Agenda Date: 2/7/07 Agenda Item: VII A



### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

Customer Assistance

IN THE MATTER OF ADENAH BAYOH
PETITIONER, v. PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC )
AND GAS COMPANY, RESPONDENT.

ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION

BPU Docket No. EC06060434U OAL Docket No. PUC 9717-06

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

#### BY THE BOARD:

On April 20, 2005, Adenah Bayoh (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing in regard to a billing dispute with Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) (Respondent). PSE&G filed an answer on May 18, 2005.

On August 25, 2006, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jeffrey A. Gerson.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement. The Stipulation of Settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On January 4, 2007, ALJ Gerson filed an Initial Decision with the Board, memorializing the terms of the Settlement and recommending that it be approved. The ALJ found the Settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ, therefore, concluded that the Settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

Under the terms of the Settlement, PSE&G agreed to reduce Petitioner's disputed billing amount to \$643.00. The Petitioner agreed to pay \$100.00 per month in addition to Petitioner's current monthly charges for six months.

The Board <u>FINDS</u> that the terms of the Settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 2/4/07

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER

COMMISSIONER

CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDÁLISO COMMISSIONER CHRISTINE V. BATOR COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

BPU Docket No. EC06060434U OAL Docket No. PUC 9717-06

### Adenah Bayoh v. Public Service Electric and Gas Company

## BPU Docket No. EC06060434U OAL Dkt. No. PUC 9717-06

### **SERVICE LIST**

Adenah Bayoh 26 Oak Avenue Irvington, NJ 07111

Thomas P. Thackston, Esq.
Public Service Electric & Gas Company
80 Park Plaza-T5G
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Kent Papsun, Director Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Regina Conlon Bureau of Information Management Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Arlene E. Pasko Deputy Attorney General Division of Law 124 Halsey St. - 5th Floor Newark, NJ 07102







## State of New Jersey OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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BOARD OF PURK N.J.

INITIAL DECISION

**SETTLEMENT** 

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 9717-06

AGENCY DKT. NO. EC 06060434U

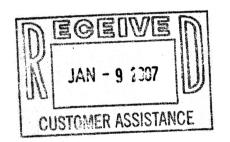
ADENAH BAYOH,

Petitioner.

V.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY.

Respondent.



Adenah Bayoh, pro se

Thomas P. Thackston, Esq., for respondent, PSE&G

Record Closed: December 18, 2006

Decided: December 20, 2006

BEFORE JEFFREY A. GERSON, ALJ:

On September 11, 2006 this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to -15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F1 to -13. The matter was scheduled for a settlement conference on December 18, 2006 and during that time the parties agreed to settle the matter. A Settlement Agreement indicating the terms of settlement was signed by the parties and is attached hereto.

Cm3 Besler LUHF PASKI have reviewed the record and terms of the settlement and FIND:

- 1 The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by the signatures of the parties or their representatives.
- 2. The settlement fully disposes issues in controversy and is consistent with law.

I CONCLUDE that the agreement meets the safeguard requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and, accordingly, I approve the settlement and ORDER that the parties comply with the settlement terms.

I hereby FILE my initial decision with the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10

Dee 2006  DATE  1/4/07 DATE	JEFFREY A. CERSON, ALL Receipt Acknowledged: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES Mailed to Parties:
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State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
33 Washington Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 648-6008

# NORTH

Date: \_\_\_ JAN 2 2007

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

Receipt of the following decisions from the Office of Administrative Law (as well as a copy of this form) is acknowledged as of the date indicated below:

OAL Docket No. PUC	Case Name
7011-0b	MATY ANN CANATES
9717-06	Adenah Bayoh

Board of Public Utilities

2 Gateway Center

Newark, New Jersey 07102

Date:

Board of Public Utilities