

August 12, 2024

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 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 2025 BPU Docket No. GR24060372

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 <u>adembia@njng.com</u> f you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Andrew K. Dembia

Regulatory Affairs Counsel

AKD:ss

Encl.

c: Service List

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY ANNUAL REVIEW AND REVISION OF ITS BASIC GAS SUPPLY SERVICE (BGSS) AND CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CIP) RATES FOR F/Y 2025 DOCKET NO. GR24060372

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NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY ANNUAL REVIEW AND REVISION OF ITS BASIC GAS SUPPLY SERVICE (BGSS) AND CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CIP) RATES FOR F/Y 2025 DOCKET NO. GR24060372

SERVICE LIST

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July 10, 2024

Via Electronic Mail

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

Re: 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 2025 BPU Docket No. GR24060372

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 May 31, 2024 the Company filed a request with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for an increase in it's Basic Gas Supply Service (BGSS) and its Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) rates. 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 19, 2024 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=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDllZUIwaElOWDFRZz09

Meeting ID: 245 813 6397

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

Access Code: 819208

Respectfully,

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq. Regulatory Affairs Counsel

AKD:ss Attachments

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 CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CIP) RATES FOR F/Y 2025 Docket No. GR24060372

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

TO OUR CUSTOMERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 31, 2024, New Jersey Natural Gas ("NJNG" or "Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") regarding its 2024–2025 Basic Gas Supply Service ("BGSS") and Conservation Incentive Program ("CIP") rates filing pursuant to Board Orders in Docket Nos GX01050304 and GR05121020, GR05121020 and GR13030185("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. Pursuant to a Board O'der in 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 a decrease its BGSS rate and adjust its CIP rates effective October 1, 2024. Additionally, NJNG requested to increase its Balancing Charge effective October 1, 2024. The impact to a residential heating customer using an average of 100 therms per month would be a decrease of \$6.18 per month, or 4.1 percent, as a result of the proposed BGSS rate, an increase of \$6.18 per month, or 4.1 percent, as a result of the proposed Balancing Charge rate, and a decrease of \$0.12 per month, or 0.1 percent, as a result of the proposed CIP rate. The combined impact of these rate changes would result in an overall decrease of approximately \$0.12 or 0.1 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, 2024, on natural gas bills for the applicable customer classes is estimated to be as follows:

| | | Total Mo | nthly Bill | Monthly Bill Impact | | | % Impact | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Customer Type | Therm Level | Bill as of May 1, 2024 | Proposed Bill as of October 1, 2024 | BGSS | Balancing Charge | CIP | Net Increase/ (Decrease) | BGSS | Balancing Charge | CIP | Net Increase/ (Decrease) |
| Residential Heat Sales | 100 | \$150.04 | \$149.92 | (\$6.18) | 6.18 | (\$0.12) | (\$0.12) | (4.1%) | 4.1% | (0.1%) | (0.1%) |
| Residential Non-Heat Sales | 25 | \$44.43 | \$44.50 | (\$1.55) | \$1.55 | \$0.07 | \$0.07 | (3.5%) | 3.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| General Service – Small | 100 | \$170.13 | \$169.17 | (\$6.18) | \$6.18 | (\$0.96) | (\$0.96) | (3.6%) | 3.6% | (0.6%) | (0.6%) |
| General Service - Large | 1200 | \$1.645.40 | \$1.648.88 | (\$74.16) | \$74.16 | \$3.48 | \$3.48 | (4.5%) | 4.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% |

The General Service - Large ("SSL") 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 decrease and Balancing Charge increase shown above reflect the proposed Balancing Charge change in both rates resulting in no impact.

Future 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"). Any such self-implementing increase is limited to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill effective December 1, 2024, and to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill, effective February 1, 2025. Further, these self-implementing increases would be provisional and subject to true-up in connection with the next annual BGSS filing. The Board authorized NJNG 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:

| | | Total Mo | nthly Bill | Increase | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------|---------|--|
| Customer Type | Monthly Therm Level | Bill as of October 1, 2024 | Proposed Bill Including December and February BGSS 5 Percent Increases | Amount | Percent | |
| Residential Heat Sales | 100 | \$149.92 | 165.29 | \$15.37 | 10.3% | |
| Residential Non-Heat Sales | 25 | \$44.50 | 48.34 | \$3.84 | 8.6% | |
| General Service – Small | 100 | \$169.17 | 184.54 | \$15.37 | 9.1% | |

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to establish rates at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish rates at levels other than those proposed in the Petition. 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 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:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Date: August 19, 2024

Hearing Times: 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm Location: Zoom Virtual Webinar

Join: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIIZUIwaEIOWDFRZz09

Meeting ID: 245 813 6397

Passcode: 819208

Dial-In Number: +1 646 876 9923

Members of the public may present their views on the Petition via the Zoom link provide above, or by dialing the toll-free telephone number, followed by entering the listed passcode when prompted.

Representatives of the Board's Staff and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. All comments will be made part of the final record 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 in advance to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

Copies of NJNG's May 31, 2024 filing can be reviewed on the Company's website, www.njng.com/regulatory in the "Filings & Updates" subsection of the "Regulatory Info.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket number 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 documents that are intended to be public 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, Sherri L. Golden. 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: 609-292-1599

Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Order Number: 10351276

STATE OF WISCONSIN Brown County

Of the **Asbury Park Press**, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in Neptune, in State of New Jersey and Monmouth/Ocean Counties, and of general circulation in Monmouth/Ocean Counties, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in said newspaper in the issue:

07/05/2024

Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of Brown

My commission expires

VICKY FELTY Notary Public State of Wisconsin

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Order Number: 10351342

STATE OF WISCONSIN Brown County

Of the **Daily Record**, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in Parsippany, in State of New Jersey and Morris County, and of general circulation in Morris County, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in said newspaper in the issue:

07/05/2024

Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of

My commission expires

VICKY FELTY Notary Public State of Wisconsin

Suspect

Continued from Page 1A

Chapel Road after a 911 call came in about a shooting victim. Police found Caroleo with a gunshot wound to the stomach. She was flown to Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune where she died of her injuries. She is survived by her 3-year-old son.

'We have been working diligently with our law enforcement partners to locate Johnston," Billhimer said in the statement, adding that the U.S. Marshals Service has joined the search.

Billhimer is urging anyone with information about Johnston's whereabouts to call Detective Denis Mitchell of the prosecutor's office at 732-929-2027, Ext. 2476, or Detective Richard Conklin of the Manchester Township Police Department at 732-657-2009, Ext. 4211.

Johnston is a career criminal.

From 2009 to 2015, Johnston racked up four prior convictions for guns and drugs. He escaped a jail sentence until the last of them, which cost him nearly seven years in state prison, according to court records.

The accused killer was released in March 2022, but found himself locked up again last August, according to the state Department of Corrections. He was again released from state prison on the most recent, unknown charge possibly a parole violation — in Decem-

Among the weapons violations he's been charged with in the murder case is possession of a weapon by someone with a prior conviction.

The young mother he is charged with murdering was a "vibrant, strong independent woman who loved the color purple and enjoyed laughing with her great sense of humor. She collected Jordans and Nike sneakers, and listened to rap, R&B and country music and was kind, giving, good hearted," her obituary read. Her brother-in-law, Matthew Souders, recalled the woman he called Gabby and Scoob as "the most caring person I've ever met. She was a great mother to her son, a great family member and a great person all around."

He added: "She was always independent and never relied on anyone. She loved her son so, so much. If you were around Gabby you would always be smiling or laughing, her presence was contagious. She was the biggest goofball. Birthdays, holidays and other events were always a great time because of Gabby."

The family has started a GoFundMe

account to help with funeral and other expenses. Sounders is the sponsor on behalf of Carolea's mother, Regina

Ken Serrano covers breaking news, crime and investigations.

Reach him at kserrano@gannettnj.com.

NOTICE TO NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS

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| Residential | 100 | 0450.04 | 014000 | (00.40) | 0.40 | (00.40) | (00.40) | (4.40() | 4.40/ | (0.40() | (0.40) |
| Heat Sales | 100 | \$150.04 | \$149.92 | (\$6.18) | 6.18 | (\$0.12) | (\$0.12) | (4.1%) | 4.1% | (0.1%) | (0.1%) |
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| | _25 | Ψττ.τυ | Ψ44.50 | (ψ1.55) | ψ1.55 | ψ0.07 | ψ0.07 | (0.070) | 3.370 | 0.270 | 0.270 |
| General Service – Small | 100 | \$170.13 | \$169.17 | (\$6.18) | \$6.18 | (\$0.96) | (\$0.96) | (3.6%) | 3.6% | (0.6%) | (0.6%) |
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|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------|---------|--|--|
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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

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

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Join: https://us06web.zoom.us/i/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIIZUlwaElOWDFRZz09 Meeting ID: 245 813 6397 Passcode: 819208

Dial-In Number: +1 646 876 9923

Members of the public may present their views on the Petition via the Zoom link provide above, or by dialing the toll-free telephone number, followed by entering the listed passcode when prompted.

Representatives of the Board's Staff and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. All comments will be made part of the final record and will be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accon such as interpreters and/or listening assistance, 48 hours in advance to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

Copies of NJNG's May 31, 2024 filing can be reviewed on the Company's website, www.njng.com/regulatory in the "Filings & Updates" subsection of the "Regulatory Info." The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket number liste

"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 documents that are intended to be public 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, Sherri L. Golden. 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: 609-292-1599 Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

New Jersey Natural Gas Company



Gabriella Carolea, 25, of Seaside Heights, is shown with her nephew Geno Souders at a recent family gathering. Maxwell A. Johnston, 35, of Manchester, is accused of gunning down the young mother on June 27.

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Spadea can stay on air during gubernatorial race

NorthJersey.com USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

At a meeting of the state's Election Law Enforcement Commission, officials decided to take a wait and see approach when it comes to whether or not the morning radio show of gubernatorial hopeful Bill Spadea violates campaign finance law.

After hours of testimony from lawyers for Spadea, his opponents and the radio network, the four-member board deliberated for about an hour behind closed doors and came back with seven

They agreed that Spadea is a candidate for governor and that his candidacy benefits from his program. Chair Thomas Prol also said that ELEC is "troubled" by reports of "express and explicit communication" occurring on the radio program after Spadea's campaign launch.

Prol also called the measures put in place by the station to prevent Spadea from campaigning on air "insufficient" and the 13-second delay they have been using is not properly utilized to achieve full regulatory compliance.

The commission will review things if they receive a "bona fide complaint," he said. "The radio program can go on but we will be monitoring this vigorously."

The special meeting was called to determine whether or not Spadea's radio show provided him with a financial benefit as he campaigns to be the Republican nominee in next year's gubernatorial election.

The four-hour morning show is on 101.5, a Townsquare Media Station, each weekday. The station announced that he would continue the show even after he announced his campaign.

That on-air opportunity is what the commission had to consider Friday as they decided if it constituted a violation of the limit of what the station can provide in terms of in-kind donations, or donations that aren't money. The limit is \$5,800.

When station officials announced that Spadea would be able to stay on the air, they said that they had put guidelines in place to avoid election law



NJ101.5 radio host Bill Spadea moderates a Morris County mayor's roundtable discussion on the state affordable housing mandate and other redevelopment challenges at the Sheraton Parsippany Hotel. WILLIAM WESTHOVEN/DAILY RECORD

violations.

Spadea has argued that the show isn't an in-kind contribution because it doesn't fit the definition state regulations provide for political communications.

'The mere presence of a candidate does not transform a communication into a 'political communication contribution.' It must include an explicit appeal for the election or defeat of a candidate," according to a brief filed by Spadea's attorneys.

Attorneys for the station shared that sentiment and said finding issue with the show would restrict free speech.

Spadea's opponents in the primary, state Sen. Jon Bramnick and former Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli both argued against allowing him to stay on

Bramnick's attorney said the show offered "substantial promotional advantages" like market access and advertising.

Meanwhile Ciattarelli's attorney took a different approach. They argued that Spadea's show violates expenditure practices because it didn't provide "reasonable equal coverage to all opposing candidates" as the law states but that it provides "coverage to a single candidate with a single point of

Frelinghuysen marijuana farm action postponed

Newton New Jersey Herald USA TODAY NETWORK

FRELINGHUYSEN — The hearing on whether to allow a greenhouse marijuana growing operation on open farmland along Route 94 was again postponed Monday before any testimony could be heard by the town's Land Use Board.

The delay will give both sides time to research a potential obstacle to the proposed project in Warren County: whether a one-hour Sunday School session at a neighboring church qualifies as a school as defined by state law which restricts cannabis cultivation within 1,000 feet.

The third meeting on the issue, which was a standing-room-only crowd at the town's recreation center on Lincoln Laurel Road, was to debate the plan to erect three greenhouses on land just across the border from Sussex County.

The crowd was sent home before any testimony about the operations could be made public.

At this week's session, however, what appeared to be a diagram/plot plan of the three-greenhouse operation was placed on an easel. However, after opening remarks by Michael Selvaggi, representing One Faith Wellness, which is proposing the project, and Roger W. Thomas, an attorney hired by a group of townspeople opposing the plans, and an out-of-hearing conference between the owners and attorney, it was decided to start the process over.

Selvaggi said he would recast the formal public notice and ensure it was published in time for an Aug. 5 hearing. The updated notice will contain more information about what type of variances would be needed by One Faith Wellness for the project to be approved.

The new hearing will also allow all members of the Land Use Board, which includes three members of the Township Committee, to be in attendance. And, as noted by Thomas, would also be outside the "July Fourth holiday week" when many people are on vacation, so more townspeople can attend.

All the approximately 50 chairs in the hall were filled with more than an equal number standing on the sides of the room and gathered in the area behind the rows of seats.

Thomas also broached the subject of the 1,000-foot limit for schools. The Frelinghuysen elementary school is about a half-mile away on the same side of Route 94, but he was referring to the weekly session at the Yellow Frame

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Presbyterian Church located across Route 94 and slightly up Muller Road from the now-vacant farm field where the greenhouses would be located.

Selvaggi argued the state definition of school does not extend to a one-hour class given weekly.

The project has also been scaled down from five greenhouses to three larger buildings with slightly less growing space.

Thomas was also about to begin an argument that 'manufacturing' was part of One Faith Wellness's original plan but is not included in the current proposal. The company's license from the state is for cultivating and manufacturing but not a class four (distribution) license.

He appeared to be headed for an argument that the variances needed as well as the description of the business was not sufficient. Selvaggi suggested that rather than go through a lengthier hearing process, he would refile the public notice with more explanation of the variances needed.

After the meeting, Rudy Hesse from the Marksboro section of town, and Marc Thomas, who lives on Muller Road and described himself as a 'next-door neighbor,' talked on the lawn outside the meeting hall.

Hesse said he does not have a problem with the project and believes it would bring some financial benefit to the town. "We are a farming town. This is a farming operation...you grow a crop then truck it off site to another place. Yeah, it's agriculture."

Thomas said he is concerned about "light pollution" from the greenhouses which apparently will use grow lights at night. He also expressed worry that the smell of the live plants would escape the greenhouse and said he had smelled growing marijuana when he once installed some optical fiber through a wall of a greenhouse.

"From what I've been told, the smell of the plants does get out of the building," he said. "It's apparently a problem on Route 22 from the old Walmart building." There is a cannabis growing facility on Route 22 in Reddington.

Hesse, however, said odors are part of agriculture and noted that raising chickens or pigs is "smelly," and noted that even dairy farms have odors particular to farming.

The plot of land eyed for the greenhouses is on the west side of Route 94, south of Muller Road which is the approximate border between Fredon Township in Sussex County and Frelinghuysen in Warren.

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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 CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CIP) RATES FOR F/Y 2025 Docket No. GR24060372

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 31, 2024, New Jersey Natural Gas ("NJNG" or "Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") regarding its 2024–2025 Basic Gas Supply Service ("BGSS") and Conservation Incentive Program ("CIP") rates filing pursuant to Board Orders in Docket Nos.GX01050304 and GR05121020, GR05121020 and GR13030185("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. Pursuant to a Board Order in 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 a decrease its BGSS rate and adjust its CIP rates effective October 1, 2024. Additionally, NJNG requested to increase its Balancing Charge effective October 1, 2024. The impact to a residential heating customer using an average of 100 therms per month would be a decrease of \$6.18 per month, or 4.1 percent, as a result of the proposed BGSS rate, an increase of \$6.18 per month, or 4.1 percent, as a result of the proposed BdSs rate, and a decrease of \$0.12 per month, or 0.1 percent, as a result of the proposed CIP rate. The combined impact of these rate changes would result in an overall decrease of approximately \$0.12 or 0.1 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, 2024, on natural gas bills for the applicable customer classes is

| | | <u>lotai Mo</u> | ntniy Bili | Monthly Bill Impact | | | % Impact | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Customer Type | Therm Level | Bill as of May 1, 2024 | Proposed Bill as of October 1, 2024 | BGSS | Balancing Charge | CIP | Net Increase/ (Decrease) | BGSS | Balancing Charge | CIP | Net Increase/ (Decrease) |
| Residential Heat Sales | 100 | \$150.04 | \$149.92 | (\$6.18) | 6.18 | (\$0.12) | (\$0.12) | (4.1%) | 4.1% | (0.1%) | (0.1%) |
| Residential Non-Heat Sales | 25 | \$44.43 | \$44.50 | (\$1.55) | \$1.55 | \$0.07 | \$0.07 | (3.5%) | 3.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| General Service – Small | 100 | \$170.13 | \$169.17 | (\$6.18) | \$6.18 | (\$0.96) | (\$0.96) | (3.6%) | 3.6% | (0.6%) | (0.6%) |
| General Service - Large | 1200 | \$1,645.40 | \$1,648.88 | (\$74.16) | \$74.16 | \$3.48 | \$3.48 | (4.5%) | 4.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% |

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 decrease and Balancing Charge increase shown above reflect the proposed Balancing Charge change in both rates resulting in no impact.

Future 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"). Any such self-implementing increase is limited to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill effective December 1, 2024, and to a maximum of five (5) percent of the total residential bill, effective February 1, 2025. Further, these self-implementing increases would be provisional and subject to true-up in connection with the next annual BGSS filing. The Board authorized AUNG 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

| | | Total Mo | nthly Bill | Increase | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------|---------|--|
| Customer Type | Monthly Therm Level | Bill as of October 1, 2024 | Proposed Bill Including December and February BGSS 5 Percent Increases | Amount | Percent | |
| Residential Heat Sales | 100 | \$149.92 | 165.29 | \$15.37 | 10.3% | |
| Residential Non-Heat Sales | 25 | \$44.50 | 48.34 | \$3.84 | 8.6% | |
| General Service - Small | 100 | \$169.17 | 184 54 | \$15.37 | 9.1% | |

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to establish rates at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish rates at levels other than those proposed in the Petition. 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 virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Date: August 19, 2024 Hearing Times: 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm

Location: Zoom Virtual Webina Location: Zubili Virtual Webinar
Join: https://usb@wb.zoom.us/li/2458136397?pwd=VUJpK1V0aDYxZDIIZUlwaEl0WDFRZz09
Meeting ID: 245 813 6397
Passcode: 819208
Dial-In Number: +1 646 876 9923

Members of the public may present their views on the Petition via the Zoom link provide above, or by dialing the toll-free telephone number, followed by entering the listed passcode when prompted. Representatives of the Board's Staff and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. All comments will be made part of the final record 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 in advance to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

Copies of NJNG's May 31, 2024 filing can be reviewed on the Company's website, www.njng.com/regulatory in the "Filings & Updates" subsection of the "Regulatory Info."

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket number 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 documents that are intended to be public 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, Sherri L. Golden. Please include "Confidential Information" in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Reard's swehapea at https://www.ni.gov/phu//apend/acfiling/

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 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 Phone: 600, 032, 1500

Phone: 609-292-1599 Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

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