

RECEIVED
CASE MANAGEMENT

JUN 26 2019

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ

PHIL MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA OLIVER
Lt. Governor



State of New Jersey
DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL
140 EAST FRONT STREET, 4TH FL
P.O. Box 003
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

JUN 26 2019

MAIL RECEIVED

STEFANIE A. BRAND
Director
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ
JUL - 1 A 8:00
FORWARD
CASE MANAGEMENT

**REMARKS OF
STEFANIE A. BRAND, ESQ., DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL**

**PRESENTED BY
BRIAN WEEKS, ESQ.
DEPUTY RATE COUNSEL**

**In The Matter of the Petition of Public Service Electric and Gas Company
For Approval of a Change in Its Electric Non-Utility Generation Charge Rate
BPU Docket No.: ER19040523**

**Bergen County Administration Building
Freeholders Public Meeting Room 540
1 Bergen County Plaza
Hackensack, N.J. 07601**

June 18, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

CMS
A. Hart, Esq
P. Kogman, Esq
E. Head, Esq
P. Van Brunt, Esq
S. Peterson

Hello, my name is Brian Weeks. I am an attorney representing the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel. The Division of Rate Counsel was created by the New Jersey Legislature to protect the interests of all utility consumers and to represent ratepayers in cases such as this where a utility seeks changes in their rates or services.

Public Service Electric and Gas Company (“Public Service” or the “Company”) filed a Petition with the Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “BPU”)

on April 26, 2019, seeking approval to reconcile, update, and approve proposed changes to the Company's Non-Utility Generation Charge ("NGC"). The Company's Petition requested Board approval to update rates for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 based on actual data through February 28, 2019 and projected expenses for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Public Service's NGC provides for recovery of the above-market portion of payments made under the Company's non-utility generation ("NUG") contracts and certain costs associated with such commitments.

The Company seeks an increase in revenue of \$8.93 million annually. Based on the Company's filing, at the proposed new NGC rate of \$0.000119 per kilowatt-hour ("kWh"), a typical residential customer using an average of 740 kilowatt hours during a summer month would experience an annual bill increase from \$1,258.84 to \$1,260.40, an increase of \$1.56, or approximately 0.12%. However, the actual percentage increase applicable to specific customers will vary according to the applicable rate schedule and level of each customer's usage.

Our office is conducting a comprehensive examination of Public Service's filing on information that is being supplied and updated. We have retained the services of expert consultants to assist us in our review to determine whether the Company's calculations are accurate, and our office will be submitting comments to the Board concerning this filing. However, it is important that you be aware that

the Board of Public Utilities makes all decisions regarding rate modifications in New Jersey.

The purpose of this open public hearing is for you, the customer, to voice your opinion, relate your experiences with the Company, and offer comments about the Company's proposed increase and any service problems you may be experiencing. It is important that you express your views, because they will become part of the record on which the Board of Public Utilities makes its decisions. Rate Counsel also needs to hear your views in order to represent your interests in this legal process. We strongly encourage your participation, which will help us evaluate the Company's proposal.

This hearing is being transcribed and your comments will become part of the record. I would like to reiterate the importance of your participation so that the Division of Rate Counsel can have a clear record of your concerns and interests.

On behalf of Rate Counsel, thank you for attending today's hearing.