

Agenda Date: 4/28/10 Agenda Item: 2A

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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

ENERGY	,
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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PIVOTAL UTILITY HOLDINGS, INC. d/b/a ELIZABETHTOWN)	ORDER
GAS CONCERNING ITS PROPOSED CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN)	
WATER TENT)	DOCKET NO. GM07100752

Kenneth T. Maloney and Deborah M. Franco (Cullen and Dykman LLP), Attorneys for the Petitioner, Pivotal Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas

Mary Patricia Keefe, Esq. for Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas

Felicia Thomas-Friel, Esq., Deputy Public Advocate; Henry M. Ogden, Judith B. Appel, Sarah H. Steindel, Kurt Lewandowski and Maria Novas-Ruiz, Assistant Deputy Public Advocates, Division of Rate Counsel (Stefanie A. Brand, Acting Public Advocate)

Alex Moreau and Cynthia Holland, Deputy Attorneys General, for the Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Paula T. Dow, Attorney General of New Jersey)

BY THE BOARD:

On March 19, 2008 in BPU Docket GM07100752, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") authorized Pivotal Utility Holdings Inc., d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas ("Elizabethtown", or "Company") to extend its gas supply and capacity asset management agreement with its affiliate, Sequent Energy Management L.P. ("Sequent") for a three-year term ending March 31, 2010. As a condition of the contract extension, Elizabethtown was required to make a filing with the Board either to competitively bid its asset management and gas supply arrangements or to propose some alternative asset management / gas supply arrangement by no later than March 31, 2010. By Order dated March 19, 2010, the Board approved a thirty day extension of the March 31, 2010 deadline for that filing.

On April 16, 2010, Elizabethtown filed a letter with the Board requesting an additional thirty-one (31) day extension of the previously approved April 30, 2010 deadline for Elizabethtown to make a filing proposing either to competitively bid its asset management and gas supply arrangements or to make other arrangements. The proposed new deadline for the Company's filing is May 31, 2010.

By Order dated December 17, 2009 in BPU Docket GR09030195¹, the Board approved a stipulation that resolved most of the issues in Elizabethtown's base rate proceedings, and established a Phase II to consider certain remaining issues, including the Company's proposal

¹ In the Matter of the Petition of Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a/ Elizabethtown Gas for Approval of Increased Base Tariff Rates and Charges for Gas Services and Other Tariff Revisions, Dkt No. GR09030195.

to establish an Efficiency and Usage Adjustment ("EUA") tariff that would replace the Company's existing Weather Normalization Clause. Representatives of the Company, Board's Staff and the Department of the Public Advocate, Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel"), the only active parties to the base rate case (collectively, "Parties"), are continuing to discuss ways to resolve issues associated with the proposed EUA. According to the Parties, there is a relationship between the EUA and the Company's asset management and gas supply arrangements.

Therefore, Elizabethtown is now requesting an extension of the deadline by which the Company must submit proposals for its future asset management and gas supply activities in order to continue discussions about how those activities may be affected by, and may affect, the Company's EUA proposals.

By letter dated April 19, 2010, Rate Counsel stated that it does not oppose this extension.

DISCUSSION AND FINDING

Based on the Company's representation that a short delay in the filing of the asset management proposal will facilitate discussions of the proposed EUA, the recommendation of Board Staff, and no opposition from Rate Counsel, the Board FINDS that the 31 day extension is reasonable. The Parties will not be prejudiced by this extension because Elizabethtown's current agreement with Sequent does not expire until March 31, 2011, and a 31-day extension of the filing deadline at this time will not adversely affect the ability of the Board or any party to fully consider any alternative asset management and gas supply proposals before the expiration of the current agreement.

Accordingly, the Board <u>HEREBY</u> <u>AUTHORIZES</u> an extension of the deadline by which Elizabethtown must submit proposals for its future asset management and gas supply activities until May 31, 2010.

LEE A. SOLOMON

PRESIDENT

DATED: 4/28/10

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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JEANNE M. FOX

COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

ELIZABETH RANDAL

ATTEST:

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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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PIVOTAL UTILITY HOLIDINGS, INC. d/b/a ELIZABETHTOWN GAS CONCERNING ITS PROPOSED CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN Docket No. GR10010035

Kristi Izzo, Secretary Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

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State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE

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CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

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STEFANIE A. BRAND Acting Public Advocate Director – Rate Counsel

April 19, 2010

Via Hand Delivery

Honorable Kristi Izzo, Secretary Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102

Re:

I/M/O the Petition of Pivotal Utility Holdings Inc. d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas Company Concerning Its Proposed Capacity Management Plan

BPU Docket No.GM07100752

Dear Secretary Izzo:

Please accept this letter and (10) copies in response to the correspondence submitted by Pivotal Utility Holdings d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas Company ("E'Town Gas") dated April 16, 2010 in the above- mentioned matter. Kindly date-stamp one copy and return with the messenger.

On behalf of the Department of the Public Advocate, Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel"), please be advised that our office does not oppose the request by E'Town Gas to further extend the deadline from April 30, 2010 to May 31, 2010 to file a proposal concerning competitive bidding of the Company's assets.

It is also Rate Counsel's understanding that the May 31st filing will contain a proposal to address the Phase II issues outlined in the Stipulation of the base rate case adopted by the Board in its December 17, 2009 Order, Docket No.GR09030195.

Very truly yours,

STEFANIE A. BRAND Acting Public Advocate & Director, Division of Rate Counsel

By: Selicia Thomas - Sriel, Esq.
Felicia Thomas-Friel
Deputy Public Advocate

FTF/be cc: Service list (via electronic mail)