

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

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ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF CUMBERLAND)	ORDER SUSPENDING
COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE)	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION OF ELECTRIC)	
PUBLIC UTILITY FACILITIES OF ATLANTIC CITY)	DOCKET NO. EO22020043
ELECTRIC COMPANY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-27)	

Parties of Record:

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel **David Weinstein, Esq.,** Archer & Greiner P.C. on behalf of Cumberland County Improvement Authority

Cynthia L.M. Holland, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, on behalf of Atlantic City Electric Company

BY COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. GORDON:

I. BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

On February 2, 2022, the Cumberland County Improvement Authority ("CCIA" or "Authority") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") seeking approval for the extension or expansion of Atlantic City Electric Company's ("ACE") electric public utility facilities, and requesting that ACE fund the proposed extension or expansion ("Petition"). On February 17, 2022, ACE filed a motion to intervene, and on March 3, 2022, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") filed a letter of non-objection.

On March 23, 2022, and effective as of March 30, 2022, the Board retained this matter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-32, and designated myself, Commissioner Robert M. Gordon, as the Presiding Commissioner with authority to rule on all motions arising during the pendency of this proceeding, and to modify any schedules that may be set as necessary to secure a just and expeditious determination of the issues.¹ The Board granted ACE's Motion to Intervene and set April 6, 2022 as the deadline to file motions to intervene, participate, and for admission of counsel *pro hac vice*.²

On June 20, 2022, I issued a Prehearing Order with Procedural Schedule, and directed CCIA, Rate Counsel, and ACE (collectively, "Parties") to comply with its terms.³

Via correspondence dated August 18, 2022, CCIA requested suspension of the Procedural Schedule to file an amended petition. On August 23, 2022, I granted CCIA's request, conditioned upon, among other things, CCIA filing its amended petition on or before two (2) weeks from August 23, 2022, and the Parties submitting a new proposed procedural schedule three (3) business days from the filing of the amended petition.⁴ CCIA filed its Amended Petition on September 6, 2022. The Parties did not agree on a procedural schedule; however, Rate Counsel and ACE timely submitted separate schedules, on or before September 9, 2022, for my review and consideration.

On September 30, 2022, I issued an Order setting forth an Amended Procedural Schedule and directed the Parties to comply with its terms ("Amended Procedural Schedule").⁵

II. REQUEST TO SUSPEND THE AMENDED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Via correspondence dated November 7, 2022, CCIA requested suspension of the Amended Procedural Schedule, until November 21, 2022, to allow for further settlement negotiations. CCIA represented that all parties consented, and stipulated that if the Parties fail to reach a settlement on or before November 21, 2022, they will submit a revised procedural schedule for my consideration.

³ In re the Petition of Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Approval of the Extension of Electric Public Utility Facilities of Atlantic City Electric Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-27, Prehearing Order with Procedural Schedule, BPU Docket No. EO22020043, Order dated June 20, 2022.

¹ In re the Petition of Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Approval of the Extension of Electric Public Utility Facilities of Atlantic City Electric Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-27, BPU Docket No. EO22020043, Order dated March 30, 2022.

² ld.

⁴ In re the Petition of Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Approval of the Extension of Electric Public Utility Facilities of Atlantic City Electric Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-27, Order Suspending Procedural Schedule, BPU Docket No. EO22020043, Order dated August 23, 2022.

⁵ In re the Petition of Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Approval of the Extension of Electric Public Utility Facilities of Atlantic City Electric Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-27, Order on Procedural Schedule for Amended Petition, BPU Docket No. EO22020043, Order dated September 30, 2022 ("September 2022 Order").

III. DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

I reviewed, in detail, my prior Orders in this matter, the Amended Procedural Schedule, and CCIA's November 7, 2022 correspondence. To allow for further settlement negotiations and to ensure a just and expeditious determination of the issues, I <u>HEREBY SUSPEND</u> the Amended Procedural Schedule provided in the September 2022 Order up to and until November 21, 2022. I <u>HEREBY ORDER</u> that if the parties fail to execute a stipulation of settlement resolving all issues in this matter on or before November 21, 2022, the Parties shall submit a revised procedural schedule for my consideration.

I <u>HEREBY DIRECT</u> that this Order be posted on the Board's website.

This provisional ruling is subject to ratification or other alteration by the Board as it deems appropriate during the proceedings in this matter.

DATED: 11/18/22

ROBERT M. GORDON COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of the Petition of Cumberland County Improvement Authority for the Approval of the Extension of Electric Public Utility Facilities of Atlantic City Electric Company Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-27

BPU DOCKET NO. EO22020043

SERVICE LIST

Cumberland County

Gerard Velazquez, III, President/CEO The Authority 745 Lebanon Rd Millville, NJ 08332 ivelazquez@theauthoritynj.com

David Weinstein, Esq. Archer & Greiner P.C. 1025 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043 dweinstein@archerlaw.com

Christopher Gibson Archer & Greiner P.C. 1025 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043 cgibson@archerlaw.com

James A. Boyd, Esq. Archer & Greiner P.C. 1025 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043 jaboyd@archerlaw.com

Division of Rate Counsel

Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street, 4th Floor Trenton, NJ 08625-0003

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director blipman@rpa.nj.gov

T. David Wand, Esq. dwand@rpa.nj.gov

Brian Weeks, Esq. bweeks@rpa.nj.gov

Bethany Rocque-Romaine, Esq. bromaine@rpa.nj.gov

Debora Layugan dlayugan@rpa.nj.gov

Atlantic City Electric

Cynthia L.M. Holland, Esq. Assistant General Counsel 150 West State Street Trenton, NJ 08608 cynthia.holland@exeloncorp.com

Heather Hall, Manager 500 N. Wakefield Drive P.O. Box 6066 Newark, DE 19714 Heather.hall@pepcoholdings.com

Marisa Slaten, Esq. 500 N. Wakefield Drive P.O. Box 6066 Newark, DE 19714 Marisa.slaten@exeloncorp.com

Philip Passanante, Esq. 500 N. Wakefield Drive P.O. Box 6066 Newark, DE 19714 philip.passanante@pepcoholdings.com

Diana C. DeAngelis
500 N. Wakefield Drive
P.O. Box 6066
Newark, DE 19714
diana.deangelis@pepcoholdings.com

Board of Public Utilities

44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Carmen Diaz, Acting Board Secretary board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Robert Brabston, Executive Director robert.brabston@bpu.nj.gov

David Peterson

Chesapeake Regulatory Consultants, Inc. 1815 Fenwicke Ct. Huntingtown, MD 20639

davep@chesapeake.net

Max Chang Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. 485 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 2 Cambridge, MA 02139 mchang@synapse-energy.com

Division of Law

Deputy Attorney General
NJ Department of Law and Public Safety
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Public Utilities Section
25 Market Street, P.O. Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625

Pamela Owen, ASC, DAG pamela.owen@law.njoag.gov

Brandon Simmons, DAG
Brandon.simmons@law.njoag.gov

Matko Ilic, DAG matko.ilic@law.njoag.gov

Steven Chaplar, DAG steven.chaplar@law.njoag.gov

Daren Eppley, DAG daren.eppley@law.njoag.gov

Stacy Peterson, Deputy Executive Director stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov

Carol Artale, Deputy General Counsel <u>carol.artale@bpu.nj.gov</u>

Heather Weisband, Senior Counsel heather.weisband@bpu.nj.gov

Division of Water and Energy

Mike Kammer, Director, Mike.kammer@bpu.ni.gov

Paul Lupo, Bureau Chief, paul.lupo@bpu.nj.gov

Dean Taklif dean.taklif@bpu.nj.gov

Christopher Oprysk christopher.oprysk@bpu.nj.gov

Sri Medicherla sri.medicherla@bpu.nj.gov

Frank Gaffney francis.gaffney@bpu.nj.gov

Karlito A. Almeda karlito.almeda@bpu.nj.gov

Enit Torres enit.torres@bpu.nj.gov