



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INITIAL DECISION SETTLEMENT

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 09921-21

AGENCY DKT. NO. GR21050860

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION
OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY
FOR THE ANNUAL REVIEW AND REVISION
OF ITS BASIC GAS SUPPLY SERVICE (BGSS)
AND CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM
(CIP) RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.**

Andrew K. Dembia, Regulatory Affairs Counsel, for petitioner, New Jersey Natural Gas Company

Terel Klein, Deputy Attorney General, for Staff of the Board of Public Utilities (Matthew J. Platkin, Attorney General of New Jersey, attorney)

Maura Caroselli, Assistant Deputy Rate Counsel, for Division of Rate Counsel (Brian O. Lipman, Director)

Record Closed: April 6, 2022

Decided: April 7, 2022

BEFORE **JACOB S. GERTSMAN**, ALJ:

This proceeding involves a petition filed on May 28, 2021, by New Jersey Natural Gas Company (Company) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, for its annual filing for Basic Gas Supply Service (BGSS) and the Company's related requests to modify the BGSS, Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) and Balancing Charge rates.,

The petition was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on December 6, 2021, for determination as a contested case, and assigned to the undersigned, who conducted the initial case management conference on January 6, 2022. Duly-noticed public hearings were held telephonically prior to the transmittal to the OAL on August 23, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.¹ No members of the public appeared at either hearing and no written comments were received. Evidentiary hearings were scheduled for July 26, 2022. Prior to the commencement of the evidentiary hearings, the parties filed on April 6, 2022, a Stipulation for Final Rates (J-1), resolving all issues in this proceeding. Said Stipulation has been signed by petitioner, Staff of the Board of Public Utilities, and Division of Rate Counsel. It indicates the terms of settlement, and is attached and fully incorporated herein.

I have reviewed the terms of settlements and I **FIND**:

1. The parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlements as evidenced by their signatures or their representatives' signatures on the attached document.
2. The settlements fully dispose of all issues in controversy between the parties and is consistent with the law.

I hereby **FILE** my initial decision with the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** for consideration.

¹ Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, public hearings were held telephonically.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

April 7, 2022 _____
DATE



JACOB S. GERTSMAN, ALJ t/a

Date Received at Agency: _____

Date Mailed to Parties: _____

JSG/sm