



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**Two Gateway Center**  
**Newark, NJ 07102**  
**www.bpu.state.nj.us**

Customer Assistance

DOLORES FORTES, PETITIONER, v. JERSEY	)	<u>ORDER ADOPTING</u>
CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY,	)	<u>INITIAL DECISION</u>
RESPONDENT.	)	<u>SETTLEMENT</u>

BPU Docket No. EC06030225U  
OAL Docket No. PUC 2817-06

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On March 17, 2006, Dolores Fortes (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing in regard to a billing dispute with Jersey Central Power & Light Company (Respondent). On April 24, 2006, Respondent filed an answer.

On April 26, 2006, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination 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. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) John R. Futey.

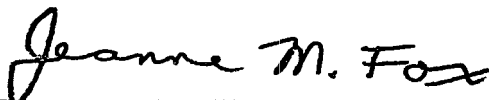
During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement. The settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On February 8, 2007, ALJ Futey filed an Initial Decision with the Board, memorializing the terms of the settlement and recommending that it be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

Under the terms of the settlement, the outstanding balance as of February 2007 was \$1,042.93. Respondent agreed to credit Petitioner's account in the amount of \$200.00. Respondent and Petitioner established a monthly payment plan for the balance of \$842.93 consisting of payment of the current bill plus an additional payment of \$70.25 each month for twelve months until the \$842.93 is paid in full.

The Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 3/22/07

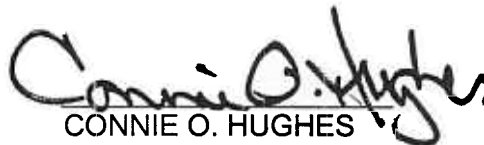
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:



JEANNE M. FOX  
PRESIDENT



FREDERICK F. BUTLER  
COMMISSIONER



CONNIE O. HUGHES  
COMMISSIONER

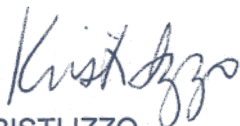


JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
COMMISSIONER



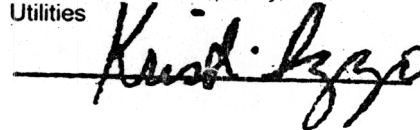
CHRISTINE V. BATOR  
COMMISSIONER

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



BPU Docket No. EC06030225U  
OAL Docket No. PUC 2817-06

Dolores Fortes v. Jersey Central Power & Light Company

BPU Docket No. EC06030225U

OAL Dkt. No. PUC 2817-06

**SERVICE LIST**

Ms. Dolores Fortes  
96 Clyne Avenue  
Spotswood, New Jersey 08884

Julie Friedberg, Esq.  
Thelen Reid & Priest  
200 Campus Drive, Suite 210  
Florham Park, New Jersey 07932

Regina Conlon  
Bureau of Information Management  
Board of Public Utilities  
Two Gateway center  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Kent Papsun, Director  
Division of Customer Assistance  
Board of Public Utilities  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, NJ 07102

Arlene E. Pasko, Esq.  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey St. - 5th Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102



RECEIVED  
MAIL ROOM

07 FEB -8 PM 1:39

State of New Jersey  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
NEWARK, N.J.

CMS  
BESLOW  
RPA  
SLUTZKY  
PISKO  
HILARIO  
CUST. ASS. (2)

INITIAL DECISION

SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 2817-06

AGENCY DKT. NO. EC06030225U

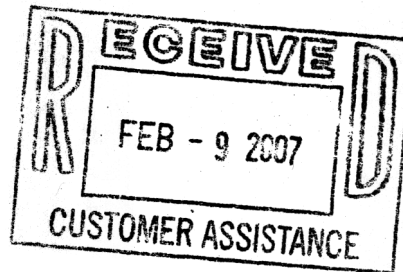
**DOLORES FORTES**

Petitioner,

v.

**JERSEY CENTRAL POWER  
& LIGHT COMPANY**

Respondent.



2007  
1-1-07

**Dolores Fortes**, petitioner appearing pro se, (but assisted by her son  
Richard Fortes)

**Julie Friedberg**, Esq., appearing for respondent, (Thelen Reid & Priest,  
attorneys)

Record Closed: February 2, 2007

Decided: February 5, 2007

**BEFORE JOHN R. FUTEY, ALJ:**

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law on May 9, 2006, 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. A hearing was scheduled for February 2, 2007. At the hearing, the parties negotiated the matter.

The parties subsequently agreed to a settlement and have prepared a stipulation of settlement indicating the terms thereof, which is attached and fully incorporated herein. (J-1)

After being placed under oath, the parties stated that they understood and agreed to the terms of settlement.

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

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures, as well as their testimony under oath.
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.

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.

February 5, 2007  
DATE

John R. Futey  
JOHN R. FUTEY, ALJ  
Receipt Acknowledged

2-8-07  
DATE

Floyd Ganga Jr.  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mailed to Parties:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE  
JRF/mamf

\_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 2817-06

**EXHIBITS**

**Jointly submitted**

J-1 Stipulation of Settlement

1/M/O Delores Fortes : BPU Docket No. EC06030229  
v. Jersey Central Power : PAL Docket No. PUCCC  
& Light Company - : 02817-20063  
Billing Dispute :

### STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, the parties to the instant matter have satisfactorily resolved their dispute,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS STIPULATED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The currently outstanding and overdue amount of petitioner's bill is \$1,042.93.
- (2) JCP&L has agreed to issue petitioner a goodwill credit in the amount of \$200.00, on petitioner's next bill issued by JCP&L for electric service.



WHEREAS, the parties to the instant matter have satisfactorily resolved their dispute,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS STIPULATED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The currently outstanding and overdue amount of petitioner's bill is \$1,042.93.
- (2) JCP&L has agreed to issue petitioner a goodwill credit in the amount of \$200.00, on petitioner's next bill issued by

~~(3)~~

- (3) Petitioner will pay the remaining outstanding amount, \$842.93, in 2 equal monthly installments, beginning

with the next bill for electric service  
issued by JCP&L.

~~By~~ Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Respondent  
~~Barbara Sheridan~~  
By: Barbara Sheridan

X ~~Dolores Fones~~  
Dolores Fones, Petitioner

RECEIVED  
MAIL ROOM

07 FEB -8 PM 1:39

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
NEWARK, N.J.



**State of New Jersey**  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW  
Quakerbridge Plaza, Building #9  
Quakerbridge Road, PO Box 049  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0049  
(609) 588-6584

**SOUTH**

Date: 2/7/07

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

Receipt of the following decisions from the Office of Administrative Law (as well as a copy of this form) is acknowledged as of the date indicated below:

**OAL Docket No. PUC**

**Case Name**

PUC 2817-06

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2-8-07

Board of Public Utilities  
2 Gateway Center  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

[Signature]  
Board of Public Utilities