STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 3th Floor, Suite 310 Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

I/M/O THE PETITION OF ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC) COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ITS) TARIFF TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES) AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE PURSUANT TO) N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1 AND FOR APPROVAL OF A GRID) RESILIENCY INITIATIVE AND COST RECOVERY) RELATED THERETO, AND FOR OTHER APPROPRIATE)) RELIEF (2016) - PHASE II

PREHEARING ORDER DOCKET NO. ER16030252

Parties of Record:

Philip J. Passanante, Esq., on behalf of Atlantic City Electric Company, Petitioner Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel Bradford M. Stern, Esq.- Counsel for Unimin – Intervenor Martin Rothfelder, Esq. - Counsel for PSE&G – Participant Raghu Murthy, Esq. – Environmental Defense Fund-Intervenor

BY COMMISSIONER UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA:

On March 22, 2016, Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE" or "Company") filed a petition for approval of an increase in base rates for electric service and the authority to implement a grid resiliency program, the PowerAhead program, with an associated cost recovery mechanism. On April 11, 2016, the matter was transferred to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") as a contested case. On August 19, 2016, the parties reached a settlement on the Company's revenue requirement and associated base rate case issues. By BPU Order dated August 24, 2016 ("August Order"), the Board adopted the stipulation of settlement submitted by the parties and directed that the PowerAhead program matter be considered in a Phase II review retained by the Board. The August Order designated me as the presiding Commissioner with authority to rule on all motions that arise during the proceeding, and to set a schedule that will secure a just and expeditious determination of the issues.

Accordingly, I **HEREBY ISSUE** the following as the prehearing order for this matter:

1. <u>NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS AND ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED:</u>

In this proceeding, Atlantic Electric is seeking authority to implement a grid resiliency program with a cost recovery mechanism. The Company proposes to implement a capital investment of \$176 million over a five year period.

Issues to be Resolved

- 1. The prudency, cost effectiveness and cost efficiency of the PowerAhead program.
- 2. The reasonableness and lawfulness of the proposed cost recovery mechanism.

2. <u>PARTIES AND THEIR DESIGNATED ATTORNEYS OR REPRESENTATIVES:</u>

PARTIES AND THEIR DESIGNATED ATTORNEYS OR REPRESENTATIVES:

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Counsel for Rate Counsel:

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Counsel for Additional Parties:

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PSE&G – Participant Martin Rothfelder, Esq. Associate General Regulatory Counsel PSEG Corp. 80 Park Plaza – 15 Newark, N.J. 07102 (973) 430-6479 (973) 430-5983 <u>Martin.rothfelder@pseg.com</u>

Joseph F. Accardo Jr, Esq. PSEG Services Corporation 80 Park Plaza, T5G P. O. Box 570 Newark, New Jersey 07102 Phone: (973) 430-5811 Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)- Intervenor (Attorney substitution received October 17, 2016)

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No change in designated trial counsel shall be made without leave if such change will interfere with the date for hearing. If no specific counsel is set forth in this Order, any partner or associate may be expected to proceed with evidentiary hearings on the agreed dates.

3. <u>SCHEDULED HEARING DATES, TIME AND PLACE</u>:

The evidentiary hearings will be held at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ commencing at 10 AM on Friday, February 10, 2017¹ and Friday March 6, 2017, if necessary.

The parties shall adhere to the following procedural schedule:

See EXHIBIT A (Attached).

4. <u>STIPULATIONS</u>:

None at this time.

5. SETTLEMENT:

The parties are encouraged to engage in settlement discussions. Four technical/settlement conferences have been scheduled: October 24, 28, November 2, and December 14, 2016. Additional settlement discussions will be scheduled, if necessary, at a later date.

¹ Additional hearing dates may be added, if necessary, as they become available on the calendar.

6. **AMENDMENTS TO PLEADINGS:**

None at this time

7. DISCOVERY AND DATES FOR COMPLETION:

Petitioner will update and complete discovery in accordance with paragraph 3 above.

8. ORDER OF PROOFS:

Petitioner bears the burden of proof and shall proceed first followed by Rate Counsel, Intervenors and Board Staff.

9. EXHIBITS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION:

AC-1- Certification and Proofs of Publication.

10. EXHIBITS MARKED IN EVIDENCE:

All exhibits which the parties intend to use in this matter shall be pre-marked, and a list of the premarked exhibits shall be provided to the undersigned at the beginning of the hearing. Petitioner's exhibits shall be marked P-1, P-2, etc.; Board Staff exhibits shall be marked as S-1, S-2, etc.; Rate Counsel exhibits shall be marked RC-1, RC-2, etc.; EDF exhibits shall be marked EDF-1, EDF-2, etc.; Joint exhibits as J-1, J-2, etc. All Exhibits for admission shall be on 3 hole punched paper.

11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FACT AND EXPERT WITNESSES:

Petitioner has prefiled the written testimony of witnesses:

Mike Sullivan Kevin McGowan

Rate Counsel will present witnesses and shall prefile testimony consistent with this order of:

Andrea Crane	PowerAhead Cost-Recovery Mechanism
Gregory Booth	PowerAhead Engineering Analysis
Max Chang	PowerAhead/Cost Benefit Analysis

EDF witnesses TBD

12. MOTIONS:

None pending.

13. OTHER SPECIAL MATTERS:

None at this time

Consistent with the Board's August Order, I <u>HEREBY DIRECT</u> that all documents be served by electronic mail, while still providing hard copies to the Board for those documents which must be filed with the Board, and a hard copy to each party unless otherwise requested.

I HEREBY DIRECT that this Order be posted on the Board's website.

This provisional ruling is subject to ratification or other alteration by the Board as it deems appropriate during the proceedings in this matter.

DATED: October 18, 2016

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Upendra J. Chivukula Commissioner

Exhibit A

I/M/O THE PETITION OF ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ITS TARIFF TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1 and FOR APPROVAL OF A GRID RESILENCY INITIATIVE AND COST RECOVERY RELATED THERETO, AND FOR OTHER APPROPRIATE RELIEF (2016)- PHASE II DOCKET NO. ER16030252

- October 14, 2016 Company to identify portions of petition and testimony, and Company and Rate Counsel to identify data responses relevant to PowerAhead and provide same to all parties. Company to provide Phase II relevant testimony and data responses to EDF.
- October 24, 2016 EDF to propound discovery requests on the Company
- October 24, 2016 Technical and /or Settlement Conference, Room 2W, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ, @ 10:00 AM, if necessary
- October 28, 2016 Technical and/or Settlement Conference, Room 2W, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ, @ 10:00 AM, If necessary
- October 31, 2016 Responses to EDF discovery requests due
- November 2, 2016 Technical and /or Settlement Conference, Room 2W, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ, @ 1:00 PM, if necessary
- November 14, 2016 Rate Counsel/Intervenor Direct Testimony filed
- December 2, 2016 Discovery requests propounded on Direct Testimony
- December 14, 2016 Settlement Conference, Room 2W, 44 South Clinton Ave, Trenton, NJ, @ 10:00 AM, if necessary
- December 16, 2016 Responses to discovery requests on Direct Testimony due
- January 6, 2017 Rebuttal Testimony filed by all parties
- January 20, 2017 Discovery requests on Rebuttal Testimony propounded
- February 3, 2017 Responses to Rebuttal Testimony discovery requests are due
- February 10, 2017 Evidentiary Hearing, with live Surrebuttal, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Multi-Purpose Room, 1st Floor, 44 South Clinton Avenue, NJ

March 6, 2017 Evidentiary Hearings, with live Surrebuttal, 44 South Clinton Avenue, Multi-Purpose Room, 1st Floor, 44 South Clinton Avenue, NJ, if necessary

> Initial Briefs TBD Reply Briefs TBD

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