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BOARD OF PUBD. Raguseo. IES TRENITO MECIAN RECEIVED MAIL ROOM JAN 10 2019

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

December 6, 2018

Secretary of the Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue 3rd Floor, Suite 314 P.O. Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 ATTN.: Secretary Aida Camacho-Welch

In the Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company For Approval of the Second Energy Strong Program (Energy Strong II) BPU Docket Nos.: EO18060629 and GO18060630

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

The Bergen County Improvement Authority is aware that PSE&G has submitted a plan to invest over \$2.5 billion over the next five years into the region's energy utility infrastructure. The proposed program known as Energy Strong, Phase 2 will expand upon recent improvements so as to provide greater resiliency and reliability in the region's electric and natural gas utility services.

The Bergen County Improvement Authority is heavily reliant on PSE&G for its electric and natural gas services specifically at our most critical facility, Bergen New Bridge Medical Center, which will be 103 years old come March of 2019.

The continuation of the Energy Strong Program, which has already made vast improvements to harden the region against the increasing threats of extreme storms and rising sea levels, is vital to the port. As we all experienced in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy and in subsequent severe storms, the strengthening and hardening our region's utility infrastructure must remain a high priority.

The Bergen County Improvement Authority is fully supportive of PSE&G's proposed plan to continue its investment in our region's infrastructure.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Mauro Raguseo **Executive Director**

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John Shertel, PSE&G Account Manager

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