



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
www.nj.gov/bpu/

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

RIKKI REICH,)	
)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION
PETITIONER,)	SETTLEMENT
V.)	
)	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS)	BPU DOCKET NO. EC06110806U
COMPANY,)	OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 11788-06
)	
RESPONDENT)	

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On November 15, 2006, Rikki Reich (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board disputing the bill of Public Service Electric and Gas Company (Respondent) for utility services.

After the filing of Respondent'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. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Walter M. Braswell.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement that was signed by the parties on November 30, 2007 and submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on November 30, 2007 and submitted to the Board on December 6, 2007, to which the settlement was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Braswell 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 settlement, Respondent agreed to issue a credit of \$2,250.00 to Petitioner's account and to reinstate, to the extent that it is no longer in effect, the payment plan by which Petitioner is to pay current charges plus \$75.00 per month toward her outstanding balance of \$2,200.73 over a 30-month period commencing March 20, 2007 and ending September 20, 2009. The settlement also provided that the amount of \$473.56 due on the current

February 2007 bill was to be paid by February 25, 2007.¹ The agreement also provided that the parties would schedule a date upon which the Respondent would replace the current electric and gas meter equipment with equipment that can be read from the outside of Petitioner's premises.

After review and consideration, the Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS 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.

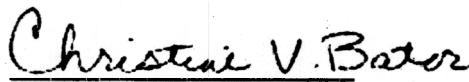
DATED: 1/17/08

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT


FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

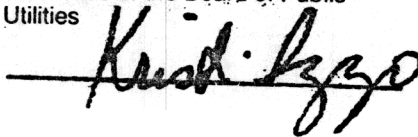

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


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 Utilities



¹ As noted in the Initial Decision, the parties had appeared for a prehearing conference on February 16, 2007 and represented that they had settled the case. Because the ALJ did not receive a fully executed settlement, he scheduled a further hearing on November 30, 2007, at which time a settlement was reached and executed by both parties.

RIKKI REICH

v.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. EC06110806U

OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 11788-06

SERVICE LIST

Rikki Reich
196 Morgan Street
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302

Sheree L. Kelly, Esq.
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T5G
Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194

Eric Hartsfield, Director
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Julie Ford-Williams
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Jessica Campbell, DAG
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07102



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
NEWARK, N.J.

CMS
BESLOW
RPH

PASKO
CUST ASS. 6. ⑦

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 11788-06

AGENCY DKT. NO. EC06110806U

RIKKI REICH,

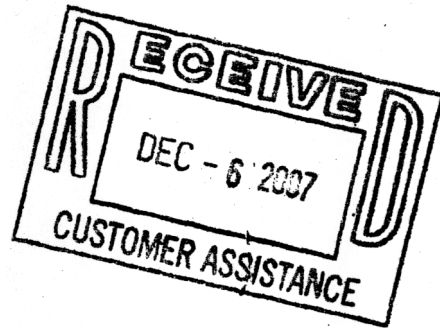
Petitioner,

v.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC &

GAS COMPANY

Respondent.



Rikki Reich, pro se

Sharee Kelly, Esq., appearing on behalf of respondent
(PSE&G Services Corporation)

Record Closed: November 30, 2007

Decided: November 30, 2007

BEFORE WALTER M. BRASWELL, ALJ:

On December 19, 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. 52:14F 1 to- 13. The matter was scheduled for an in person prehearing on February 16, 2007 at which time the parties settled the matter. Several inquiries were made regarding the status of the settlement. Respondent's attorney advised that petitioner had moved and did not return the settlement. On September 27, 2007 the undersigned sent out correspondence stating as follows:

As you know, the above captioned matter was scheduled for an in person prehearing on February 16, 2007, and during the pendency of the case, you

represented that you had settled the case. To date, I have not received a copy of the settlement or any correspondence stating when I would receive same. My secretary has made several inquiries as to the status of this settlement and was told that Ms. Reich has moved and has not returned the settlement to Mr. Thackson as of yet.

Based on the foregoing, if I do not receive a fully executed settlement by October 12, 2007, 4:00p.m. I will expect you present for a hearing on November 30, 2007 @ 8:30a.m. This will be a peremptory hearing, no adjournments will be granted.

The matter was scheduled and conducted on November 30, 2007 and the parties again settled the matter. A Stipulation indicating the terms of settlement was signed by all parties which is attached and made part hereof.

I have reviewed the record and terms of the Stipulation of 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 of all issues in controversy and is consistent with law.

I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and therefore, it is **ORDERED** that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings be and are hereby 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 (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.

November 30, 2007
DATE

Walter M. Braswell
WALTER M. BRASWELL, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: 12-6-07

Floyd Joseph
Mailed to Parties:

DATE
ljb

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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
NEWARK, N.J.

State of New Jersey
Board of Public Utilities

	x	
Rikki Reich,	x	
Petitioner	x	
	x	
v.	x	
	x	BPU Docket No. EC06110806U
Public Service Electric and Gas Company,	x	
Respondent	x	
	x	

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

This matter having been brought before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities by the Petitioner Rikki Reich ("Petitioner"), against Respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") (Petitioner and PSE&G collectively the "Parties") for service rendered by PSE&G to the Petitioner at 196 Morgan Street, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302, and the Parties having agreed to settle this matter hereby set forth the terms and conditions of their settlement agreement as follows:

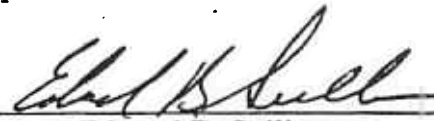
1. PSE&G will issue a credit on the Petitioner's bill of \$2,250.00.
2. PSE&G will reinstate (to the extent it is no longer in effect) the payment plan whereby Petitioner is to pay current charges plus \$75 per month toward her balance of \$2200.73 over a thirty (30) month period commencing March 20, 2007 and ending September 20, 2009.
3. The current monthly amount due for February 2007 is \$473.56. This amount is due February 25.
4. Within two (2) weeks PSE&G is to contact Petitioner to schedule a date (Monday to Friday at the end or beginning of the day) to replace the current gas and electric meter equipment with equipment that can be read from the outside of Petitioner's premises.

Petitioner Rikki Reich

By: 
Rikki Reich

Date: NOV 30, 2007

Respondent PSE&G

By: 
Edward B. Sullivan
Manager Customer Operations

Date: 11/30/07

COPY



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
33 Washington Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 648-6008
(973-648-6058)

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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
NEWARK, N.J.

Robert J. Giordano, ALJ &
Manager of Organizational Development

NORTH

Date DEC 6 2007

CASE MANAGER
2007 DEC -6 AM 9:09
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
NEWARK, N.J.

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
11788-06	Rikki Reich

Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Date: _____

Board of Public Utilities