Agenda Date: 5/31/17 Agenda Item: VIIC



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

		CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE
CRYSTAL JENNINGS-ROGERS, Petitioner,)	ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT
V.	ý	
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY, Respondent.)))	BPU DOCKET NO. EC16080784U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 14874-16

Parties of Record:

Crystal Jennings-Rogers, Petitioner, pro se **Hesser McBride**, **Esq.**, for Respondent, Public Service Electric & Gas Company

BY THE BOARD:

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

By petition filed with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") on August 11, 2016, ("Petition"), Crystal Jennings-Rogers ("Petitioner" or "Ms. Jennings-Rogers") disputed charges associated with electric service provided to her residence in East Orange, New Jersey by Public Service Electric & Gas Company ("PSE&G", "Respondent", or "Company"), and requested a full credit for the bills in question.

Respondent, in its answer dated September 12, 2016, denied the allegations that Petitioner was incorrectly billed. Respondent contended that services were supplied and billed in accordance with terms and conditions and rate schedules set forth in its Board-approved Tariff.

On September 28, 2016, the Board transferred the matter to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing as a contested case pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14B-1 <u>et seq.</u> and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:14F-1 <u>et seq.</u>

The case was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Danielle Pasquale.

The parties subsequently voluntarily agreed to resolve the matter and entered into a signed Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") that was submitted to the ALJ on May 9, 2017.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and in order to fully resolve this matter, PSE&G agreed to credit \$4,000.00 to Ms. Jennings-Rogers' account. Once the credit is applied, Ms. Jennings-

Agenda Date: 5/31/17 Agenda Item: VIIC

Rogers will have a balance due of \$8,783.57. Under the terms of the stipulation, she agreed to enter into a forty-eight (48) month deferred payment arrangement ("DPA") with PSE&G to pay off the balance. Ms. Jennings-Rogers agreed to make forty-eight (48) consecutive monthly payments of \$183.00, due on company records by the 24th of each month. The Stipulation provides that if the DPA is broken, PSE&G can proceed with regular collection activity pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:3-7.7.

By Initial Decision issued on May 9, 2017, and submitted to the Board on May 12, 2017, to which the Stipulation was attached and made part thereof, ALJ Pasquale 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.

After review of the Initial Decision and the Stipulation, the Board HEREBY FINDS that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures and that, by the terms of the Stipulation, they have fully resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter. Accordingly, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and the Stipulation executed by the parties in their entirety as if fully set forth herein. The Stipulation is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

The effective date of this Order is June 10, 2017.

DATED: 5/31/17

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

BY:

RICHARDS. MAROZ PRESIDENT

OSEPHY. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

DIAŇNE SOLOMO!

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

IRENE KIM ASBURY **SECRETARY**

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

J. CHIVUKULA

Agenda Date: 5/31/17 Agenda Item: VIIC

CRYSTAL JENNINGS-ROGERS

V.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY BPU DOCKET NO. EC16080784U OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 14874-16

SERVICE LIST

Crystal Jennings-Rogers 29 North 18th Street East Orange, New Jersey 07017

Hesser McBride, Esq. Law Department – Regulatory PSE&G 80 Park Plaza, T5 Newark, New Jersey 07102-4194

Eric Hartsfield, Director
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
<u>Eric.hartsfield@bpu.nj.gov</u>

Julie Ford-Williams, Chief
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Julie ford@bpu.nj.gov

Renee Greenberg, Esq.
Deputy Attorney General
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
Post Office Box 45029
Newark, NJ 07101-45029
Renee.Greenberg@dol.lps.state.nj.us

MAY 12 2017

C/55



MAY 12 2017

MAL RECEVED

State of New Jersey OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 14874-16 AGENCY DKT. EC16080784U

CRYSTAL JENNINGS-ROGERS.

Petitioner,

٧.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,

Respondent.

Crystal Jennings-Rogers, petitioner, pro se

Hesser McBride, Esq., for respondent, (P.S.E. & G., attorney)

Record Closed: May 9, 2017

Decided: May 9, 2017

BEFORE DANIELLE PASQUALE, ALJ:

the hearing, the matter was settled.

Cms

V. Haynes

D. Lee Thomas

E. Hartsfield

J. Ford

R. Lambert

R. Matos

D. Brantley B. Agee

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on September c. Vachie 29, 2016, for determination 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. On May 9, 2017 the matter was scheduled for hearing, at

The parties have agreed to a settlement and have prepared a settlement agreement indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein.

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

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures and the representions and thorough voir dire in court.

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. 1:1-19.1 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.

May 9, 2017

DATE

52:14B-10:

Date Received at Agency:

Date Mailed to Parties:

MAY **10** 2017

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

DANIELLE PASQUALE, ALJ

rr

STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Crystal Jenning Rodgers Petitioner,) STIDIT ATION OF SECTION FRANCES
i chionei,)	STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT
v.)	OAL Docket No. PUC 14874-16
)	BPU Docket No. EC16080784U
)	•
Public Service Electric and Gas Compa	ny)	•
Respondent.)	
)	

On or about August 16 , 2016, Petitioner filed a petition in the above-referenced billing dispute.

In the interests of resolving this matter without further delay, extensive effort, and costs, Petitioner and PSE&G agree to settle this matter on the following terms:

- 1) PSE&G will credit customers account ending in 324 o7 in the amount of \$ 4,000
- 2) Petitioner hereby enters into a 48 month deferred payment arrangement (DPA) on the remaining outstanding balance of \$2735 on account number ending 324 07.
- 3) Petitioner's payments under the DPA start with the June, 2017 billing. Petitioner shall pay her monthly charges plus \$_/\(\varphi\)\(\varphi
- 4) If the DPA is broken, PSE&G can proceed with regular collection activity as noted in New Jersey Administrative Code N.J.A.C. 14:3-7.7.
- 5) This Agreement resolves and settles the dispute captioned above; Respondent and Petitioner agree that no claims or grievances can be later adjudicated relating thereto.
- 6) The undersigned agree that this Settlement contains mutually balancing and interdependent provisions and is intended to be accepted and approved in its entirety.

	PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS/CO.
	DATED: 5-9-17 BY: Hesser McBride Esq.
	DATED: 59-17 By: James Walsh, PSE&G Customer Operations
•	DATED: 5/9/17 By: Crystal Jennings Rodgers