



August 8, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Sherri L. Golden, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

RE: In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund Pursuant to
Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999.
BPU Docket No. EX00020091

In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company 2023/2024
Annual Compliance Filing for the Universal Service Fund Program Factor within
the Societal Benefits Charge Rate
BPU Docket No. ER23060409

Dear Secretary Golden:

On behalf of New Jersey Natural Gas Company (“NJNG” or “the Company”),
attached please find the following documents in reference to the Virtual Public
Hearings in the above-captioned matter.

- Notice of Public Hearings
- Notice of Public Hearings to County and Municipal Clerks
- Affidavit and Proofs of Publication of the Notice of Public Hearings
in Asbury Park Press and Daily Record newspapers

In accordance with the Order issued by the Board in connection with I/M/O the
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities’ Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a
Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations, BPU
Docket No. EO20030254, Order dated March 19, 2020, this document is being
electronically filed. No paper copies will follow.

Please feel free to contact me at adembia@njng.com if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Andrew K. Dembia'.

Andrew K. Dembia
Regulatory Affairs Counsel

AKD:sf
Encl.
c: Service List

In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund
Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999
Docket Nos. EX00020091 and ER23060409

Service List

NJNG

Andrew Dembia, Esq.
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Marianne Harrell
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

James Corcoran
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Tina Trebino
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Christopher Micak
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Judy DeSalvatore
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Susan Fastuca
1415 Wyckoff Rd.
PO Box 1464
Wall, NJ 07719

Mary Lou Pardey
1415 Wyckoff Road
P.O. Box 1464
Wall, NJ 0771

BPU

Alice Bator
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Paul Buhagiar
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Maureen Clerc
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Malike Cummings
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Julie Ford-Williams
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Tony Iskander
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue
3rd Floor, Suite 314
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Mike Kammer
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue
3rd Floor, Suite 314
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund
Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999
Docket Nos. EX00020091 and ER23060409

Service List

Bart Kilar
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue
3rd Floor, Suite 314
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Stacy Peterson
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Richard Lambert
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Elizabeth Lawrence
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Anthony DeAnni
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Kyle Felton
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Jacqueline Hardy, Esq.
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

William Barkasy
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Rate Counsel

Brian O. Lipman, Director
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

Sarah Steindel
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

David Wand
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

Brian Weeks, Esq.
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

Maura Caroselli, Esq.
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

Carlena Morrison
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
PO Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625

In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund
Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999
Docket Nos. EX00020091 and ER23060409

Service List

Division of Law

Steven A. Chaplar, DAG
Division of Law-Public Utilities Section
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 112
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Terel Klein, DAG
Division of Law-Public Utilities Section
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 112
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Pamela Owen, DAG
Division of Law-Public Utilities Section
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 112
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Atlantic City Electric Co.

Philip J. Passanante, Esq.
Atlantic City Electric Company
500 N. Wakefield Drive
PO Box 6066
Newark, DE 19714-6066

Lihong Meng
Atlantic City Electric Company
500 N Wakefield Drive
PO Box 6066
Newark DE 19714-6066

Thomas M. Hahn
Atlantic City Electric Company
500 N. Wakefield Drive
PO Box 6066
Newark DE19714-6066

JCP&L

James O'Toole
Jersey Central Power & Light Co.
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

Tori Giesler
Jersey Central Power & Light Co.
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

Mark Mader
Jersey Central Power & Light Co.
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

Yongmei Peng
Jersey Central Power & Light Co.
300 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1911
Morristown, NJ 07962-1911

Elizabethtown Gas

Thomas Kaufman
Elizabethtown Gas
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Susan Potanovich
Elizabethtown Gas
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Jessica Zimmerman
Elizabethtown Gas
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City NJ 08401

In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund
Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999
Docket Nos. EX00020091 and ER23060409

Service List

PSE&G

Stacy Barnes
SEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T-10
PO Box 570
Newark, NJ 07102

Michele Falcao
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T-10
PO Box 570
Newark, NJ 07102

Bernard Smalls
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T-10
PO Box 570
Newark, NJ 07102

Katherine Smith
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T-10
PO Box 570
Newark, NJ 07102

Caitlyn White
PSEG Services Corporation
80 Park Plaza, T-10
PO Box 570
Newark, NJ 07102

Rockland Electric Co.

William A. Atzl, Jr.
Rockland Electric Company
4 Irving Place
Room 515-S
New York NY 10003

John L. Carley, Esq.
Consolidated Edison Co. of NY
Law Dept.
4 Irving Place, Room 1815-S
New York, NY 10003

Bruce Baron
Rockland Electric Company
4 Irving Place
2nd Floor East
New York, NY 10003

Charmaine Cigliano
Rockland Electric Company
One Blue Hill Plaza, 2nd Floor
Pearl River, NY 10965-3104

Margaret Comes
Consolidated Edison Co. of NY
Law Dept
4 Irving Place
New York, NY 10003

Christina Mariscal
Rockland Electric Company
4 Irving Place
New York, NY 10003

Cheryl M. Ruggiero
Rockland Electric Company
4 Irving Place
2nd Floor East
New York NY 10003

In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund
Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999
Docket Nos. EX00020091 and ER23060409

Service List

South Jersey Gas Co.

Jim Fredericks
South Jersey Gas Company
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Joe Simmerman
South Jersey Gas Company
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

SJIU

Cindy Capozzoli
SJI Utilities
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Carolyn Jacobs
SJI Utilities
One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Dominick DiRocco
SJI Utilities
One South Jersey Plaza
Folsom, NJ 08037

Sheree Kelly
SJI Utilities
520 Green Lane
Union, NJ 07083

Andrew McNally
SJI Utilities
520 Green Lane
Union, NJ 07083

Jennifer Weitz
SJI Utilities
520 Green Lane
Union, NJ 07083



August 1, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

To: The Office of the County Clerk, Municipal Clerk and County Administrator

RE: In the Matter of the Establishment of a Universal Service Fund Pursuant to Section 12 of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999.
BPU Docket No. EX00020091

In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company 2023/2024 Annual Compliance Filing for the Universal Service Fund Program Factor within the Societal Benefits Charge Rate
BPU Docket No. ER23060409

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-2-21 and 48:2-21.1, New Jersey Natural Gas Company (the "Company" or "NJNG") hereby advises you that on June 1, 2022 the Company filed a request with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for cost recovery associated with Energy Efficiency programs. A complete copy of the Company's filing is available for review on NJNG's website at www.njng.com.

Please be further advised that the Company hereby serves upon you the attached Notice of Public Hearings in the above referenced matter. The virtual public hearings are scheduled for August 23, 2023 at 4:30 P.M. and 5:30 P.M. with the following Log-In instructions.

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Join by holding down control button and clicking on below link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIiZUIwaElOWDFRZz09>

Meeting ID: 245 813 6397

Dial-In Phone Number: 1-646-876-9923

Access Code: 819208

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Andrew K. Dembia'.

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.
Regulatory Affairs Counsel

AKD:sf
Attachments

**NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY
NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SERVICE
FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 12 OF THE ELECTRIC DISCOUNT AND
ENERGY COMPETITION ACT OF 1999
BPU DOCKET NO. EX00020091**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL
GAS COMPANY 2023/2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FILING FOR THE
UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND PROGRAM FACTOR WITHIN THE
SOCIETAL BENEFITS CHARGE RATE
BPU DOCKET NO. ER23060409**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49, et seq., the Universal Service Fund (“USF”) program was established by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (the “Board”), to provide funds to assist qualifying low-income individuals in paying their energy bills. Pursuant to Orders of the Board dated April 30, 2003, July 16, 2003, and June 22, 2005, the State’s electric and gas public utilities’ Societal Benefits Charge (“SBC”) includes recovery of funding for the USF program through uniform statewide rates. The SBC also includes funding for the Lifeline Program, which provides assistance with heating costs to qualifying elderly and disabled persons and incorporates funds for the Work First New Jersey program.

The State of New Jersey’s Department of Community Affairs is the Administrator of the USF Program, and the New Jersey Department of Human Services is the Administrator of the Lifeline programs and authorizes the disbursement of benefits to eligible customers in the respective programs.

New Jersey Natural Gas Company (“NJNG” or the “Company”) made a compliance filing with the Board on June 28, 2023, requesting authority to implement an increase related to the statewide USF/Lifeline program charge, as described below, to be effective on October 1, 2023. The current after-tax USF/Lifeline program charge for natural gas customers is \$0.0166 per therm. The USF component is increasing by \$0.0004 per therm and the Lifeline component is increasing by \$0.0007 per therm. The proposed after-tax USF/Lifeline program charge will increase to \$0.0177 to recover approximately \$49.5 million for the statewide natural gas USF program and \$26.8 million for the Lifeline program. The above request will not result in any profit to the Company. The revenues received under the proposed USF charge are designed to recover only costs for the USF and Lifeline programs and are remitted to the State by the Company. Actual program costs will be reconciled with the revenues received through the USF program charge in the next annual filing scheduled to be made no later than July 1, 2024. Copies of NJNG’s June 28, 2023 filing can be reviewed on the Company’s website, www.njng.com/regulatory in the “Filings & Updates” subsection of the “Regulatory Info.”

The proposed statewide charges for natural gas customers are as follows:

Universal Service/Lifeline Fund Components of Societal Benefits Charge				
	Present	Present (Incl. Sales and Use Tax)	Proposed	Proposed (Incl. Sales and Use Tax)
USF- per therm	\$0.0104	\$0.0111	\$0.0108	\$0.0115
Lifeline- per therm	\$0.0052	\$0.0055	\$0.0058	\$0.0062
Total USF/ Lifeline	\$0.0156	\$0.0166	\$0.0166	\$0.0177

If approved by the Board, the impact of the proposed changes in the USF/Lifeline Charge on typical natural gas bills is illustrated below:

Customer Type	Therm Level	Rates		Increase	
		Bill as of June 1, 2023	Proposed Bill as of October 1, 2023	Amount	
					Percent
Residential Heat Sales	100	\$151.18	\$151.29	\$0.11	0.07%
Residential Non-Heat Sales	25	\$45.16	\$45.19	\$0.03	0.07%
General Service Small	100	\$171.61	\$171.72	\$0.11	0.06%
General Service Large	1200	\$1,593.44	\$1,594.76	\$1.32	0.08%

Based on this Filing, a typical residential heat natural gas customer using 100 therms per month would see an increase in their monthly bill from \$151.18 to \$151.29, or \$0.11 or approximately 0.07 percent.

The Board has the statutory authority to establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels other than those proposed by NJNG.

A copy of the Filing can be viewed on the Company’s website at www.njng.com/regulatory.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, virtual public hearings will be held on following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Filing:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: August 23, 2023 HEARING TIMES: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. LOCATION: Zoom Virtual Webinar Join: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIiZUIwaEIOWDFRZz09 -or- Dial-In: +1 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 245 813 6397 Passcode: 819208
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Representatives of the Company, Board’s Staff and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public may use the Zoom Link or Dial-In Number and Conference ID to express their views on this matter. All comments will be part of the final record of the proceeding and will be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters and/or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. Comments are considered public documents for purposes of the State’s Open Public Records Act. Only public documents should be submitted using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. Any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3. In addition to hard copy submissions, confidential information may also be filed electronically via the Board’s e-filing system or by email to the Secretary of the Board. Please include “Confidential Information” in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Board’s webpage.
<https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Secretary of the Board
Sherri L. Golden,
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Phone: 609-913-6241
Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

**New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.**

Proof of Insertion

Name of Publication: Asbury Park Press, Daily Record

City, State: Neptune, NJ

Client/Advertiser: NJ Natural Gas

Date(s) of Insertion: Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Docket No. EX00020091

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 12 OF THE ELECTRIC DISCOUNT AND ENERGY COMPETITION ACT OF 1999

Docket No. ER23060409

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY 2023/2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FILING FOR THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND PROGRAM FACTOR WITHIN THE SOCIETAL BENEFITS CHARGE RATE

Size:

- APP: ½ Page Ad (B&W) (4.91" x 20")
- Daily Record: ½ Page Ad (B&W) (4.91" x 20")

My signature verifies that this ad was inserted as scheduled according to the above specifications.

Christina M Langley

Signature

7/27/23

Date

Christina M Langley

Name (Please Print)





Belarusian soldiers of the Special Operations Forces and mercenary fighters from Wagner private military company prepare for weeklong maneuvers that will be conducted at a firing range near the border city of Brest, Belarus.
BELARUS' DEFENSE MINISTRY VIA AP FILE

Wagner mercenaries at camp in Belarus

Yuras Karmanau
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLINN, Estonia – Thousands of Russia-linked Wagner group mercenaries have arrived in Belarus since the group's short-lived rebellion, a military monitoring group said Monday.

Between 3,450 and 3,650 soldiers have traveled to a camp close to Asipovichy, a town 140 miles north of the Ukrainian border, according to Belaruski Hajun, an activist group that tracks troop movements within the country.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko welcomed Wagner forces into the country after brokering a deal between the Kremlin and mercenary chief Yevgeny Prigozhin last month, ending the group's failed revolt against Russian military leaders.

The Wagner chief called the mutiny a "march of justice" to oust the top military leaders. The mercenaries faced little resistance and downed at least six military helicopters and a command post aircraft, killing a number of Russian troops.

The revolt posed the most serious threat to Russian President Vladimir

Putin during his 23-year rule, eroding his authority and exposing the government's weakness.

Satellite images show that about 700 vehicles and construction equipment have also arrived in Wagner convoys to Belarus, Belaruski Hajun said.

Prigozhin registered a "real estate management company" in Belarus last week under the name Concord Management and Consulting in Belarus. Documents analyzed by independent Belarusian media outlet reform.by showed that the company's registered address was in the same village as the Wagner mercenary camp.

Meanwhile, local officials said Monday that the mercenaries were continuing to work with Belarusian troops, including at training grounds close to the Polish border.

Meeting with the Russian president on Sunday, Lukashenko said that Wagner troops were "stressing (him) out" by calling for "an excursion" into Poland.

The remarks have largely been dismissed by experts, with the American Institute for the Study of War saying that Wagner troops there could not threaten Ukraine and Poland.

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 12 OF THE ELECTRIC DISCOUNT AND ENERGY COMPETITION ACT OF 1999
BPU DOCKET NO. EX00020091**

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<https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Sherri L. Golden, Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Phone: 609-913-6241
Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

**New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.**

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**NOTICE TO NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS
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 ITS CONSERVATION INCENTIVE
PROGRAM (CIP) RATES FOR F/Y 2024
Docket No. GR23060348**

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

TO OUR CUSTOMERS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 1, 2023, New Jersey Natural Gas (“NJNG” or “Company”) filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “BPU”) which constituted its 2023–2024 Basic Gas Supply Service (“BGSS”) and Conservation Incentive Program (“CIP”) rate filing pursuant to an Order issued by the Board on January 6, 2003, Docket No. GX01050304 (“Generic BGSS Order”), and Orders related to CIP issued by the Board in Docket No. GR05121020 dated December 12, 2006 and January 21, 2010, and in Docket No. GR13030185 dated May 21, 2014 (“Petition”). The BGSS Charge includes actual and projected natural gas commodity, storage, and interstate transportation costs. The CIP Charge provides for a rate adjustment related to changes in average use per customer when compared to a pre-established baseline value. In the Board’s November 17, 2021 Order in BPU Docket No. GR21030679, the Board authorized NJNG to adjust its Balancing Charge, which is based on winter gas usage, in the annual BGSS filing to reflect updated costs.

In the petition, NJNG requested to decrease its BGSS rate for residential and small commercial sales customers and adjust its CIP rates effective October 1, 2023. Additionally, NJNG requested to decrease its Balancing Charge effective October 1, 2023. The impact of the rate changes for a residential heating customer using an average of 100 therms per month would be a decrease of \$7.75 per month, or 5.1 percent as a result of the proposed BGSS rate, a decrease of \$1.14 per month, or 0.8 percent as a result of the proposed Balancing Charge rate, and an increase of \$4.73 per month, or 3.1 percent as a result of the proposed CIP rate. The combined impact of these rate changes would result in an overall decrease of approximately \$4.16 or 2.8 percent per month on a 100 therm residential bill. All Balancing Charge revenues from sales and transportation customers are credited to BGSS recoveries.

The effect of the Company’s request for the rate adjustments, to be effective October 1, 2023, on natural gas bills for the applicable customer classes is estimated to be as follows:

Customer Type	Therm Level	Total Monthly Bill		Monthly Bill Impact				% Impact			
		Bill as of May 1, 2023	Proposed Bill as of October 1, 2023	BGSS	Balancing Charge	CIP	Net Increase/(Decrease)	BGSS	Balancing Charge	CIP	Net Increase/(Decrease)
Residential Heat Sales	100	\$151.18	\$147.02	(\$7.75)	(\$1.14)	\$4.73	(\$4.16)	(5.1%)	(0.8%)	3.1%	(2.8%)
Residential Non-Heat Sales	25	\$45.16	\$43.70	(\$1.93)	(\$0.28)	\$0.75	(\$1.46)	(4.3%)	(0.6%)	1.7%	(3.2%)
General Service – Small	100	\$171.61	\$166.97	(\$7.75)	(\$1.14)	\$4.25	(\$4.64)	(4.5%)	(0.7%)	2.5%	(2.7%)
General Service - Large	1200	\$1,636.16	\$1,665.68	\$13.68	(\$13.68)	\$29.52	\$29.52	0.8%	(0.8%)	1.8%	1.8%

The General Service - Large (“GSL”) sales customers are not affected by the proposed BGSS request because they are subject to Monthly BGSS rates tied to monthly market pricing for their natural gas supply. GSL sales customers’ overall bills are also not affected by the proposed Balancing Charge because their Monthly BGSS rates are net of the Balancing Charge and the Balancing Charge is included in their Delivery Charge, offsetting each other. The GSL BGSS increase and Balancing Charge decrease shown above reflect the proposed Balancing Charge change in both rates resulting in no impact.

Further changes in NJNG’s rate for BGSS service may occur if NJNG elects to adjust its BGSS rates upward by filing timely notice with the Board and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (“Rate Counsel”) pursuant to the Generic BGSS Order. Any such self-implementing increase is limited to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill effective December 1, 2023, and to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill, effective February 1, 2024. Further, these self-implementing increases would be provisional and subject to true-up in connection with the next annual BGSS filing. Pursuant to the Generic BGSS Order, NJNG is permitted to decrease its BGSS rate at any time upon five (5) days’ notice and the filing of supporting documentation with the Board and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (“Rate Counsel”).

If both of the above mentioned self-implementing increases were put into place as of the requested effective dates, the effect on typical Residential and General Service - Small natural gas bills are estimated to be as follows:

Customer Type	Monthly Therm Level	Total Monthly Bill		Increase	
		Bill as of October 1, 2023	Proposed Bill Including December and February BGSS 5 Percent Increases	Amount	Percent
Residential Heat Sales	100	\$147.02	\$162.09	\$15.07	10.3%
Residential Non-Heat Sales	25	\$43.70	\$47.46	\$3.76	8.6%
General Service – Small	100	\$166.97	\$182.04	\$15.07	9.0%

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to establish the BGSS, CIP and Balancing Charge rates at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish the BGSS, CIP and Balancing Charge rates at levels other than those proposed by NJNG. As a result, the described charges may increase or decrease based upon the Board’s decision. NJNG’s natural gas costs addressed in the petition remain subject to audit by the Board, and Board approval shall not preclude or prohibit the Board from taking any such actions deemed appropriate as a result of any such audit.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Company’s filing.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Date: August 23, 2023
Hearing Times 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm

LOCATION

Zoom Virtual Webinar
Join: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIlZUlwIOWDFRZz09>
Meeting ID: 245 813 6397
Passcode: 819208
Dial-In Number: +1 646 876 9923

Representatives of the Company, Board’s Staff and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings.

Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing Meeting ID or the Dial-In Number set forth above and may express their views on this Petition. All comments will be made part of the final record of the proceeding to be considered by the Board. In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters, or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearing to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. Comments are considered public documents for purposes of the State’s Open Public Records Act. Only public documents should be submitted using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. Any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3. In addition to hard copy submissions, confidential information may also be filed electronically via the Board’s e-filing system or by email to the Secretary of the Board. Please include “Confidential Information” in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Board’s webpage. <https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Sherri L. Golden, Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Phone: 609-913-6241
board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.

**NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY
NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SERVICE
FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 12 OF THE ELECTRIC DISCOUNT AND
ENERGY COMPETITION ACT OF 1999
BPU DOCKET NO. EX00020091**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL
GAS COMPANY 2023/2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FILING FOR THE
UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND PROGRAM FACTOR WITHIN THE
SOCIETAL BENEFITS CHARGE RATE
BPU DOCKET NO. ER23060409**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49, et seq., the Universal Service Fund (“USF”) program was established by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (the “Board”), to provide funds to assist qualifying low-income individuals in paying their energy bills. Pursuant to Orders of the Board dated April 30, 2003, July 16, 2003, and June 22, 2005, the State’s electric and gas public utilities’ Societal Benefits Charge (“SBC”) includes recovery of funding for the USF program through uniform statewide rates. The SBC also includes funding for the Lifeline Program, which provides assistance with heating costs to qualifying elderly and disabled persons and incorporates funds for the Work First New Jersey program.

The State of New Jersey’s Department of Community Affairs is the Administrator of the USF Program, and the New Jersey Department of Human Services is the Administrator of the Lifeline programs and authorizes the disbursement of benefits to eligible customers in the respective programs.

New Jersey Natural Gas Company (“NJNG” or the “Company”) made a compliance filing with the Board on June 28, 2023, requesting authority to implement an increase related to the statewide USF/Lifeline program charge, as described below, to be effective on October 1, 2023. The current after-tax USF/Lifeline program charge for natural gas customers is \$0.0166 per therm. The USF component is increasing by \$0.0004 per therm and the Lifeline component is increasing by \$0.0007 per therm. The proposed after-tax USF/Lifeline program charge will increase to \$0.0177 to recover approximately \$49.5 million for the statewide natural gas USF program and \$26.8 million for the Lifeline program. The above request will not result in any profit to the Company. The revenues received under the proposed USF charge are designed to recover only costs for the USF and Lifeline programs and are remitted to the State by the Company. Actual program costs will be reconciled with the revenues received through the USF program charge in the next annual filing scheduled to be made no later than July 1, 2024. Copies of NJNG’s June 28, 2023 filing can be reviewed on the Company’s website, www.njng.com/regulatory in the “Filings & Updates” subsection of the “Regulatory Info.”

The proposed statewide charges for natural gas customers are as follows:

Universal Service/Lifeline Fund Components of Societal Benefits Charge				
	Present	Present (Incl. Sales and Use Tax)	Proposed	Proposed (Incl. Sales and Use Tax)
USF- per therm	\$0.0104	\$0.0111	\$0.0108	\$0.0115
Lifeline- per therm	\$0.0052	\$0.0055	\$0.0058	\$0.0062
Total USF/Lifeline	\$0.0156	\$0.0166	\$0.0166	\$0.0177

If approved by the Board, the impact of the proposed changes in the USF/Lifeline Charge on typical natural gas bills is illustrated below:

Customer Type	Therm Level	Rates		Increase	
		Bill as of June 1, 2023	Proposed Bill as of October 1, 2023	Amount	Percent
Residential Heat Sales	100	\$151.18	\$151.29	\$0.11	0.07%
Residential Non-Heat Sales	25	\$45.16	\$45.19	\$0.03	0.07%
General Service Small	100	\$171.61	\$171.72	\$0.11	0.06%
General Service Large	1200	\$1,593.44	\$1,594.76	\$1.32	0.08%

Based on this Filing, a typical residential heat natural gas customer using 100 therms per month would see an increase in their monthly bill from \$151.18 to \$151.29, or \$0.11 or approximately 0.07 percent.

The Board has the statutory authority to establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels other than those proposed by NJNG.

A copy of the Filing can be viewed on the Company’s website at www.njng.com/regulatory.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, virtual public hearings will be held on following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Filing:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: August 23, 2023 HEARING TIMES: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. LOCATION: Zoom Virtual Webinar Join: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIlZUlwIOWDFRZz09 -or- Dial-In: +1 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 245 813 6397 Passcode: 819208
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Representatives of the Company, Board’s Staff and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public may use the Zoom Link or Dial-In Number and Conference ID to express their views on this matter. All comments will be part of the final record of the proceeding and will be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters and/or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

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Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Secretary of the Board
Sherri L. Golden,
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Phone: 609-913-6241
Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.