



BOROUGH OF PARAMUS
1 JOCKISH SQUARE
PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652
TEL: 201-265-2100, EXT. 2210 – FAX: 201-265-3716

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

In the Matter of Public Service Electric and Gas Company for Approval of an Increase in Electric and Gas Rates and for Changes in the Tariffs for Electric and Gas Service, B.P.U. N.J. No 17 Gas, and Changes in Depreciation Rates, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.S.A. 48:2-18, N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1, and for Other Appropriate Relief

Re: BPU Docket Nos. ER23120924 & GR23120925 OAL Docket No. PUC 00926-24

Dear Secretary Golden,

My name is Hector Olmo, I am the Business Administrator for Paramus, New Jersey, - - a robust borough with one of the top retail zip codes in the United States. I write to advocate for the continued collaboration and support between Paramus and Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G), in their ongoing infrastructure investments.

PSE&G has demonstrated a commitment to enhancing New Jersey's energy infrastructure through initiatives like Energy Strong II (ES II) and Gas System Modernization Program II (GSMP II). These efforts are crucial for the modernization and strengthening of our state's electric and gas networks, ultimately benefiting our residents and businesses.

Paramus has prioritized the replacement of outdated infrastructure with modern, reliable systems, directly impacting the quality of life for our almost 30,000 residents. PSE&G's programs, such as ES II and GSMP II, align with the borough's infrastructure goals, particularly in areas like electric and gas reliability and decarbonization efforts.

The upgrades of both substations in Paramus are prime examples of our collaboration. The substations are key to PSE&G's transmission/distribution network, serving critical industries and customers such as emergency services, municipal, county and state offices, along with many retail services such as, the Westfield Garden State Plaza, the Bergen Town Center, the Fashion Center and a multitude of medium and small businesses. We are now the new home of The Valley Hospital with a new 370 bed hospital and large campus of other support buildings.

The Gas System Modernization Program has led to the replacement of approximately 27 miles of mains and thousands of related gas services in Paramus. This initiative was carried out concurrently with various other borough and utility projects. The success of these efforts relied on the close collaboration between Paramus and PSE&G, to ensure mutual understanding of the scope of each project while addressing any borough concerns. The partnership allowed for implementation of these programs that resulted in safe, coordinated and beneficial outcomes. Furthermore, this modernization proposal not only improves reliability and resiliency but also contributes to climate change mitigation by focusing on reducing methane emissions. In GSMP III, more than a third of the proposed upgrades would benefit municipalities with significant

overburdened communities, amounting to approximately 310 miles of distribution upgrades that would greatly benefit vulnerable populations.

The collaboration with PSE&G demonstrates the importance of proactive and significant investments to address weather challenges, climate change impacts, and the evolving needs of our constituents. We appreciate PSE&G's dedication to service excellence and urge the Board of Public Utilities to recognize the tangible benefits these investments bring to boroughs such as Paramus and the rest of the state.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hector Olmo', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hector Olmo
Business Administrator
Borough of Paramus