



Agenda Date: 7/23/14
Agenda Item: VIIC

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

KEUM LEE,)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL
Petitioner)	DECISION SETTLEMENT
)	
V.)	
)	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,)	BPU DOCKET NO. EC14020162U
Respondent)	OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 05136-14

Parties of Record:

Keum Lee, appearing pro se
Alexander C. Stern, Esq., appearing on behalf of Respondent, Public Service and Gas Company

BY THE BOARD:

On February 19, 2014, Keum Lee ("Petitioner") filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting a formal hearing related to a billing dispute with Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("Respondent") for utility services rendered by Respondent.

On April 28, 2014, 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. This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") James A. Geraghty.

While this matter was pending at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and entered into and signed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") that was submitted to the ALJ. By Initial Decision issued on June 25, 2014 and received by the Board on June 30, 2014, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Geraghty found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy and that it satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

Pursuant to the Stipulation, the parties have entered into an agreement and in the interest of resolving on a final basis all outstanding issues in this matter without further delay, extensive effort and costs, that the Respondent shall credit the account of Petitioner in the sum of \$5,000, leaving a remaining arrearage balance of \$4,305.12. Petitioner has agreed to timely pay for electric and gas service, as well as enter into a Deferred Payment Plan ("DPA") the remaining

balance. Petitioner agrees to make 14 supplemental payments of \$300 per month in addition to paying that which is due and owing for the billing period, followed by a 1 month payment of \$105.12 to fully cover the DPA deficiency, commencing with the July 2014 bill.

If the Petitioner fails to keep the above referenced DPA or make current payments for gas and electric utility service, Respondent will be entitled to all amounts due and owing under the settlement and may exercise its authority in accordance with its tariff.


After review of the Initial Decision and the Stipulation of Settlement of the parties, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the Stipulation as evidenced by their signatures and that by the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement have fully resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter.


Accordingly, the Board **HEREBY ADOPTS** the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement executed by the parties in their entirety as if set forth at length herein.

DATED: 7/23/14

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


DIANNE SOLOMON
PRESIDENT


JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER

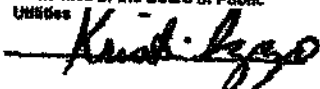

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
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



KEUM LEE

v.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

BPU DOCKET NO. EC14020162U

OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 05136-14

SERVICE LIST

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State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

REC'D
2014 JUN 30 PM 1 51
NJ DPU
CASE MANAGEMENT

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 05 36-14

AGENCY DKT. NO. EC 14020162U

KEUM LEE,

Petitioner,

v.

**PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS
COMPANY,**

Respondent.

Keum Lee, petitioner, pro se

Alexander C. Stern, Esq., for respondent

Record Closed: June 24, 2014

Decided: June 25, 2014

BEFORE JAMES A. GERAGHTY, ALJ:

This matter concerns a billing dispute by petitioner Keum Lee against respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company. The Board of Public Utilities transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), where it was filed on April 29, 2014, for hearing 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 parties have agreed to settle this matter and have prepared the attached Stipulation of Settlement indicating the terms of settlement

I have reviewed the record and the settlement terms and **FIND:**


- 1 The parties have agreed to settle this matter and have prepared the attached agreement indicating the terms of settlement.
- 2 The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with the law.

I **CONCLUDE** that this agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 17:27-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. I approve the settlement and, therefore, **ORDER** that the parties comply with the settlement terms and that these proceedings 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.

6/25/14
DATE



JAMES A. GERAGHTY, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: _____

Date Mailed to Parties: _____

jb

Keum Lee)

Stipulation

v)

of

PSE & G)

Settlement

BPU Dkt No. EC 14020162U

OTH Dkt No. DUC 05136-2014N

On or about March 3, 2014, Petitioner filed the above-referenced billing dispute, PSE&G filed an to the petition and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities transmitted the matter to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case for adjudication.

In the interests of resolving this matter amicably and to avoid further delay and costs to the parties, the parties have agreed to settle this matter in accordance with the following terms:

1. Although not agreeing with the merits of the allegations expressed in the petition, in the interests of good customer relations, PSE&G agrees to credit Petitioner's account \$5,000.00.

2. After application of the \$5,000 bill credit referenced in paragraph 1, Petitioner acknowledges that there will still be an outstanding overdue balance owed to PSE&G totaling \$4,305.12.

3. Petitioner agrees to timely pay his PSE&G bills for electric and gas service, as well as to enter into a deferred payment arrangement ("DPA") with PSE&G to pay off the \$4,305.12 settlement amount agreed to at the time of settlement.

4. In addition to current bills due and owing, Petitioner agrees to make 14 supplemental payments of \$300 per month followed by a one month payment of \$105.12 in the 15th month in addition to monthly utility bills commencing with his July 2014 bill.

5. If Petitioner fails to keep the agreement as set forth in the DPA established in paragraph 4 above and/or fails to make payments associated with current electric and gas service, Petitioner understands that PSE&G would be entitled to all amounts due and owing under the settlement being entered into and that PSE&G may exercise its authority in accordance with its tariffs and

the provisions of N.J.A.C. 14:3-3A1 et seq.
~~to~~

6. This agreement is in full settlement of the Petition filed by Petitioner on or about March 3, 2014.

7. The undersigned agree that this Settlement contains mutually balancing and interdependent provisions and is intended to be accepted and approved in its entirety. In the event any particular aspect of this Settlement is not accepted and approved by the Board or modified by the Board, the party that is adversely affected by the modification can either accept the modification or declare this Settlement to be null and void, and the parties shall be placed in the same position that they were in immediately prior to its execution.

Dated: 6-24-14

PSEG Services Corporation
 Attorneys For PSEG

Alexandra C. Han

PSEG

x Janet Webb 6-24-14

Kevin Lee

x [Signature]