



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 PETITION OF JERSEY) ORDER SUSPENDING
CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY FOR) PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
APPROVAL OF AN ADVANCED METERING)
INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) PROGRAM (JCP&L)
AMI)) DOCKET NO. EO20080545

Parties of Record:

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel
James C. Meyer, Esq., Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP on behalf of Jersey Central Power & Light Company
Christopher E. Torkelson, Esq., Karen O. Moury, Esq., Sarah C. Stoner, Esq., Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC on behalf of the Market Participants
William Harla, Esq., Alice M. Bergen, Esq., DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP on behalf of Utilidata

BY COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. GORDON:

I. **BACKGROUND**

On February 19, 2020, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) ordered three (3) of the New Jersey’s electric distribution utilities to file, or update previously filed, petitions for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (“AMI”) program by August 27, 2020.¹ In compliance with the AMI Order, on August 27, 2020, Jersey Central Power & Light Company (“JCP&L” or “Company”) filed a petition seeking approval of a \$733 million AMI Program, including an associated cost recovery mechanism pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1 (“Petition”).

By Order dated September 23, 2020, the Board determined that the Petition should be retained by the Board for hearing, and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-32, designated myself, Commissioner Robert M. Gordon, as the Presiding Commissioner with the authority to rule on all motions that arise during the pendency of these proceedings and modify any schedules that may be necessary

¹In re the Petition of Rockland Electric Company for Approval of an Advanced Metering Program; and for Other Relief, BPU Docket No. ER16060524, Order dated February 19, 2020 (“AMI Order”).

to secure a just and expeditious determination of the issues.² Further, the Board directed that any entity seeking to intervene or participate file the appropriate application with the Board by October 14, 2020. Any party wishing to file a motion for admission of counsel, pro hac vice, was requested to do so concurrently with any motion to intervene or participate.

On January 13, 2021, I issued a Prehearing Order with Procedural Schedule and rulings on Motions to Intervene and Participate ("January 2021 Order"). Throughout February 2021, the parties engaged in discovery and multiple settlement discussions. As a result, on February 26, 2021, JCP&L filed an electronic communication requesting suspension of the Procedural Schedule embodied in the January 2021 Order to facilitate ongoing settlement discussions. JCP&L also noted that the parties reserved their right to request a further/amended Procedural Schedule at a later date, in the event one was required.

II. **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

I reviewed JCP&L's February 26, 2021 communication requesting a suspension of the Procedural Schedule as the parties work towards a possible settlement. With the consent of the parties, I **HEREBY SUSPEND** the Procedural Schedule set forth in the January 2021 Order in this matter.

I **HEREBY DIRECT** 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: March 10, 2021

BY:



ROBERT M. GORDON
COMMISSIONER

² In re the Verified Petition of Jersey Central Power & Light Company for Approval of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Program (JCP&L AMI), Order Designating a Commissioner, Setting A Bar Date and Manner of Service, BPU Docket No. EO20080545, Order dated September 23, 2020.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF JERSEY CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI)
PROGRAM (JCP&L AMI)**

BPU DOCKET NO. EO20080545

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