PUBLIC NOTICE TO ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY CUSTOMERS

NOTICE OF A FILING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROGRAM, ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE SURCHARGE, AND FOR OTHER RELIEF (RECO EV)

Board Docket No. EO20110730

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, on November 23, 2020, Rockland Electric Company ("RECO" or "the Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") for approval to implement a comprehensive Electric Vehicle ("EV") Program, including approval of a rate mechanism to recover the cost of the EV Program ("Petition"). This EV Program filing was made in compliance with the Board's September 23, 2020, Order Adopting the Minimum Filing Requirements for Light-Duty, Publicly Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging in Board Docket No. QO20050357. The Company proposed to invest approximately \$6.7 million over a five-year period in several subprograms. The Board retained jurisdiction over the EV Program filing where it was assigned Board Docket No. EO20110730. Since the Petition's filing, the Company has worked with parties in this proceeding on refining the Company's proposal, both with respect to the programs and budget.

RECO now proposes an increase of \$0.9 million in the total budget for its EV program. The Company now proposes to commit approximately \$7.6 million of investment over a period of approximately four years for four EV subprograms: the Charge Ready Program, the Direct Current Fast Charging Incentive Program, a Voluntary Time-of-Day Rate Option, and an Outreach and Education Program. The EV subprograms are intended to support the widespread adoption of EVs in all sectors of the economy, including multi-family and low-income customers, as well as customers residing in overburdened communities most impacted by air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. There are wide-reaching customer and societal benefits associated with the EV subprograms including environmental benefits, job creation, mitigation of EV market barriers, and the advancement of New Jersey's clean energy goals.

The Company now proposes to defer the costs for the EV Program (and included subprograms) until the Company's next base rate filing, where they will be reviewed for prudency and inclusion in base rates along with a determination of the amortization period approved in that case.

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to approve the budget for these programs at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish a budget at levels other than those proposed by RECO.

The Company's EV Program filing is posted on the Company's website at https://www.oru.com/en/nj-rates-tariffs.

Please Take Further Notice that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual public hearings have been scheduled on the following date and time(s) as noted below so that members of the public may present their views on the EV Program filing:

 Date:
 July 20, 2022

 Times:
 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM

Join by meeting number via WebEx:

Go To <u>www.webex.com</u> and choose "Join a Meeting" at the top of the web page. When prompted, use Meeting number 132 355 3009 to access the meeting -or-

Join by phone:

Dial (866) 499-4146 (United States Toll Free)

When prompted, use meeting number 132 255 3009 to access the meeting. If prompted to provide an attendee ID, you may choose the option in the prompts to allow you to skip this step.

Representatives of the Company, Board Staff and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing the link or the Dial-In Number set forth above and may express their views on this Petition. All comments will be made part of the final record of the proceeding and will be considered by the Board. In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters, listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board will also accept written and/or electronic comments. While all comments will be given equal consideration and will be made part of the final record of this proceeding, the preferred method of transmittal is via the Board's Public Document Search tool. Search for the docket number listed above, and post by utilizing the "Post Comments" button. Emailed comments may also be filed with the Secretary of the Board, in pdf or Word format, to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

Written comments may be submitted to the Board Secretary at the Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor, P.O. Box 350, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350. All emailed or mailed comments should include the name of the Petition and the docket number.

All comments are considered "public documents" for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Commenters may identify information that they seek to keep confidential by submitting them in accordance with the confidentiality procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.