Agenda Date: 12/19/07 Agenda Item: VII ★



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

GEORGE STARKMAN,) ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION
PETITIONER	SETTLEMENT
V. UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY, INC., RESPONDENT))) BPU DOCKET NO. WC06080583U) OAL DOCKET NO. PUC10411-06

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On August 6, 2006, George Starkman (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board disputing the bill of United Water New Jersey, Inc. (United) for water service provided at 465 Cliff Street, Fairview, New Jersey.

After the filing of United's answer, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for hearing and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Richard McGill.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on November 15, 2007, and submitted to the Board on November 26, 2007, to which the settlement was attached and made part thereof, ALJ McGill found that the agreement was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it met the requirements of N.J.A.C.1:1-19.1.

Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, of a total water bill of \$3,372.69, United will issue a credit to Petitioner's account in the amount of \$2,372.69 with the balance of \$1,000.00 to be paid on or before November 1, 2007. The parties have agreed that this is in full and final settlement and that the petition in this matter will be deemed withdrawn.

After review and consideration, 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 the Settlement Agreement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 19/21/07

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F BUTLER COMMISSIONER

OSEPH L. FIORDALISO OMMISSIONER

CHRISTINE V. BATOR COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO)

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

GEORGE STARKMAN v. UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY, INC.

BPU Docket No. WC06080583U OAL Docket No. PUC 10411-06

SERVICE LIST

Abraham Kinstlinger, Esq. 9 Atlantic Street Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

John P. Wallace, Esq. 171 East Ridgewood Avenue Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

Eric Hartsfield, Director
Julie Ford-Williams
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New jersey 07102

Arlene Pasko, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street P.O. Box 45029 Newark, New Jersey 07102 CNS
BESCOW
RPA
PASKO
PASKO
QUIROLO
CUSE.NS.E.

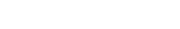


State of New Jersey OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW



INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 10411-06 BPU DKT. NO. WC06080583U



Petitioner,

GEORGE STARKMAN,

٧.

UNITED WATER NEW JERSY,

Respondent.

Abraham Kinstlinger, Esq., for petitioner

John P. Wallace, Esq., for respondent

Record Closed: October 24, 2007 Decided: November 15, 2007

BEFORE RICHARD McGILL, ALJ:

This matter is a billing dispute between George Starkman and United Water New Jersey. The matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on October 11, 2006, for determination as a contested case.

Prior to hearing, the parties agreed to an amicable resolution of the matter and submitted a written Stipulation of Settlement. Having reviewed the record and the settlement terms, I FIND as follows:

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

Therefore, I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement meets the requirements of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 1:1-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the parties comply with the terms of the settlement, and it is **FURTHER ORDERED** that proceedings in this matter be concluded.

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 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.

Nov. 15, 2007	Auly Messe
DATE	RICHARD McGILL, ALJ
Date Received at Agency: (1-76-07)	Floyd Tangli Mailed to Parties:
DATE	OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

07 NOV 26 AM 10: 15

MAIL ROOM



JOHN P. WALLACE 171 East Ridgewood Avenue Ridgewood, NJ 07450 (201) 445-3533 Attorney for Respondent

GEORGE STARKMAN.

Petitioner,

VS.

UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY,

Respondent.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Agency Ref. No. WC06080583U

OAL Docket No.: PUCCC 10411-2006N

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

The parties to this matter having reached a settlement with respect to the above matter, which relates to a disputed bill for fire service charges issued by Respondent for Original Account #996-836-019 - 465 Cliff Street, Fairview, New Jersey, and transferred to Account #999-572-808.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES AS FOLLOWS:

- Respondent, United Water New Jersey, will give a credit to Petitioner in the amount of \$2,372.69 for Account #996-836-019 with respect to a bill of \$3,372.69 for fire service charges.
- Petitioner agrees to pay the balance owed on said account amounting to \$1,000.00 on or before November 1, 2007.
 - 3. Petitioner agrees that the petition in the above matter be and same is hereby withdrawn.

Dated: October 16, 2007

DDAHAM POURT POUR POUR

ABRAHAM KINSTLINGER, ESQ.

JOHN P. WALLACE, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent



MEMBER N.J. AND N.Y. BAR



OCT 2 4 2007

171 EAST RIDGEWOOD AVE. RIDGEWOOD, N.J. 07450

> (201) 445-3533 FAX: (201) 447-0417

October 22, 2007

Honorable Richard McGill
Office of Administrative Law
33 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Re:

Starkman v. United Water New Jersey

Docket No.: WC06080583U

Dear Judge McGill:

The parties in the above matter have resolved their dispute, and in connection therewith, I enclose herewith original and copy of a fully executed Stipulation of Settlement, and ask that the original be filed, and that the copy marked "filed" be returned to my office in the enclosed stamped self-addressed envelope. I presume that the petition will be marked "withdrawn" after the Stipulation is filed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

HN P. WALLACE

JPW:pj Enclosures

cc: Abraham Kinstlinger, Esq.

O7 NOV 26 AM IO: 15

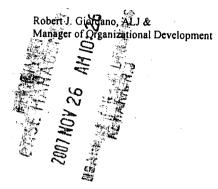
MAIL ROOM



State of New Jersey OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

33 Washington Street Newark, New Jersey 07102 (973) 648-6008 (973-648-6058)





NORTH

Date NOV 1 9 2007

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

We are hereby forwarding to you the following decisions from the office of Administrative Law. Receipt is acknowledged as of the next business day of the date indicated below. Should a listed decision not be included in this batch, please call 973-648-6008.

OAL Docket No. PUC	Case Name
10411-06	George Starkman
	Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102
Date:	Board of Public Utilities