



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**  
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**Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350**  
[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

A regular board meeting of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities was held on February 18, 2026 at the Board's Hearing Room at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton and online @ [https://www.youtube.com/live/i-qc6LpYrRA?si=38\\_YW1G8iesQGcaO](https://www.youtube.com/live/i-qc6LpYrRA?si=38_YW1G8iesQGcaO).

Public notice was given pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18 by posting notice of the meeting at the Board's Trenton Office, on the Board's website, and filing notice of the meeting with the New Jersey Department of State and newspapers of broad circulation in the State of New Jersey.

The following members of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities were present:

President Guhl-Sadovy, President  
Commissioner Christodoulou, Commissioner  
Commissioner Bange, Commissioner  
Commissioner Rebhorn, Commissioner  
Commissioner Coviello, Commissioner

President Guhl-Sadovy presided at the meeting and Sherri L. Lewis, Secretary of the Board, carried out the duties of the Secretary.

It was also announced that the next regular Board Meeting will be held on March 4, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. and would be a hybrid meeting at the Board's Hearing Room at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton and livestreamed via YouTube.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

After appropriate motion, the following matters, which involved N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7) attorney-client privilege and/or contract negotiations exceptions, were discussed in Executive Session.

### 2. REVENUE AND RATES

#### **D. Docket No. EO26020023 – In the Matter of the Request for Quotation Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 1.**

**BACKGROUND:** Executive Order 1 (“EO1”) mandates that within 180 days of its passage, or July 19, 2026, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) shall complete and issue a study regarding modernization of the traditional electric distribution utility business model (“Study”).

Board Staff (“Staff”) recommends that the Board authorize Staff to issue a request for quotation (“RFQ”), on behalf of the Board, to hire a consultant to provide support in the proceeding.

### 8. CLEAN ENERGY

#### **A. Docket No. QO20110700 – In the Matter of the Contract for a Statewide Evaluator of New Jersey’s Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Programs.**

**BACKGROUND:** Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) (“Staff”) seeks approval to award a contract to serve as Statewide Evaluator (“SWE”) for the evaluation, measurement, and verification (“EM&V”) of New Jersey’s energy efficiency (“EE”) and peak demand reduction (“PDR”) programs. The main responsibility of the SWE is to ensure that program evaluations are robust, accurate, transparent, consistent, and replicable across New Jersey.

#### **B. Docket No. QO24060469 – In the Matter of Approval of Department of Environmental Protection’s Request for a No-Cost Extension to the Term Length of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between BPU and DEP for Advancing Geothermal Systems in New Jersey.**

**BACKGROUND:** Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “BPU”) (“Staff” or “Board Staff”) recognizes the benefits of geothermal systems with respect to energy conservation and emissions reductions associated with space and water heating and cooling for various building stock in the State of New Jersey.

The Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between BPU and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”), effective as of September 18, 2023 (“Effective Date”), to advance geothermal systems for space and water heating and cooling in the State. The MOU allows BPU to engage with DEP, with the support of the New Jersey Center for Advanced Technology (“NJCAT”), to develop workforce training resources for geothermal

systems, develop customer education and outreach materials, and serve in an advisory role related to Geothermal Heat Pump (“GHP”) systems, including Ground-Source Heat Pumps (“GSHPs”), as well as to support the design of a geothermal pilot project (collectively, “Geothermal Services”). The term of the original MOU was eighteen (18) months from the Effective Date and was subsequently amended to include an initial Board-approved “DEP No-Cost Extension Request” for an additional ten (10)-month assignment, effective September 4, 2024 (Attachment #2). The total budget for the full twenty-eight (28)-month term is \$400,000, funded solely through the BPU’s Clean Energy Program Fiscal Year 2024 budget, covering the period July 1, 2023 through January 18, 2026 (“Grant Funds”).

Since the approval of the DEP’s first No-Cost Extension Request became effective on September 4, 2024, DEP, Board Staff, and NJCAT have determined that certain tasks included in the Scope of Work (“SOW”), finalized on January 24, 2024, are no longer necessary to complete the remaining work (Attachments #2 and #3).

Therefore, to allow DEP to amend the NJCAT contract and appropriately return any unspent funds associated with the reduced SOW, Staff recommends that the Board grant DEP’s second request for a limited no-cost extension and approve a sixty (60)-day extension to the existing twenty-eight (28)-month MOU term, consistent with Section 3.4 of the MOU, resulting in a total MOU term of thirty (30) months. This no-cost extension would enable DEP and NJCAT to update their contract, determine what portion of funding will not be needed based on the revised SOW, and release back to NJBPU any unspent funds, consistent with Section 1.3 of the MOU. Staff further recommends that the Board approve the Changes to the Reporting Requirements in the Attachments.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### I. AUDITS

#### A. Energy Agent, Private Aggregator and/or Energy Consultant Initial Registrations

EE25100571L GE25100572L	B and B Energy Group LLC	I – EA/EC
EE25120651L	Elite Energy Solutions, LLC	I – EA
EE25110608L GE25110609L	Gatby Ventures, Inc.	I – EA/PA
EE25110601L	MPower Utility Group Inc.	I – EA

#### Electric Power and/or Natural Gas Supplier Initial Licenses

EE25080519L	Fanfare Energy, LLC	I – ESL
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#### BACKGROUND:

### II. REVENUE AND RATES

#### A. Docket No. WR26010010 – In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. for Approval of Increased Tariff Rates and Charges for Water and Wastewater Service and Other Tariff Modifications

**BACKGROUND:** On January 16, 2026, New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) seeking approval of an increase in its base rates for water and wastewater service of approximately \$146.4 million for services rendered on and after February 21, 2024.

Board Staff (“Staff”) recommended that the Board issue an Order suspending the proposed rate increase until June 16, 2026. Staff also recommended that this matter be transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearings as a contested case.

### III. ENGINEERING

There were no items in this category.

#### IV. CABLE TELEVISION

**A. Docket No. CE24060407 – In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of Northwest New Jersey, LLC, for a Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Township of Independence, County of Warren, State of New Jersey.**

**BACKGROUND:** On or about June 10, 2023, Comcast of Northwest New Jersey, LLC (“Comcast”) filed an application with the Township of Independence (“Township”) for renewal of municipal consent. The Township adopted an ordinance granting renewal municipal consent to Comcast on February 15, 2024. On May 23, 2024, Comcast formally accepted the terms and conditions of the ordinance. Comcast filed with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) for a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Township on June 13, 2024.

After review, Board Staff recommended approval of the proposed Renewal Certificate of Approval. This Certificate shall expire on January 31, 2034.

**B. Docket No. CE24070529 – In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of the Meadowlands, LLC for a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Borough of Rutherford, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey.**

**BACKGROUND:** On March 23, 2023, Comcast of the Meadowlands, LLC (“Comcast”) filed an application with the Borough of Rutherford (“Borough”) for renewal of municipal consent. The Borough adopted an ordinance granting renewal municipal consent to Comcast on December 26, 2023. On July 11, 2024, Comcast formally accepted the terms and conditions of the ordinance. Comcast filed with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) for a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough on July 12, 2024.

After review, Board Staff recommended approval of the proposed Renewal Certificate of Approval. This Certificate shall expire on December 23, 2033.

**C. Docket No. CE24090631 – In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC for a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the City of Long Branch, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey.**

**BACKGROUND:** On September 4, 2024, Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC (“Comcast”) filed a petition for an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval for the City of Long Branch (“City”), for a term to expire on September 19, 2034. The petition is based on the City’s ordinance granting renewal municipal consent, which was adopted January 25, 2011. The City’s ordinance granted a term of fifteen (15) years with an automatic renewal term of ten (10) years. The initial term expired on September 19, 2024.

Board Staff (“Staff”) recommended approval of the proposed Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval. This Certificate shall expire on September 19, 2034.

**D. Docket No. CE25020034 – In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC for a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Township of Hazlet, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey.**

**BACKGROUND:** On February 4, 2025, Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC (“Comcast”) filed a petition for an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Township of Hazlet (“Township”), for a term to expire on October 24, 2034. The petition was based on the Township’s ordinance granting renewal municipal consent, which was adopted August 3, 2010. The Township’s ordinance granted a term of fifteen (15) years with an automatic renewal term of ten (10) years. The initial term expired on October 24, 2024.

Board Staff recommended approval of the proposed Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval. This Certificate shall expire on October 24, 2034.

**V. TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Docket No. TF25080522 – In the Matter of Verified Petition of PEG Bandwidth NJ, LLC and Uniti National LLC for Approval to Participate in Certain Financing Arrangements.**

**BACKGROUND:** On August 27, 2025, PEG Bandwidth NJ, LLC (“PEG NJ”) and Uniti National LLC (“Uniti National”) (together, “Petitioners”) submitted a verified petition to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-9, requesting Board approval for Petitioners to participate in certain new financing arrangements.

Petitioners sought Board approval to participate as guarantors or co-guarantors for certain existing financing arrangements of Windstream Services, LLC (as successor in interest to Uniti Group LP), Uniti Fiber Holdings Inc., Uniti Group Finance 2019 Inc. and CSL Capital, LLC. Petitioners sought to borrow \$600 million of senior notes maturing on June 15, 2032 with an interest rate of 8.625%.

Board Staff, after review of the information submitted in this proceeding, determined that the financing arrangements are in accordance with the law and in the public interest and therefore recommended approval of the petition.

**VI. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY**

There were no items in this category.

**VII. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE**

There were no items in this category.

**VIII. CLEAN ENERGY**

There were no items in this category.

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. Approval for the September 25, 2025 Minutes;  
Approval for the December 17, 2025 Minutes; and  
Approval for the January 14, 2026 Minutes.**

**After appropriate motion, consent agenda items IA, IIA, IVA, IVB, IVC, IVD, VA, and IXA:**

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Rebhorn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**Decision:** The Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

## AGENDA

### 1. AUDITS

There were no items in this category.

### 2. REVENUE AND RATES

#### A. Docket No. WR25060330 – In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities’ Consideration of the Gross Receipts Tax on Water and Sewer Utilities – Aqua New Jersey, Inc.

**Stacy Peterson, Division of Revenue and Rates**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** In November, 2024, the State's water and Wastewater utilities were notified by the Division of Taxation that an error was discovered in August, 2024, and that as a result of the error, the gross receipts tax (“GRT”) had been charged at the incorrect rate. By order dated March 19th, 2025, the Board directed affected utilities to defer the effects of the required reduction on their books, and records effective immediately.

On June 2nd, 2025, in compliance with the March order, Aqua New Jersey Inc. filed a petition seeking approval of deferred accounting treatment of the GRT on water and sewer revenues, as well as the related reduction of the excess tax levying. Following review of the petition, conducting discovery, and discussions, the parties executed a stipulation that recommends the Board authorize the company to use deferred accounting, and to propose a method to refund to customers in its next base rate case.

Staff recommends that the Board issue an order approving the stipulation.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Rebhorn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

#### B. Docket No. WR25050313 – In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities’ Consideration of the Gross Receipts Tax on Water and Sewer Utilities – Middlesex Water Company.

**Stacy Peterson, Division of Revenue and Rates**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** On May 30th, 2025, Middlesex Water Company filed a petition seeking approval of deferred accounting treatment of the gross receipts tax (“GRT”) on water revenues, as well as the related reduction of the excess tax levy. Following review of the petition,

conducting discovery, and discussions, the parties have executed a stipulation that recommends the Board authorize an estimated one-time bill credit amount of \$26.52.

Staff recommends that the Board issue an order approving the stipulation.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**C. Docket Nos. BPU WR25060372 and OAL PUC 12680-25S – In the Matter of the Joint Petition for an Approval of an Increase in Rates for Water and Wastewater Service and Other Tariff Changes for Middlesex Water Company, Pinelands Water Company, and Pinelands Wastewater Company.**

**Stacy Peterson, Division of Revenue and Rates**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** On June 30th, 2025 Middlesex Water Company, Pinelands Water Company, and Pinelands Wastewater Company filed a joint petition seeking approval of an increase in base water rates of approximately \$24.9 million, which was subsequently updated to a requested revenue requirement increase of \$24 million.

Throughout the course of the proceeding, the parties held numerous discovery, and settlement conferences, and ultimately, the joint petitioners Staff and Rate Counsel executed a stipulation resolving the matter, which was subsequently approved by initial decision issued by Administrative Law Judge Gertsman.

Based on the stipulation, the joint petitioners would receive an overall revenue requirement increase of \$14.5 million, and a return on equity of 9.6 percent. Additionally, the joint petitioners will pass back to Middlesex customers the entire amount of the multi-district litigation settlement proceeds over a 12-month period. In its next base rate case Middlesex will also propose a low-income program proposal.

As a result of the stipulation, the average Middlesex residential customer will see an increase in their quarterly bill of \$21.92. An average Pineland’s water customer will see an increase in their quarterly bill of \$20.51, and a Pinelands Wastewater customer will see an increase in their quarterly bill of \$67.49.

Middlesex customers will also receive a quarterly bill credit of \$5.64 for four billing periods. Staff recommends that the Board adopt the initial decision, and stipulation, and direct the joint petitioners to file revised tariffs by February 19th.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Rebhorn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**D. Docket No. EO26020023 – In the Matter of the Request for Quotation Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 1 – Executive Session.**

**Stacy Peterson, Division of Revenue and Rates**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** Executive Order 1 mandates that within 180 days of its passage, or July 19, 2026, the Board shall complete and issue a study regarding the modernization of the traditional electric distribution utility business model. Consistent with discussion in executive session, Staff recommends that the Board authorize Staff to issue a request for quotation on behalf of the Board to hire a consultant to provide support in the proceeding.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Rebhorn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**3. ENGINEERING**

**A. Docket No. WR25070451 – In the Matter of the Joint Petition of Middlesex Water Company, Pinelands Water Company, and Pinelands Wastewater Company for Approval of a Foundational Filing for Establishing a Resiliency and Environmental System Improvement Charge.**

**Dean Taklif, Division of Engineering**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** On July 30th, 2025, Middlesex Water Company, Pinelands Water Company, and Pinelands Wastewater Company filed a petition with the Board seeking approval to establish, and implement a resiliency, and environmental system improvement charge or (“RESIC”) for the recovery of certain costs of investments for a period of three years.

Following analysis of the foundational filing, the joint petitioners, Rate Counsel and Board Staff executed a stipulation of settlement resolving all issues in this matter. By the stipulation, the joint petitioner's maximum amount of annual RESIC revenues that may be collected is \$3,588,424, or no more than two and a half percent of the joint petitioners combined water and wastewater revenues established in their most recent base rate case.

While there is no immediate rate impact upon approval of the foundational filing, an average residential customer with a 5/8 inch meter may be subjected to a maximum monthly RESIC surcharge of \$1.97. Staff recommends the Board adopt the stipulation.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**B. Docket No. WR25070452 – In the Matter of the Joint Petition of Middlesex Water Company and Pinelands Water Company for Approval of a Foundational Filing for Establishing a Distribution System Improvement Charge.**

**Dean Taklif, Division of Engineering,** presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** On July 30th, 2025, Middlesex Water Company and Pinelands Water Company filed a petition with the Board seeking approval to establish and implement a distribution system improvement charge or (“DSIC”). For the renewal of water distribution system assets for a period of three years. Following a review of the foundation of filing, the joint petitioners, Rate Counsel, and Staff executed a stipulation of settlement resolving all issues in this matter.

By the stipulation, the maximum DSIC revenues that the joint petitioners may collect is \$7,056,818 or 5% of the joint petitioners’ total water revenues established in the company’s most recent base rate case.

While there’s no immediate rate impact upon approval of the foundational filing, the average residential customer with a 5/8 meter may be subjected to a maximum monthly surcharge of \$3.96. Staff recommends the Board adopt the stipulation.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**C. Docket No. EO25080476 – In the Matter of the Petition of Better View Homes Inc., a Corporation of the State of New Jersey.**

**Dean Taklif, Division of Engineering,** presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** On May 29th, 2025 Better View Homes Incorporated filed a petition with the Board seeking a waiver of certain provisions of the Board's main extension rules to allow the petitioner to install an overhead electric extension, including, the main power line wires and utility poles for Pheasant Run Estates in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. On October 10th, 2025, PSE&G filed a response letter stating that PSE&G did not object to Better View's request.

On September 26th, 2025 Rate Counsel filed comments in this matter reiterating the requirements of the main extension rules but took no position on the petition, and recommended the Board proceed using its best judgment. On December 18th, 2025, Rate Counsel filed a letter stating that they had no further comments after reviewing additional discovery responses submitted by the petitioner.

Staff recommends that the Board approve the petitions subject to the conditions set forth in the draft board order.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

#### 4. CABLE TELEVISION

##### A. Docket No. CE25100567 – In the Matter of the Renewal Application for a System-Wide Cable Television Franchise for Cablevision of Hudson County, LLC.

**Lawanda Gilbert, Division of Cable Television,** presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** This matter involves the renewal of a system-wide cable TV franchise for a cable vision of Hudson County serving the five towns. By way of background, on May 11th, 2010, cable Vision of Hudson converted its municipal consent based cable television franchise in the city of Hoboken into a system-wide cable television system.

As provided for in the New Jersey Cable Television Act at N.J.S.A, 48:5A-1. On August 4th, 2010, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities issue an order memorializing the conversion, and granting Cablevision a system-wide franchise for a seven year term. The Board issued further amendments to that franchise during the term adding the townships of North Bergen, Weehawken, the town of West New York, and the City of Union City.

On June 30th, 2017, the Board issued an order renewing the franchise for an additional seven year term, which expired on May 11th, 2024. On July 16th, 2025, the Board issued an ascertainment report on Cablevision's performance under its system-wide franchise and the

future needs of the municipalities served by that franchise. On October 14th, 2025, Cable Vision filed an application for renewal of its franchise with the Board.

Following the filing of the application on November 17th, 2025, the Board held two virtual public hearings on the application for public comment. Written comments were received from the Division of Rate Counsel on November 24th, 2025, stating that upon review, it appeared that the parameters of the Board's statutory criteria outlined for review of the application at N.J.S.A 48:5A-17, and 5A-28 appear to have been met, and they had no objections to approval of the application.

Pursuant to statute, the applicant must meet these specific requirements for operating a system-wide franchise as delineated in those statutory subsections at 5A-28H through N. Cablevision certified it would comply with these commitments including line extensions, public educational, and governmental access channels, interconnection with other cable television companies, free cable and internet service to public schools and municipal buildings, training and equipment for PEG access users, return feeds, and compliance with customer protection regulations. Cablevision has committed to abide by these requirements, as well as maintain its current insurance and performance bond amounts.

Adherence to the requirements for a local office, as well as designation of the OCTV&T as the complaint officer under the franchise. Based on review of the application and supporting documentation received, Board Staff recommends approval of the renewal of Cablevision's franchise for a seven year term subject to the conditions outlined in the order, and all applicable state, and federal laws and rules and regulations of the OCTV&T.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

## **5. TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

There were no items in this category.

## **6. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY**

There were no items in this category.

## **7. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE**

There were no items in this category.

**8. CLEAN ENERGY**

**A. Docket No. QO20110700 – In the Matter of the Contract for a Statewide Evaluator of New Jersey’s Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Programs – Executive Session.**

**Yarden Mach, Division of Clean Energy**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** The Board outlined in the framework for the first program cycle of New Jersey's Energy Efficiency or (“EE”) programs in an order dated June 10th, 2020. A key part of this updated framework was the development of a consistent standard and transparent approach to evaluation, measurement, and verification or (“EM&V”) for EE programs established pursuant to the Clean Energy Act.

The Triennium 1 EE framework order also called for establishment of an EM&V working group to develop recommendations on the state's EM&V practices. The Board directed Staff to solicit the professional service of a statewide evaluator or SWE to facilitate and lead the EM&V working group. On November 21st, 2025, the Board authorized Staff to solicit a consultant to serve as the SWE.

On November 24th, 2025, the procurement bureau of the Division of Purchase and Property within Treasury issued a bid solicitation on behalf of the BPU for SWE. On January 12th, 2026, staff received proposals from two entities. On January 14th, 2026 the evaluation committee, which included Staff, met to evaluate proposals that were eligible for consideration regarding the SWE, and to recommend an award.

Staff is putting forward a recommendation that the Board authorized the award of the SWE RFQ as discussed in the executive session.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Rebhorn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**B. Docket No. QO24060469 – In the Matter of Approval of Department of Environmental Protection’s Request for a No-Cost Extension to the Term Length of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between BPU and DEP for Advancing Geothermal Systems in New Jersey – Executive Session.**

**Kevin Monte De Ramos, Division of Clean Energy**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** The matter before the Board relates to a no-cost extension with our memorandum of understanding with DEP and their subcontractor, NJCAT, regarding geothermal

heating, and cooling systems in New Jersey. The MOU allows the BPU to engage with NJCAT, and through the contract between NJCAT and DEP.

The Board approved a memo of understanding in September of 2023 with an initial term of 18 months. It was extended bringing the revised term to 28 months with an updated end date of January 25th, 2026. As we had discussed in executive session, Staff recommends that the Board approve a second no cost extension. And authorize the Board president to execute any necessary documents to facilitate this extension, and adjust the memo of understanding with the Department of Environmental Protection.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**C. Docket No. QO25120631 – In the Matter of the Clean Energy Program  
Authorization of Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Incentives  
Exceeding \$500,000 – Jersey City Public Schools.**

**Dustin Wang, Division of Clean Energy**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** Jersey City Public Schools submitted an application under the large energy users program requesting Board approval of a financial incentive of \$2,717,606.27 for energy efficiency upgrades at its administration central office, and 22 schools in Jersey City, New Jersey. This proposed project has an anticipated total cost of \$18,465,604.47.

If approved, this application would cover LED light replacements, district wide energy management system implementation, boiler replacements, plug load controls, building envelope improvements, kitchen hood controls, refrigeration controls, water conservation measures, pipe insulation, destratification fans, and steam trap replacements. Annually, this project would conserve 7,508 megawatt hours of electricity, 326 kilotherms of natural gas, and 171 kilowatts of peak demand.

The proposed project will save about \$1.2 million in energy costs and \$5.7 million in operation, and maintenance costs annually. Staff has reviewed the application materials, and found Jersey City Public Schools to be in compliance with the program requirements. Staff recommends approval of the application for the total estimated incentive amount.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**D. Docket No. QO24030199 – In the Matter of Developing Integrated Distributed Energy Resource Plans to Modernize New Jersey's Electric Grid.**

**Natalie Stuart, Division of Clean Energy**, presented in this matter.

**BACKGROUND:** This matter involves the approval of a Board order affirming a request for information (“RFI”) requiring the state's Electric Distribution Companies (“EDCs”) to provide filings to the Board on their compliance with regulations governing interconnection at N.J.A.C. 14:8-5.

On January 20th, 2026, Governor Mikey Sherrill issued an executive order Number 2, which directed the Board to require EDCs to submit the filings within 30 days.

The RFI was published on February 3rd, 2026, 14 days later, as specified in executive order Number 2. This Board order affirms the request and requires that EDCs respond to the RFI on or before 5:00 p.m. on March 5th, 2026. Staff recommends that the Board approve the order affirming the RFI and directing the EDCs to respond within 30 days of the RFI’s publication as specified in executive order number 2.

**Decision:** After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>President Guhl-Sadovy</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Christodoulou</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Bange</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Commissioner Reborn</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
	<b>Commissioner Coviello</b>	<b>Abstain</b>

**9. MISCELLANEOUS**

There were no items in this category.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

*Sherri L. Lewis*

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Sherri L. Lewis  
Board Secretary

Date: 5/21/26