



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

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

Michael Price,
Petitioner

v.

South Jersey Gas Company,
Respondent

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ORDER ADOPTING
INITIAL DECISION

BPU DOCKET NO. GC18070840U
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 15635-18

Parties of Record:

Michael Price, petitioner, pro se
Van L. McPherson, III, Esq., Corporate Counsel, South Jersey Industries, Inc., for
respondent, South Jersey Gas Company

BY THE BOARD:

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Michael Price ("Petitioner"), filed a Petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") on June 30, 2018 disputing charges associated with service provided by South Jersey Gas Company ("SJG" or the "Company"). In the Petition, Petitioner alleged SJG incorrectly billed Petitioner's account. At issue was an outstanding balance of \$2,559.83.

SJG, in its Answer dated August 23, 2018, denied the allegation that Petitioner was incorrectly billed. SJG contended that services were supplied and billed in accordance with terms and conditions and rate schedules set forth in its Board approved Tariff. The Company requested that the relief sought be denied on the basis that Petitioner failed to set forth a claim upon which relief may be granted.

On October 24, 2018, the Board transferred the matter to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a 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 case was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Elaine B. Frick.

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 1, 2019. Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, SJG and Petitioner agreed to resolve matter by having Petitioner

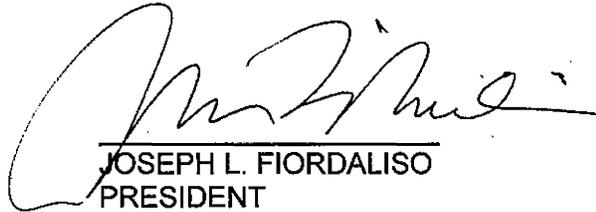
make three equal payments of \$300, one on June 1, 2019, one on July 1, 2019 and one on August 1, 2019, for a total of \$900. These payments constitute a full settlement of the dispute. By Initial Decision issued on May 8, 2019, and submitted to the Board on May 13, 2019, ALJ Frick found that the Stipulation was voluntary, that its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy, was consistent with the law, and satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

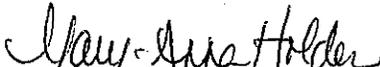
After review of the Initial Decision and the Stipulation, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures and that, by the terms of the Stipulation, they have fully resolved all outstanding contested issues in this matter. Accordingly,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

The effective date of this Order is June 22, 2019.

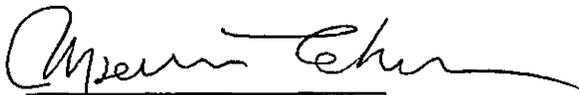
DATED: 6/12/19

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

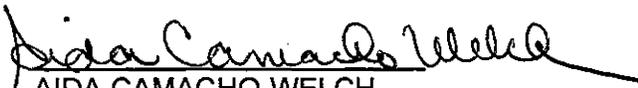

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
PRESIDENT


MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER


DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER


UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA
COMMISSIONER


ROBERT M. GORDON
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: 
AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH
SECRETARY

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

MICHAEL PRICE

V.

SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY

**BPU DOCKET NO. GC18070840U
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 15635-18**

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MAY 13 2019

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 15635-18
AGENCY DKT. NO. GC18070840U

MICHAEL PRICE,
Petitioner,

v.

SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY,
Respondent.

Michael Price, petitioner, pro se

Van L. McPherson, III, Esq., Corporate Counsel, South Jersey Industries, Inc.,
for respondent, South Jersey Gas Company

Record Closed: May 1, 2019

Decided: May 8, 2019

BEFORE ELAINE B. FRICK, ALJ:

This matter was filed with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on October 26, 2018, for a determination as a contested case, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to B-15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 to F-13.

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K. Graner
D. Thomas
Legal / S. Patra
DAG
Customer Assis
C. Vachier

The parties agreed to a settlement of all issues in dispute and signed a written Settlement Agreement (J-1) on May 1, 2019, which is attached hereto and fully incorporated herein.

I have reviewed the record and the terms of the settlement. I heard testimony from the parties and/or their representatives, who confirmed the terms of settlement upon the record on May 1, 2019, and confirmed their intent to comply with same. I therefore **FIND** as **FACTS** the following:

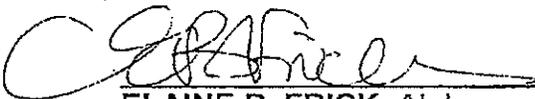
1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures, and as confirmed on the record on May 1, 2019.
2. The settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with the law.

I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement (J-1) meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 17:1-19.1. Thus, I **CONCLUDE** the settlement should be approved. I 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.

May 8, 2019
DATE


ELAINE B. FRICK, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: 5.13.19

Date Mailed to Parties: _____

/dm

Attachment

Michael Price v. South Jersey Gas Company

J-1
05/01/2019

Case Docket: PUC 15635-2018

Agency # GC 18070840-U

In the matter of Price v. South Jersey Gas, the parties agreed to resolve the bill dispute for 200 E. Plaza Place and 207 W. Plaza Place in the amount of \$900. Mr. Price agrees to make the payments as follows: \$300 on June 1, 2019, \$300 on July 1, 2019, and \$300 on August 1, 2019.

With this payment, Mr. Price will withdraw his BPU Complaint and South Jersey Gas shall deem his balance as of the date of this agreement of \$2,559.83 satisfied. Mr. Price shall remain responsible for his ongoing gas charges. Both parties recognize that they must comply with the terms of this agreement.

Petitioner

Respondent

MP
Michael Price, ~~Petitioner~~

VLM
Van L. McPherson III, Esq.

Date

5-1-19

5/1/19

Date

S. Miller
Sarah Miller

5/1/19

Date