



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

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

JACOB TORKIEH,)	ORDER ADOPTING
Petitioner,)	INITIAL DECISION
)	
v.)	
)	BPU Docket No. EC18121329U
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS)	OAL Docket No. PUC 08606-19
COMPANY)	
Respondent.)	

Parties of Record:

Jacob Torkieh, petitioner *pro se*
Sheree L. Kelly, Esq., Assistant General Regulatory Counsel for respondent

BY THE BOARD:

The within matter is a billing dispute between Jacob Torkieh ("Petitioner") and Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent"). This Order sets forth the background and procedural history of petitioner's claims and represents the Final Order in the matter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 to -15 and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 to -13. Having reviewed the record, the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") now **ADOPTS** the Initial Decision rendered on October 25, 2019, as follows.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On or about December 11, 2018, petitioner filed a Petition with the Board requesting a formal hearing, alleged that respondent was inaccurately billed his account and claimed that the respondent billed his new account based on projected usage of the property submitted by the electrician. Petitioner requested that the Board provide assistance in resolving this matter with the respondent.

Respondent filed an Answer to the Petition, dated May 22, 2019. Respondent contended that the 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 June 18, 2019, this matter was transmitted by the Board to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing 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. This matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Jude-Anthony Tiscornia.

A Stipulation of Settlement was agreed; between respondent and petitioner dated November 6, 2019 resolving all issues in this matter.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

Pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and to resolve this matter, parties have agreed that the total balance due as of October 7, 2019 is \$4,144.03. The petitioner will enter into a three (3) month deferred payment arrangement (DPA). Petitioner's payment under the DPA will start with the November 5, 2019 billing statement. Petitioner shall pay the monthly charges plus \$1,381.00 for two (2) consecutive months, due by the 24th of each month. The third payment will be the current bill plus \$1,382.03. If the DPA is broken, respondent can proceed with regular collection activity as noted in New Jersey Administrative Code N.J.A.C. 14:3-7.7.

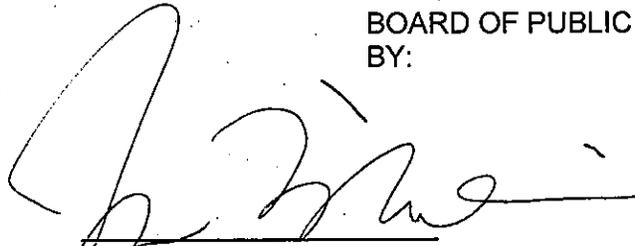
By Initial Decision issued on November 8, 2019, and submitted to the Board on November 12, 2019, ALJ Tiscornia found that the Stipulation was voluntary, its terms fully disposed of all issues in controversy, it was consistent with the law, and that it satisfied the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

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.

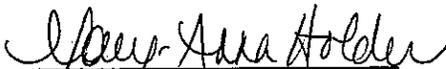
The effective date of this Order is December 16, 2019.

DATED: 12/6/19

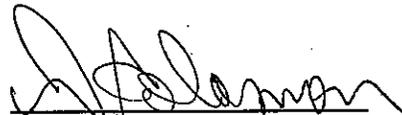
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:



JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
PRESIDENT



MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER



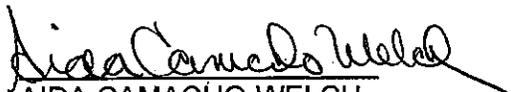
DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER



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.

JACOB TORKIEH, PETITIONER

V.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY, RESPONDENT

**BPU DOCKET NO. EC18121329U
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 08606-19**

SERVICE LIST

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RECEIVED
CASE SETTLEMENT
NOV 12 2019
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 08606-19

APPEAL NO.: EC18121329U

JACOB TORKIEH,

Petitioner,

v.

**PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS
COMPANY,**

Respondent.

Jacob Torkieh, petitioner pro se

**Sheree L. Kelly, Esq., Assistant General Regulatory Counsel for
respondent**

Record Closed: November 8, 2019

Decided: November 8, 2019

BEFORE JUDE-ANTHONY TISCORNIA, ALJ:

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) from the Board of Public Utilities on June 25, 2018, for hearing 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. The parties reached an amicable resolution of the matter, and submitted the Settlement Agreement indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein. I have reviewed the record and the settlement terms and **FIND:**

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

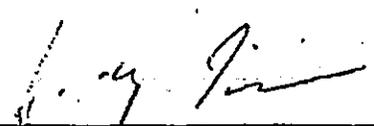
Therefore, I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the parties comply with the settlement terms, and it is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the proceedings in this matter be concluded.

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.

November 8, 2019

DATE



JUDE-ANTHONY TISCORNIA, ALJ

Date Received at Agency: _____

Date Mailed to Parties: _____

id

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF ADMIN. LAW

Jacob Torkieh)
)
) Petitioner,)
)
) v.)
)
) Public Service Electric and Gas Company)
) Respondent.)

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

OAL Docket No. PUC 8606-19
BPU Docket No. EC1812121329U

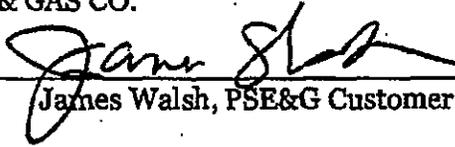
On or about December 3, 2018, Petitioner filed a petition in the above-referenced billing dispute.

This matter having been brought before the Office of Administrative Law by the Petitioner, Jacob Torkieh ("Petitioner") for his business named 208 Clifton Place LLC, against Respondent Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Respondent") for utility service rendered by PSE&G to 255-259 Fabyan Place, Newark, N.J. 07112 (the "Property") and the Parties having agreed to settle this matter, hereby set forth the terms and conditions of their settlement agreement as follows:

- 1) Petitioner total balance due as of 10/7/19 is \$4,144.03. The petitioner will enter into a 3 month deferred payment arrangement (DPA).
- 2) Petitioner's payments under the DPA start with the November 5, 2019 billing statement. Petitioner shall pay the monthly charges plus \$1,381.00 for 2 consecutive months, due on company records by the 24th of each month. The third payment will be the current bill plus \$1,382.03.
- 3) 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.
- 4) This Agreement resolves and settles the dispute captioned above; Respondent and Petitioner agree that no claims or grievances can be later adjudicated relating thereto.
- 5) The undersigned agree that this Settlement contains mutually balancing and interdependent provisions and is intended to be accepted and approved in its entirety.

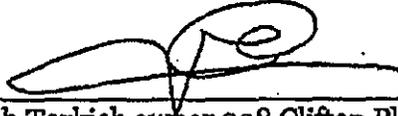
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS CO.

DATED: 11-6-19

By: 
James Walsh, PSE&G Customer Operations

DATED: 11/1/19

Signed copies on file

By: 
Jacob Torkieh owner 228 Clifton Place LLC