

A FirstEnergy Company

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July 29, 2022

# **VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Ms. Carmen Diaz, Acting Secretary Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor PO Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re: In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Docket No. A020060471

Dear Secretary Diaz,

On July 2, 2020, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU" or "Board") issued an Order, requiring that each utility that establishes a COVID-19 regulatory asset account file quarterly reports with the Board of the COVID-19-related costs incurred and offsets together with a verification by an authorized representative.

The information in the attached report reflects those COVID-19-related costs that have been identified and quantified, to date, and does not represent an exhaustive list for any or all deferral periods. As this event is continuing, the Company is working diligently to assess the financial and operational impacts to improve identification and quantification of appropriate impacts for future deferral and reporting.

In accordance with the July 2, 2020 Order, Jersey Central Power & Light Company ("JCP&L" or the "Company") is filing its ninth quarterly report of the COVID-19-related costs incurred and offsets for the period ending June 30, 2022, along with a verification.

In a September 14, 2021 Order, the Board Ordered that utilities include the number of Deferred Payment Arrangements created each month, Fresh Start recipients, funds received through existing state and federal programs, new hires related to addressing COVID-19 arrearages, number of field collection visits and the number of disconnections and reconnections by zip code or city, in their quarterly reports. Please note that such information has been provided on a monthly basis, in accordance with Staff direction, as part of the Company's monthly arrearage data filings starting with the November filing.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Very truly yours,

Joshua R. Eckert

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AFFIDAVIT
OF
VERIFICATION

Mark A. Mader, being duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and says:

1. I am Director of Rates and Regulatory Affairs – New Jersey for Jersey Central

Power & Light Company ("JCP&L"), and I am duly authorized to make this Affidavit of

Verification on its behalf.

2. The foregoing JCP&L Quarterly Report was prepared by me or under my

supervision, and I hereby verify that the information contained therein is true and correct to the best

of my knowledge, information, and belief.

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Mark A. Mader

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of July 2022.

Joshua R. Eckert

An Attorney-at-Law licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey

Attorney ID: 250992018

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# JCP&L COVID-19 Deferral as of June 30, 2022

Line	Incremental COVID-19 Costs	2nd Qtr 2022 Cumulative
1	Communications	\$590,504 A
2	COVID-19 Pandemic Employee Recognition	\$3,007,212 <b>B</b>
3	COVID-19 Preparation and Response	\$4,178,378 <b>C</b>
4	Facility Cleaning & Guard Service	\$338,025
5	Forgone Distribution Fee Revenues	\$183,317
6	Forgone Reconnection Fees	\$206,499
7	General Business & Travel	\$954,440
8	Incremental A/R Carrying Charge	\$543,028 <b>D</b>
9	Lost Productivity	\$5,185,136 <b>E</b>
10	Medical Services	\$686,937 <b>F</b>
11	Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)	\$1,198,193 <b>G</b>
12	Recruited Contingent Labor/Direct COVID-19 OT Labor	\$1,482,315 <b>H</b>
13	Storm Prep and Response - Tropical Storm Isaias	\$7,540,725 I
14	Vehicle Rentals	\$2,707,053
15	Total Incremental Costs	\$28,801,762
	Incremental COVID-19 Savings & Cost Offsets	
16	Health Benefits	J
17	Office Supplies	(\$6,750) <b>K</b>
18	Reduction in Travel Expenses	(\$20,773) <b>K</b>
19	Travel	(\$740,074) <b>L</b>
20	Total Savings/Cost Offsets	(\$767,597)
21	Total Net COVID-19 Costs/Savings	\$28,034,165

### **INCREMENTAL COVID-19 COSTS**

### A Communications

Customer education on obtaining bill assistance.

# **B** COVID-19 Pandemic Employee Recognition

One-time discretionary payment for employees, who were required to continue working in the field or FE location, whose jobs did not allow flexibility to work from home or another location.

## C COVID-19 Preparation and Response

Costs associated with establishing remote reporting sites in order to ensure proper social distancing. These costs include: office space and storage trailers, port-a-johns, washing stations, water, electrician services and cleaning and sanitizing.

All costs listed in this category were a direct result of COVID-19 and would not have been incurred if not for the pandemic.

## D Incremental A/R Carrying Charge

Carrying cost on incremental non-current A/R.

### **E** Lost Productivity

Incremental Overtime and Contractor Costs to complete work due to employees absences due to COVID-19 illness. As noted in S-JCP&L-16 discovery response, the Company committed to providing a quantification of COVID-related lost productivity, to date, in this 2022Q2 report.

#### F Medical Services

Includes FMLA Deferrals - Family Medical Leave Absence related to COVID.

# **G** Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Incremental costs of items required for the protection of customers and employees such as gloves, goggles, hazmat bags, face shields/masks, protectors, hoods and liners and sanitation kits.

JCP&L uses Personal Protective Equipment during many activities, additional PPE required to perform activities during the pandemic have been purchased.

#### H Direct COVID-19 OT Labor

The amount included above is for incremental COVID-19 overtime to establish remote work sites.

### I Storm Prep and Response - Tropical Storm Isaias

Expenses related to: additional lodging for mutual assistance support to support social distancing, incremental vehicles for mutual assistance support travelling to NJ to support social distancing and increased staging site costs to support COVID testing of mutual assistance contractors before returning home.

### **Incremental COVID-19 Savings & Cost Offsets**

# J Health Benefits

Temporary reduction in group health claims due to deferral of elective surgeries and doctor/dentist visits. However, as reopening has occurred the company has observed increases to medical expenses as employees resume routine healthcare and treatments. The company is monitoring medical service expenses to confirm changes are temporary.

**K** As noted in S-JCP&L-20 discovery response, the Company committed to providing a quantification of COVID-related savings in this 2022Q2 report. The amounts quantified are through 12/31/21.

### L Travel

This relates to travel related savings excluding increases in Meter Reading travel expenses which are included in Line 7.