

150 W State Street. Suite 5

267-533-1671 - MS Teams Trenton, NJ 08608-1105 609-909-7033 - Trenton Office 609-393-0243 - Facsimile Mailing Address: cynthia.holland@exeloncorp.com

92DC42 500 N. Wakefield Drive P.O. Box 6066 Newark, DE 19714-6066

atlanticcityelectric.com

January 12, 2023

#### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

carmen.diaz@bpu.ni.gov board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Carmen D. Diaz Acting Secretary of the Board New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response

to the COVID-19 Pandemic BPU Docket No. AO20060471

Dear Acting Secretary Diaz:

This submission is respectfully made on behalf of Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE" or the "Company") in compliance with the December 21, 2022 Order of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' ("BPU" or "Board") authorizing a further extension of the established regulatory asset period from December 31, 2022 to March 15, 2023 ("December 21 Order").

Consistent with the Orders issued by the Board in connection with *In the Matter of the New* Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations, BPU Docket No. EO20030254, Order dated March 19 and May 20, 2020, respectively, this document is being electronically filed with the Board and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel. No paper copies will follow.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please direct any further inquiries regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L.M. Holland An Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey

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Enclosure

Service List cc:

#### **Atlantic City Electric Company**

# In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic BPU Docket No. AO20060471

#### Compliance Plan dated January 12, 2023

By Order issued July 2, 2020 in the above captioned proceeding ("July 2 Order"), the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") permitted New Jersey utilities to record their prudently incurred incremental costs related to COVID-19, beginning on March 9, 2020 through September 30, 2021. On September 14, 2021, the Board issued an Order authorizing an extension of the established regulatory asset period from September 30, 2021 to December 31, 2022 ("September 14 Order"). The September 14 Order also required utilities to file a Compliance Plan "outlining how the additional time afforded by …[the] Order will be used in meeting the [r]egulatory [a]sset [p]eriod deadline."

As Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE" or the "Company") communicated it its Compliance Plan filed on October 1, 2021, the Company did not intend to use the additional time afforded by the September 14 Order. On September 30, 2021, the Company stopped deferring COVID-19 related expenditures to the established COVID-19 regulatory asset. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-60, the Company's Board-approved Tariff, and numerous associated Board Orders, the Company collects the Societal Benefits Charge ("SBC") to recover certain costs, including the costs associated with bad debt.

On December 21, 2022, the Board issued an Order authorizing a further extension of the established regulatory asset period from December 31, 2022 to March 15, 2023 ("December 21 Order"). The December 21 Order also required utilities to file a Compliance Plan "outlining how the additional time afforded by this Order will be used...." Because of the Company's ability to continue, in the normal course, to track and recover incurred customer bad debt expense through the uncollectible portion of the SBC, the Company does not intend to use the additional time afforded by the December 21 Order.

In addition, the Company has reviewed the Board's new reporting requirements as detailed in the Discussion and Findings section of the December 21 Order. The Company provides the following information related to the additional data requested:

• utilities should include information related to amounts of arrearages recovered through any mechanism including the Societal Benefits Charge, base rates, federal funds, etc.:

ACE maintains that all arrearages, which are defined by ACE as uncollectibles, are recovered through the SBC proceeding and associated reporting will be through the SBC docket. No additional reporting is required for this item in this docket.

- amounts of COVID-related short-term borrowing and carrying costs on that debt; ACE has previously reported that shareholders funded carrying costs in the approximate range of \$6.0 million \$9.0 million associated with higher Accounts Receivable balances and longer deferred payment arrangements. No additional reporting is required for this item.
- amounts saved due to COVID-related changes in their business activities:

  ACE captured savings associated with COVID-related changes within its regulatory asset period. As previously reported, the existing balance is a regulatory liability. No additional reporting is required for this item.
- and revenues from each class of customer during the regulatory asset period:
  As indicated in the Compliance Plan filed on October 1, 2021 as a result of the September 14 Order and subsequent quarterly reporting in this docket, ACE's regulatory asset period ended on September 30, 2021, so no additional reporting is required for this item.

This submission satisfies the Company's compliance obligations under the Board's December 21 Order.

## I/M/O the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations BPU Docket Nos. EO20030254 and AO20060471

#### Service List

#### BPU

Carmen D. Diaz
Acting Secretary of the Board
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
carmen.diaz@bpu.nj.gov
board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Taryn Boland Chief of Staff taryn.boland@bpu.nj.gov

Robert Brabston, Esquire Executive Director robert.brabston@bpu.nj.gov

Stacy Peterson
Deputy Executive Director
<a href="mailto:stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov">stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov</a>

Michael Beck, Esq. Chief Counsel michael.beck@bpu.nj.gov

Carol Artale, Esquire Deputy General Counsel carol.artale@bpu.nj.gov

Heather Weisband, Esquire heather.weisband@bpu.nj.gov

Alice Bator Director, Division of Audits alice.bator@bpu.nj.gov

Michael Kammer Director, Division of Water michael.kammer@bpu.nj.gov

Lawanda Gilbert
Director, Division of Cable
Television and Telecommunications
<a href="mailto:lawanda.gilbert@bpu.nj.gov">lawanda.gilbert@bpu.nj.gov</a>

Julie Ford-Williams
Director
Division of Customer Assistance
julie.ford@bpu.nj.gov

#### DIVISION OF LAW

Daren Eppley, Esquire
Division of Law
Hughes Justice Complex
Public Utilities Section
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625
daren.eppley@law.njoag.gov

Pamela Owen, Esquire pamela.owen@law.njoag.gov

#### RATE COUNSEL

Brian O. Lipman, Esquire Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street, 4th Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625-0003 blipman@rpa.nj.gov

T. David Wand, Esquire <a href="mailto:dwand@rpa.nj.gov">dwand@rpa.nj.gov</a>

Susan McClure, Esquire <a href="mailto:smcclure@rpa.nj.gov">smcclure@rpa.nj.gov</a>

Brian Weeks, Esquire <a href="mailto:bweeks@rpa.nj.gov">bweeks@rpa.nj.gov</a>

Maria Novas-Ruiz, Esquire mnovas-ruiz@rpa.nj.gov

Bethany Rocque-Romaine, Esquire bromaine@rpa.nj.gov

Robert Glover, Esquire rglover@rpa.nj.gov

Debora Layugan dlayugan@rpa.nj.gov

#### RATE COUNSEL CONSULTANT

Susan Baldwin 13 Church Hill Street Watertown, MA 02472 smbaldwinconsulting@gmail.com

#### **ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANIES**

#### **ACE**

Cynthia L.M. Holland, Esquire Assistant General Counsel Atlantic City Electric Company 92DC42 500 N. Wakefield Drive Newark, DE 19714-6066 cynthia.holland@exeloncorp.com

#### PSE&G

Matthew Weissman, Esquire PSE&G 80 Park Plaza, T-5 Newark, NJ 07102-4194 matthew.weissman@pseg.com

Danielle Lopez danielle.lopez@pseg.com

Bernard Smalls bernard.smalls@pseg.com

Caitlyn White <a href="mailto:caitlyn.white@pseg.com">caitlyn.white@pseg.com</a>

Michele Falco michele.falco@pseg.com

#### JCP&L

Joshua Eckert, Esquire JCP&L 300 Madison Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960 jeckert@firstenergycorp.com

#### ROCKLAND

John L. Carley, Esquire Consolidated Edison Co. of NY 4 Irving Place New York, NY 10003 carleyi@coned.com

#### **NJNG**

Andrew K. Dembia, Esquire 1415 Wycoff Road P.O. Box 1464 Wall, NJ 07719 adembia@njng.com

### SOUTH JERSEY GAS & ELIZABETHTOWN GAS

Deborah Franco, Esquire Regulatory Affairs Counsel 520 Green Lane Union, NJ 07083 dfranco@sjindustires.com

#### **BOROUGH OF BUTLER**

Robert H. Oostdyk, Jr., Esquire Murphy McKeon P.C. 51 Route 23 South P.O. Box 70 Riverdale, NJ 07457 roostdyk@murphymckeonlaw.com

James Lampmann
Borough Administrator
1 Ace Road
Butler, NJ 07405
jlampmann@butlerborough.com

## WATER/WASTEWATER COMPANIES

#### **Gordon's Corner Water Company**

David G. Ern, President 27 Vanderburg Road P.O. Box 145 Marlboro, NJ 07746 dgern@gordonscornerwater.com

Eric Olsen eolsen@gordonscornerwater.com

#### Aqua NJ, Inc.

Adam Burger 10 Black Forest Road Hamilton, NJ 08691 aburger@aquaamerica.com

Kimberly Joyce kajoyce@aquaamerica.com

William C. Packer, Jr. wcpackerjr@aquaamerica.com

#### **NJ American Water Company**

Bruce V. Miller, Esquire Sarmili Saha, Esquire Cullen Dykman LLP One Riverfront Plaza Newark, NJ 07102 bmiller@cullenllp.com saha@cullenllp.com

Debbie Albrecht debbie.albrecht@amwater.com

#### **Fayson Lakes Water Company**

John Cannie, President 160 Boonton Avenue Kinnelon, NJ 07405 flwc@optonline.net

#### Montague Water Company

Steve Lubertozzi, President 2335 Sanders Road Northbrook, IL 60062 steve.lubertozzi@uiwater.com

#### **Middlesex Water Company**

Dennis W. Doll 481 C Route 1 South, Suite 400 Iselin, NJ 08830 ddoll@middlesexwater.com

Jay Kooper jkooper@middlesexwater.com

#### Suez Water NJ, Inc.

Rodolphe Bouichou 461 From Road, Suite 400 Paramus, NJ 07652 rodolphe.boulchou@suez.com

Mark Janovic mark.janovic@suez.com

Jim Cagle jim.cagle@suez.com

#### **Midtown Water Company**

John J. Brunetti, President 1655 US Highway 9 Old Bridge, NJ 08857

#### **Shore Water Company**

Samuel Faiello, President 105-23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South Seaside Park, NJ 08752 samsjf@verizon.net

Gloria Stuart
glorstuart@comcast.com

#### **Simmons Water Company**

David B. Simmons, Jr., President P.O. Box 900
Branchville, NJ 07826
dbsjr@simmonstransport.com

#### **Atlantic City Sewer Company**

Tom Kavanaugh Carl Cordek 1200 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 300 Atlantic City, NJ 08401 tkavanaugh@acsewerage.com cordekc@aol.com

#### Lake Lenape Water Company

Jeffrey Fuller, President 83 Eagle Chase Woodbury, NJ 11797 jmf1294@yahoo.com

#### Mt. Olive Villages Water Company

Henry K. Schwartz, President 200 Central Avenue Mountainside, NJ 07902 zln1@aol.com

### MUNICIPAL WATER COMPANIES

Richard Calbi, Director Village of Ridgewood 131 N. Maple Avenue, Suite 5 Ridgewood, NJ 07450 rcalbi@ridgwoodnj.net

Chris O'Leary, General Manager Borough of Park Ridge Water 53 Park Avenue Park Ridge, NJ 07656 coleary@parkridgeboro.com

Art Dysart, Superintendent Clinton Water and Sewer Utility 43 Leigh Street Clinton, NJ 08809 artdysart@clintonnj.gov

Andrew Dujack, President **Town of Dover Water Commissioners** 100 Princeton Avenue Dover, NJ 07801

Robert Kinsey, Superintendent **Town of Dover Water** 37 North Sussex Street Dover, NJ 07801 rkinsey@dover.nj.us

John Allsebrook, Superintendent **Borough of Berlin Water Department** 59 South White Horse Pike Berlin, NJ 08009 dpwsupt@berlinnj.org

Kristin Epstein, Assistant Director Trenton Water Works 333 Cortland Street P.O. Box 528 Trenton, NJ 08604 kepstein@trentonnj.org

Patricia McGowan, Water Clerk City of Bordentown Water Department 324 Farnsworth Avenue

Bordentown, NJ 08505 pmcgowan@cityofbordentown.com John J. Wells, Licensed Operator jwalls@cityofbordentown.com

Steve DiOrio, Superintendent
Collingswood Water Department
215 Hillcrest Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108
sdiorio@collingswood.com

Mike McIntyre, Director Wildwood Water Utility 3416 Park Boulevard Wildwood, NJ 08260 mmcintyre@wildwoodnj.org

#### <u>CABLE TV AND</u> TELECOMMUNICATIONS

#### Altice USA (f/k/a/ Cablevision)

Marilyn D. Davis, Area Director Government Affairs Altice USA 494 Broad Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Newark, NJ 07102 marilyn.davis16@alticeusa.com

#### Charter Communications f/k/a Time Warner

Michael A. Chowaniec
VP-State Regulatory Affairs
Charter Communications
400 Atlantic Street
Stamford, CT 06901
michael.chowaniec@charter.com

#### Comcast

Elizabeth Murray Senior Director or Regulatory Affairs Comcast 50 Randolph Road Somerset, NJ 08873 elizabeth murray@comcast.com

Stephanie Kosta Vice President – Government Affairs Comcast 3800 Horizon Boulevard, Suite 300 Trevose, PA 19053 stephanie kosta@comcast.com

### **Service Electric Cable TV of Hunterdon, Inc.**

John Capparell General Manager Service Electric Cable TV 2260 Avenue A, LVIP#1 Bethlehem, PA 18017 jcapparell@sectv.com Jennifer Brown Regulatory Affairs Director browni@sectv.com

### INCUMBENT LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS (ILECS)

#### Verizon New Jersey, Inc.

Ava-Marie Madeam Vice President - State Regulatory Affairs NY, NJ, CT 999 West Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Freehold, NJ 07728 avamarie.p.madeam@verizon.com

Sylvia Del Vecchio, Manager Verizon New Jersey, Inc. 9 Gates Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Montclair, NJ 07042-3399 sylvia.i.del.vecchio@verizon.com

Richard C. Fipphen, Esquire Assistant General Counsel Verizon New Jersey, Inc. 140 West Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10007 richard.fipphen@verizon.com

#### CenturyLink

Josh Motzer
Director – State Government
Relations
37 W. Broad Street, Suite 470
Columbus, OH 43215
josh.motzer@centurylink.com

#### Momentum Telecom (Warwick Valley)

Virginia O'Hanlon Manager - Regulatory & Tax Compliance 47 Main Street Warwick, NY 10990 vohanlon@momentumtelecom.com

#### AT&T

Charlene Brown VP External Affairs – NJ AT&T 192 West State Street Trenton, NJ 08873 cb1362@att.com

### Service Electric of Cable TV

New Jersey, Inc.
Robert H. Williams, Esquire

General Manager
320 Sparta Avenue
Sparta, NJ 07871
bobw@secable.com

Robbin Blessing Assistant Manager robbin@secable.com

#### **AARP**

Janine G. Bauer, Esquire 101 Grovers Mill Road, Suite 200 Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 jbauer@szaferman.com

Evelyn Liebman
Director of Advocacy
AARP NJ State Office
303 George Street, Suite 505
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
eliebman@aarp.org