 by Governor Edward C. Stokes creating the Board of Railroad Commissioners which was empowered to have general supervision of all railroads operating within the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, a bill was enacted by the Legislature (P.L. 1910, c. 41) and signed into law on March 24, 1910 by Governor John Franklin Fort that changed the Board of Railroad Commissioners to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners and the duties of the Board were expanded to the regulatory jurisdiction of all public utilities, and the term was defined to include "...every railroad, express, street railway, traction, canal, subway, pipeline, gas, electric light, heat and power, water, sewer, telephone, telegraph...operating within the State of New Jersey for public use under privileges granted by the State...;" and

WHEREAS, the first Commissioners of the Board of Public Utilities were Thomas J. Hillery, Esq. of Morris County, Robert Williams, Esq. of Paterson and Frank H. Sommer, Esq. of Newark; and

WHEREAS, a bill enacted by the Legislature (P.L. 1911, c. 195) and signed into law on April 21, 1911 by Governor Woodrow Wilson further extended the Board's jurisdiction, as well as its duties and obligations, and those provisions have remained the core of the Board's regulatory function to this day; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Board of Public Utilities has been and continues to be to ensure the provision of safe, adequate and proper utility service, while enhancing the quality of life for the residents of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its basic mission, the Board has been proactive in its efforts to protect the residents of this State through a variety of programs that have placed New Jersey at the forefront of national efforts to expand the conservation of energy as well as the use of renewable energy technologies, and has responded quickly to assist in the fostering of cogeneration under the federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, the implementation of energy competition as contemplated in the State's Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act and the establishment of a sound program to implement the State's Underground Facility Protection Act and the Gas Safety Act to reduce the possibilities of major incidents occurring in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been led by Commissioners who have had the administrative skills and vision to meet new regulatory challenges as they presented themselves and have been ably assisted by a professional staff whose knowledge and expertise have been a critical factor in enabling the Board to carry out its statutory responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize the accomplishments

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-first day of April in the year two thousand eleven, the two hundred thirty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR