



July 6, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

Sherri Golden, Board Secretary
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
board.secretary@bpu.gov

**Re: In the Matter of the Implementation of L. 2018, c. 16 Regarding the
Establishment of a Zero Emission Certificate Program for eligible Nuclear Plants
Docket No. EO18080899**

**Application for Zero Emission Certificates of Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. EO18121337**

**Application for Zero Emission Certificates of Salem 1 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. EO18121338**

**Application for Zero Emission Certificates of Salem 2 Nuclear Power Plant
Docket No. EO18121339**

Dear Secretary Golden:

Public Service Electric and Gas Company and Atlantic City Electric Company (collectively, the “EDCs”), jointly submit these comments in connection with the request for comments issued by the Staff of the Board of Public Utilities (“Staff”) on June 22, 2023 in the above-captioned matters (the “June 22 Request for Comments”). The EDCs are public utilities that provide electric power distribution services to about 70% of New Jersey residents. The EDCs have served customers in New Jersey for more than 100 years and are acutely aware of the economic and societal impacts that electric costs can have on individuals and businesses. Further, consistent with legislative directives, the EDCs have been instrumental in helping New Jersey make progress in addressing environmental challenges and are supportive of future efforts in addressing these challenges. In particular, the EDCs support New Jersey’s efforts to reduce the production of greenhouse gases by electric power generation sources that serve the State.

From the perspective of the EDCs, the retirement of New Jersey’s only nuclear power plants would have been a serious blow to the State’s interests and to the customers that the EDCs serve. The EDCs supported the BPU’s April 18, 2019 grant of Zero Emission Certificates to the

Hope Creek, Salem 1, and Salem 2 nuclear power plants in the plants' first period of eligibility, and support the preliminary findings in Staff's June 22 Request for Comments. Removing the plants from New Jersey's generation supply portfolio would increase costs to New Jersey electric customers and would cause New Jersey to lose significant ground in meeting environmental goals. The EDCs thus support the actions of the BPU that have preserved the nuclear plants.

Very truly yours,



Matthew M. Weissman