

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

**In the Matter of the Petition of Elizabethtown Gas Company
for Approval of Increased Base Tariff Rates and Charges for Gas Service,
Changes to Depreciation Rates and Other Tariff Revisions
OAL Docket No. PUC 03991-2024
BPU Docket No. GR24020158**

On February 29, 2024, Elizabethtown Gas Company ("Elizabethtown" or "Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") in Docket No. GR24020158, for approval of a request to increase base tariff rates and charges for gas service as well as implement other rate design and tariff revisions, including the implementation of an Uncollectible Adjustment Clause to account for fluctuations in uncollectible costs ("Petition"). The Company is also proposing to modify its existing depreciation rates and requesting authorization to defer certain costs that are not reflected in the Company's base rate request for recovery in future proceedings. The Company is proposing that these changes become effective September 1, 2024, or such other later date as the Board may determine. The base rates proposed herein would increase annual revenues by approximately \$75.6 million or 16%. According to the Company, the proposed increase is predominantly the result of capital expenditures made or to be made related to system improvements and reliability since its last base rate case.

Set forth below are the current versus proposed rates from the Petition on a per therm basis, all of which are inclusive of taxes, that will permit customers to determine the effect upon them of the proposed increased rates. Any assistance required by customers in this regard will be furnished by the Company upon request.

	Current Base Tariff Rates (06/01/24)			Proposed Base Tariff Rates		
	<u>Service</u>	<u>Demand</u>	<u>Distribution *</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Demand</u>	<u>Distribution **</u>
Residential Delivery Service Heating	\$10.50	-	\$0.6148	\$12.00	-	\$0.8190
Small General Service	\$36.79	-	\$0.4897	\$41.05	-	\$0.6527
General Delivery Service	\$61.84	\$1.162	\$0.3170	\$64.93	1.431	\$0.3566
Public Station, per therm	-	-	\$1.3918	-	-	\$1.6177
Large Volume Demand	\$405.18	\$1.866	\$0.0470	\$421.17	2.289	\$0.0455
Electric Generation Firm	\$101.29	\$0.800	\$0.0696	\$106.63	0.936	\$0.0493
Unmetered Gas Light, per mantle	-	-	\$10.43	-	-	\$13.17
Interruptible Cogeneration Srv.	\$154.17	-	\$0.0320	\$162.07	-	\$0.0374
Interruptible Service	\$735.71	\$0.123	\$0.0843	\$773.03	0.144	\$0.0986
Interruptible Transportation Srv.	\$735.71	\$0.533	\$0.1129	\$773.03	0.624	\$0.1322

* The sum of the current distribution rate and Rider F (Infrastructure Investment Program or "IIP") rates.

** Rider F (IIP) rates are embedded in the proposed distribution rates and Rider F rates will be set to zero upon the effective date of the proposed distribution rates.

The Effect of the Proposed Increase on Typical Residential Heating Monthly Bills (RDS Customers)

<u>Consumption in Therms</u>	<u>Present Bill 06/01/24</u>	<u>Proposed Bill</u>	<u>Proposed Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
10	\$23.34	\$26.89	\$3.55	15.2%
50	\$74.72	\$86.43	\$11.71	15.7%
100	\$138.93	\$160.85	\$21.92	15.8%
250	\$331.58	\$384.13	\$52.55	15.8%

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2.21, the Board may set these rates at levels it finds just and reasonable and establish the effective date of such rates. Therefore, the Board may establish these rates at levels and/or an effective date other than those proposed by Elizabethtown.

Copies of the Petition can be reviewed on the Company's website at <https://www.elizabethtowngas.com/> under "regulatory information". The Petition is also available to review online through the Board's website at <https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/> where you can search by the above-captioned docket number. In addition, the Petition, and the Board file, may be reviewed at the Board, located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor, Trenton, NJ by appointment. To make an appointment, please call (609) 913-6298.

A copy of this Notice is being served upon the clerk, executive or administrator of each municipality and county within the Company's service territory.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Petition:

DATE: July 23, 2024

HEARING TIMES: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Zoom Virtual Webinar

Join: <https://oal-nj-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1607233405?pwd=VmtLZlVleTMwVkhHZzZDRWhpVDJ4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 160 723 3405

PASSCODE: 330871

Dial-In Number: +1-551-285-1373

An Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Law will preside over the public hearings. Members of the public are invited to attend and express their views on the proposed rate increase. Such comments will be made a part of the final record in the proceeding. Whether or not you attend the public hearings, written comments may be submitted to Hon. Jacob S. Gertsman, ALJ, Office of Administrative Law, P.O. Box 049, Trenton, NJ 08625-0049. Please include OAL Docket No. PUC 03991-2024 and BPU Docket No. GR24020158 in your comment letter. Written and emailed comments will be provided the same weight as statements made at the hearings.

Representatives of the Company, the Board's Staff and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings.

Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing the 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. 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 at <https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/>. 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 at <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

Elizabethtown Gas Company



One South Jersey Place
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

T: (609) 694-9349

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Dominick DiRocco, Esq.
VP/Rates & Regulatory Affairs

February 29, 2024

Electronic Filing

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

Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Elizabethtown Gas Company for Approval of Increased Base Tariff Rates and Charges for Gas Service, Changes to Depreciation Rates and Other Tariff Revisions

BPU Docket No. _____

Dear Secretary Golden,

Enclosed is the Petition of Elizabethtown Gas Company for Approval of Increased Base Tariff Rates and Charges for Gas Service, Changes to Depreciation Rates and Other Tariff Revisions, which has been filed electronically today consistent with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' ("BPU") e-Filing rules.

Schedule E to the Petition (Exhibit P-1) and Schedules JLH-1 and JLH-2 to the Direct Testimony of John L. Houseman (Exhibit P-5) each contain information that is non-public confidential financial information. Accordingly, this filing only contains the preliminary public version of Schedule E to the Petition and Schedules JLH-1 and JLH-2 to Mr. Houseman's testimony. On this same day, a filing is being made pursuant to the Open Public Records Act (N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.1 et seq.) that contains the full confidential version of this filing.

In accordance with the BPU's March 19, 2020 and June 10, 2020 Orders issued in Docket No. EO20030254, hard copies are not being submitted at this time, but can be provided at a later time, if needed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dominick DiRocco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dominick DiRocco

Enclosures

cc: Service List (Electronic Mail)