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**Stacey M. Barnes, Esq.**  
Assistant General Counsel, SJG & Compliance  
*Office of General Counsel*

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
TRENTON, NJ

July 20, 2018

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**  
**ARTICLE NO.: 7017 1450 0002 1966 0467**

RECEIVED  
CASE MANAGEMENT

Honorable Irene Kim Asbury, Secretary  
Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
PO Box 350  
Trenton, NJ 08625

JUL 23 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
TRENTON, NJ

**Re: In the Matter of the Petition of South Jersey Gas Company for Approval of a  
Municipal Consent in the Borough of West Cape May, Cape May County  
BPU Docket No. GE18070781**

Dear Secretary Asbury:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and ten (10) copies of the Petition of South Jersey Gas Company ("South Jersey") for approval of the municipal consent granted by the Borough of West Cape May, Cape May County. Also included is the Ordinance, South Jersey's correspondence accepting the terms and conditions of the Ordinance, and a proposed notice of public hearing.

Copies of this filing are being served upon the Division of Law and Rate Counsel.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this filing by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter, providing the assigned docket number, and returning same in the self-addressed stamped envelope.

Cms  
LEGAL  
DAG  
RPA  
S. Peterson  
ENERGY - TOC(S)

Very truly yours,  
  
Stacey M. Barnes, Esq.  
[sbarnes@sjindustries.com](mailto:sbarnes@sjindustries.com)

SMB/cmm

Enclosure

cc: Division of Law – Attn: Renee Greenberg, DAG - with 3 copies of enclosure  
(via Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested - Article No.: 7017 1450 0002 1966 0481)  
Division of Rate Counsel - Attn: Stefanie A. Brand, Esquire - with 4 copies of enclosure  
(via Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested - Article No.: 7017 0190 0000 4519 1740)

JUL 23 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
TRENTON, NJ

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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JUL 23 2018

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF : BPU DOCKET NO. BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY FOR : TRENTON, NJ  
APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL :  
CONSENT IN THE BOROUGH OF : PETITION  
WEST CAPE MAY :

**TO THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

By this Petition, South Jersey Gas Company (“South Jersey” or the “Company”), hereby requests that the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“BPU” or the “Board”) pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 48:2-14 and *N.J.A.C.* 14:1-5.5 approve the municipal consent granted by the Borough of West Cape May, Cape May County, New Jersey (the “Borough”). In support of its Petition, South Jersey states the following:

**BACKGROUND**

1. South Jersey is a regulated public utility engaged in the transmission, distribution, transportation and sale of natural gas in its defined service territory within the State of New Jersey. As such, South Jersey is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board. Within its service territory, the Company services approximately 386,000 customers.

2. South Jersey currently provides natural gas service within the Borough and serves approximately 903 residential customers and 50 commercial customers. South Jersey anticipates customer growth within its defined service territory to be approximately 1% annually and for the next 3-5 years.

3. South Jersey has the capacity necessary to ensure a continuation of its natural gas service and does not foresee any concerns regarding its ability to meet the existing and future demands of the Borough.



4. Moreover, the Borough is serviced by South Jersey's Cape May Division customer service center located at 1708 Route 9 North, Swainton, New Jersey 08210. The Cape May Division will continue to serve South Jersey's customers within the Borough for the foreseeable future. No modifications to the location or hours of operation of the center are proposed by virtue of this Petition.

#### MUNICIPAL CONSENT

5. On or about July 1, 1969, pursuant to ordinance, the Borough provided consent to New Jersey Natural Gas: (1) to furnish natural gas service in the Borough; and (2) for New Jersey Natural Gas' use of the streets (the "Original Consent"). See July 1, 1969 Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

6. By Order, dated September 29, 1983, the BPU approved the sale by New Jersey Natural Gas of all of the easements, rights of way, franchises, etc. in its Cape May County municipalities to South Jersey Gas. This order assigned the Original Consent to South Jersey Gas. See September 29, 1983 Board Order attached hereto as Exhibit "B".

7. Pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 48:3-15, the portion of the Original Consent applicable to the Company's use of the streets is set to expire on July 1, 2019. Specifically, *N.J.S.A.* 48:3-15 provides, in relevant part, that "the board or body of such municipality authorized to grant consent may, by ordinance and not otherwise, grant for a period not exceeding fifty years, the right to use the streets petitioned for."

8. By virtue of this fifty (50) year statutory limitation, South Jersey obtained the renewed consent of the Borough applicable to its use of the streets. Pursuant to Ordinance No. 543-18, the Borough acknowledged the Original Consent and granted exclusive consent and permission to South Jersey to lay and construct its pipes and mains and related appurtenances and

facilities within the streets, alleys, squares and public places within the Borough for a period of fifty (50) years. See Ordinance No 543-18 attached hereto as Exhibit "C".

9. By letter to the Borough dated July 13, 2018, South Jersey accepted and agreed to the terms and conditions of such municipal consent pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 48:3-16. A true and correct copy of the Company's July 13, 2018 correspondence is attached hereto as Exhibit "D".

**MISCELLANEOUS**

10. A proposed public hearing notice is attached to this Petition as Exhibit "E". A copy of this notice will be served on the Clerk of the Borough and the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

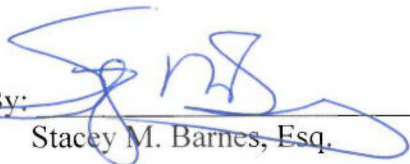
11. *N.J.S.A.* 48:2-14 requires Board approval of a municipal consent granted by a municipality to a public utility subject to the Board's jurisdiction. The consent, which is the subject matter of this Petition, complies with all statutory and administrative requirements necessary for its approval. The Board's approval of the consent is necessary and proper for the public convenience and properly conserves the public interests.

**WHEREFORE**, South Jersey Gas respectfully requests that the Board grant the following:

1. Approve the municipal consent granted to South Jersey by the Borough; and
2. Provide any and other further relief deemed just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

South Jersey Industries

By:   
Stacey M. Barnes, Esq.

Dated: 7/20/18

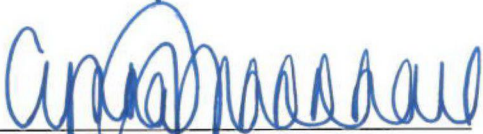
**VERIFICATION**

I, Craig Jennings, of full age, being duly sworn to law upon my oath, depose and say:

1. I am the SVP & Chief Operations Officer, South Jersey Gas Company and am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of the Company.
2. I have reviewed the foregoing Petition and the information contained therein is true according to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

  
Craig Jennings

Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me this 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
July, 2018.

  
Notary Public

