Agenda Date: 4/15/15 Agenda Item: 2A



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/

		ENERGY
IN THE MATTER OF THE PROVISION OF BASIC GENERATION SERVICE FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2015 - ROCKLAND ELECTRIC)	DECISION AND ORDER
COMPANY'S PROCUREMENT PROCESS)	Docket No. ER140403370

Parties of Record:

Margaret Comes, Esq., Senior Attorney for Rockland Electric Company Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On July 1, 2014, the four New Jersey electric distribution companies ("EDCs"), consisting of Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE"), Jersey Central Power & Light Company ("JCP&L"), Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G"), and Rockland Electric Company ("RECO"), filed a Joint EDC Proposal for Basic Generation Service ("BGS") consisting of a generic proposal for BGS for the period beginning on June 1, 2015 and including proposed preliminary auction rules for the auctions to procure needed electric supply and related services a Supplier Master Agreement, and certain Company specific addenda.

RECO, as part of its Company specific addenda, proposed a separate process to secure the full service requirements for BGS customers in the Company's service territory outside of the area served through PJM - its Central and Western Divisions - for the period commencing June 1, 2015. The Central and Western Divisions of RECO's service territory are physically connected to the NYISO.

On November 24, 2014 the Board issued an Order ("November 24 Order") providing it would defer making a decision regarding how RECO should procure the full service requirements for BGS customers in its Central and Western Divisions. The Board explained that Staff was still in discussions with RECO on the procurement process, and would bring the issue back to the Board for its review at a future date.

On February 5, 2015, after discussions with Board Staff and the Board's BGS consultant, Boston Pacific Company, Inc. ("Boston Pacific"), RECO filed an amended proposal to secure the full service requirements for BGS customers in the Company's service territory lying outside of the area served through PJM for the period commencing June 1, 2015 ("RECO Filing").

Comments on the RECO Filing were due on March 13, 2015, while Reply Comments were due on March 20, 2015. Neither Comments nor Reply Comments were filed with the Board by any party.

ROCKLAND'S PROPOSAL

To address the capacity needs of its Central and Western Divisions, RECO proposes to purchase capacity from the NYISO monthly capacity market and blend its forecast of those prices into the BGS-RSCP price ("Capacity Transaction"). This is the same proposal approved by the Board in its November 22, 2013 Order, Docket No. ER13050378.

To address the energy needs of its Central and Western Divisions, RECO proposes to enter into a bi-lateral agreement or agreements to hedge the costs of energy purchases from the NYISO. The bi-lateral agreement or agreements may be either a financial hedge, where no energy commodity is provided by the counter party, or a physical hedge in which the counter party will provide the energy commodity ("Energy Transactions"). In the case of the energy financial hedge agreement, RECO must still purchase the physical electric supply needed to meet its full service obligations of its Central and Western Divisions. RECO intends to make such purchases from markets administered by the NYISO.

According to the proposal, RECO will seek bids on physical and financial transactions for NYISO ZONE G energy for the periods specified below. For the Energy Transactions, RECO is proposing to procure agreements to cover the period of June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2018 and will seek pricing for the following four periods:

Year 1: June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016;
 Year 2: June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017;
 Year 3: June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018; and
 Blended price: June 1, 2015 through May 31 2018.

RECO is proposing to review the bids received with Board Staff and Boston Pacific, and select a winning bid that is most competitive and consistent with market conditions. RECO is proposing to submit the winning bid(s) to the Board for approval by 2:00 p.m. the day before the Board agenda meeting to review the results of the RECO Energy and Capacity Transaction procurement.

Further, RECO is proposing that in the event that the bids RECO receives do not reflect market conditions, the Board does not approve the winning bidder, or the bidder defaults on the bid agreement, RECO will report the failed procurement, and proceed to implement the default procurement process. Under the default process as proposed by RECO, the company will purchase the energy needs of its BGS customers in the Central and Western Divisions in the

NYISO Day-Ahead and Real-Time Markets, and blend its forecast of those prices into the BGS-RSCP price obtained in the BGS Auction approved by Order dated February 12, 2015. RECO further proposes that in the event it has to make purchases from the NYISO market, it will make a monthly compliance filing with the Board indicating the actual prices paid for energy.

DISCUSSION AND FINDING

The Board reviewed the RECO Filing as part of the method of satisfying the Company's supply requirements for its non-PJM service areas within New Jersey for the supply period of June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2018. The Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> the RECO Filing to be an acceptable means to satisfy the Company's obligation to obtain the energy and capacity needs of its customers located outside of PJM at prices consistent with market conditions as required by N.J.S.A. 48:3-57, subject to the following modifications:

- 1. The Board <u>HEREBY DIRECTS</u> RECO to implement the Capacity Transaction for the period June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016. Further, the Board <u>HEREBY DIRECTS</u> RECO to make a monthly compliance filing with the Board indicating the actual prices paid for capacity from the markets administered by the NYISO when RECO completes the Capacity Transaction for the BGS customers located in its Central and Western Divisions in the NYISO monthly capacity market.
- 2. In the event that the Energy Transaction as proposed by RECO causes the default procurement process to be implemented, the Board <u>HEREBY DIRECTS</u> RECO to purchase the physical electric supply needed to meet its full service obligations from markets administered by the NYISO on the NYISO Day-Ahead and Real Time Markets for the period from June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016, and to flow those prices through to BGS-RSCP customers. Further, the Board <u>HEREBY DIRECTS</u> RECO to make a monthly compliance filing with the Board indicating the actual prices paid for energy from markets administered by the NYISO if the default process is implemented.

3. The Board **HEREBY DIRECTS** RECO to make a compliance filing, including tariff sheets reflecting BGS-RSCP rates to be implemented on June 1, 2015, within 5 business days of this Board Agenda meeting. The Board HEREBY AUTHORIZES Staff after reviewing RECO's compliance filing, including the required tariff sheets, to request that the Board Secretary issue a compliance letter of approval if Staff finds the filing satisfies the directives in this Order.

DATED:

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

RICHARD S. MROZ **PRESIDENT**

JÓSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

DIANNE SOLOMON

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KENNETH J. SHEEHAN

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 Provision of Basic Generation Service For the Period Beginning June 1, 2015 Docket No. ER14040370 Service List

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