



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE
DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL
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JON S. CORZINE
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Public Advocate
~~STEPHANNE BARBONESQ.~~
Director

January 11, 2008

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Kristi Izzo, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
ATTN: BPU Docket Number: A07110885
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102

RE: I/M/O the Proposal for Account Look-Up for Third Party
Suppliers and Clean Power Marketers
BPU Docket No.: A07110885

Dear Secretary Izzo:

Please accept the original and ten copies of these Comments filed on behalf of the New Jersey Department of the Public Advocate, Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") in response to the Board of Public Utilities' ("the Board" or "BPU") request in the above-mentioned matter. Kindly date-stamp and mark "Filed" on the copy to be returned to our office.

On November 30, 2007, the BPU issued a request for comments to all interested parties concerning a procedure to allow local distribution companies (gas and electric utilities) to release customer account information to third party energy suppliers ("TPS") or clean power marketers ("CPM") pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:4-1A.3. Specifically, the Board is considering approval of a standard enrollment form that authorizes a TPS or CPM access to potential customers' utility account information from their respective electric and/or gas utility for expedited enrollment purposes only.

Rate Counsel is not opposed to this procedure in principle, but requests that the Board consider the following concerns in developing its regulations in this process. For example, the solicitation by a representative of the TPS or CPM should make clear to the potential customer their affiliation with the energy provider and the requirement for verification of switching energy services. Also, if a TPS or CPM is engaged in the collection of customer account data for energy services, there should be a requirement for dissemination of consumer protection information. Preservation of the confidentiality of the customer account data should also be emphasized to the consumer and compiled with by the TPS or CPM. Finally, if a CPM is to engage in the enrollment of customers for clean energy programs beyond the purchase or retiring of renewable

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energy certificates (“RECs”) there should be a modification to the definition of CPM as described in N.J.A.C. 14:4-1.2.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

RONALD K. CHEN
PUBLIC ADVOCATE OF NEW JERSEY

STEFANIE A. BRAND
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