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February 28, 2025

#### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

sherri.lewis@bpu.nj.gov board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

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

**RE:** In the Matter of the Petition of Atlantic City Electric Company for Approval of the Smart Energy Network Program and Cost Recovery Mechanism and Other Related Relief

BPU Docket No. EO22080541

#### Dear Secretary Lewis:

The undersigned serves as Assistant General Counsel for Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE"). In accordance with the Stipulation of Settlement approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") in the above captioned proceeding, ACE was directed to provide a semi-annual report on the Smart Energy Network deployment process ("SEN Semi-Annual Report"). Deployment was completed in September 2024, as such, this report, covering the period July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, along with accompanying attachments, is ACE's final report.

Consistent with the Order issued by the BPU on March 19, 2020 in connection with *In the Matter of 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*, ACE files this Compliance Report and Attachments electronically with the Secretary of the Board and Rate Counsel. No paper copies will follow.

Sherri L. Lewis, RMC February 28, 2025 Page 2

Thank you for your cooperation and courtesies. Feel free to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Kenneth L. Wan

Kenneth L. Wan An Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey

#### Enclosures

cc: Robert Brabston, Esq.

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# ACE Smart Energy Network – Deployment Semi-Annual Report to the Board of Public Utilities July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024

**Pursuant to** 

the Stipulation of Settlement Executed in Connection With

BPU Docket No. EO20080541

Date of Report: February 28, 2025

## ACE Smart Energy Network Program Semi-Annual Report Introduction

In accordance with the Stipulation of Settlement (the "Stipulation") executed and adopted in BPU Docket No. EO20080541, Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE" or the "Company") hereby submits its Semi-Annual Spend Report for the period July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, in connection with its Smart Energy Network ("SEN"). As SEN meter deployment has been concluded, this will be the Company's final SEN Semi-Annual report based on the requirement in the board order dated July 14, 2021 in this docket.

The Stipulation as approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (the "Board' or "BPU"), directed ACE to provide a Semi-Annual Report on the SEN deployment process to Board Staff and Rate Counsel ("AMI Report"), setting forth the following information:

- the estimated quantity of work and the quantity completed to date or, if the activity cannot be quantified with numbers, the major tasks completed, e.g., AMI meters deployed, year-to-date and total for both residential and commercial customers, average cost per residential and commercial installation, broken down by labor and meter costs; network deployment status by access points and relays/repeaters deployed;
- 2. the number of customers opting out each month and the total number of opt-out customers for the program-to-date;
- 3. the number of actual reads recorded from AMI meters each month;
- 4. the number of meter readers employed or under contract by ACE each month;
- 5. the number of legacy meter tests performed in each report, and of those, how many were inaccurate:
- 6. the number of unique page views who have accessed the MyAccount web portal each month;
- 7. the number of customers identified to have received behavioral energy saving messaging each month;

- 8. to commence following any Data Access Plan approved by the Board under Paragraph 31, customer energy usage data for each month in the previous semiannual cycle and program-to-date provided to authorized third-party suppliers;
- 9. the number of AMI meters replaced due to functioning errors for each month and program-todate;
- 10. the number of remote connects/disconnects performed each month and for the program-to-date;
- 11. the number of AMI meter tampering cases found each month and for the program-to-date;
- 12. the forecasted and actual SEN Program Costs to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date;
- 13. the forecasted and actual SEN O&M expenses to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date;
- 14. the forecasted and actual legacy meter stranded costs deferred to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date;
- 15. and the estimated SEN project completion date.

## **SEN Project Status**

**Section 1:** ACE to provide the estimated quantity of work and the quantity completed to date or, if the activity cannot be quantified with numbers, the major tasks completed, e.g., AMI meters deployed, year-to-date and total for both residential and commercial customers, average cost per residential and commercial installation, broken down by labor and meter costs; network deployment status by access points and relays/repeaters deployed.

**Response:** As of 12/31/2024, ACE has installed and replaced 565,819 AMI meters (504,103 Residential and 61,716 Commercial). ACE's 2024 AMI meter installation total as of 12/31/2024 is 153,498. Below is a table with the breakdown of the meters by Billing category. As of 12/31/2024 there were 997 Communications devices installed (516 Relays and 481 Access Points including socket APs):

Customer Type	Installed equipment as of December 31, 2024
Commercial	61,716
Residential	504,103
Total	565,819
2024	Installed equipment as of January 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024
Year-to-date	164,767

Section 2: ACE to provide the number of customers opting out each month and the total number of opt-out customers for the program-to-date.

Response: ACE has processed 8837 opt-outs as of December 31, 2024.

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Of Customer Opting out of AMI
July	674
August	907
September	1732
October	817
November	292
December	35
Total per period	4457
Program-to-Date	8837

Section 3: ACE to provide the number of actual reads recorded from AMI meters each month.

**Response:** Some AMI meters continue to be manually read with non-AMI meters with the exception of AMI meters that have been identified in routes eligible for activation (over the air readings).

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Of AMI Actual Meter Reads
July	546,775
August	554,053
September	557,778
October	558,527
November	560,546
December	562,285
Total per period	3,339,964

**Section 4:** ACE to provide the number of meter readers employed or under contract by ACE each month.

**Response:** Millennium Account Services (MAS) performs meter reading on behalf of ACE and South Jersey Industries. MAS is a joint venture with South Jersey Industries. The numbers in the chart below reflect the reading of both gas and electric meters for both companies:

Period January 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024	# Of Meter Readers Employed
July	80
August	80
September	80
October	80
November	80
December	70

**Section 5**: ACE to provide the number of legacy meter tests performed in each report, and of those, how many were inaccurate.

**Response:** Legacy meter testing, as part of the NJ SEN project, started in October 2022. External to the NJ SEN project, meter testing is ongoing as part of normal business and results are reported quarterly to the NJ BPU in the Board in Docket No. EO18101189 as the Electric Meter Periodic Test Data.

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# of Legacy Meter Test	# of Inaccurate Meters
July	12763	0
August	2538	0
September	2250	0
October	17	1
November	105	0
December	33	1

**Section 6:** ACE to provide the number of unique page views who have accessed the MyAccount web portal each month:

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Of Unique Page Views
July	333
August	1,209
September	696
October	196
November	167
December	107
Total per period	2,708

**Section 7:** ACE to provide the number of customers identified to have received behavioral energy saving messaging each month. These customers will be broken down into several areas:

7.1: total number of stakeholder briefings, community presentations, open houses, and events tabled SEN, including total number of individuals reached:

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Of Stakeholder Briefings, Community Presentations, Open Houses and Events Tabled
July	3
August	9
September	0
October	0
November	0
December	0
Total per period	12

## 7.2: total impressions generated by SEN advertising campaign:

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Impressions Generated by SEN Advertising
July	5,384,556
August	26,970,245
September	46,600,000
October	n/a
November	n/a
December	n/a
Total per period	78,954,801

### 7.3: total number of direct mail pieces/letters/bill inserts/eblasts distributed regarding SEN:

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# of Direct Mail Pieces Distributed (Bills, Postcards, Letters, Emails)
July	31,762
August	29,063
September	0
October	0
November	0
December	0
Total per period	60,825

7.4: percentage of customers aware of SEN initiative and/or smart meters;

**Response:** The level of customer understanding of the term 'smart meter' has increased significantly with 64 percent of customers indicating at least basic understanding of the term compared to 34 percent of customers in 2021.

7.5: and total number of customers signed up for High Usage Reports (via email or text) or Weekly Energy Reports (via email):

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# of Customers Signed up for High Usage Reports or Weekly Energy Reports
High Usage Alerts	3,436
Weekly Energy Reports	1,386
Total Enrollments per Period	4,822

**Section 8:** To commence following any Data Access Plan approved by the Board under Paragraph 31, ACE to provide customer energy usage data for each month in the previous semi-annual cycle and program-to-date provided to authorized third-party suppliers.

**Response:** ACE does not have an approved Data Access Plan. It is the Company's understanding that the Board of Public Utilities will be taking further action on data access in BPU Docket No. EO20110716.

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	Customer Energy Usage Data
July	N/A
August	N/A
September	N/A
October	N/A
November	N/A
December	N/A
Total per period	N/A
Program-to-Date	N/A

**Section 9:** ACE to provide the number of AMI meters replaced due to functioning errors for each month and program-to-date.

**Response**: ACE has not replaced any AMI meters due to functioning errors.

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# of AMI Meters Due to Functioning Errors
July	0
August	0
September	0
October	0
November	0
December	0
Total per period	0
Program-to-Date	0

**Section 10:** ACE to provide the number of remote connects/disconnects performed each month and for the program-to-date.

Response: Remote connects/disconnects began after activation of AMI meters started in June 2024

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# Of Remote Connects	# Of Remote Disconnects
July	1,491	1,589
August	466	517
September	2,225	2,555
October	1,869	1,989
November	2,363	2,317
December	1727	1835
Total per period	10,141	10,802
Program-to-Date	17,652	19,712

**Section 11:** ACE to provide the number of AMI meter tampering cases found each month and for the program-to-date:

Period July 1, 2024, - December 31, 2024	# of AMI Meter Tampering Cases
July	0
August	6
September	10
October	4
November	2
December	4
Total per period	26
Program-to-Date	463

**Section 12:** ACE to provide the forecasted and actual SEN Program Costs to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date:

Response: See Attachment 1

**Section 13:** ACE to provide the forecasted and actual SEN O&M expenses to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date:

Response: See Attachment 1

**Section 14:** ACE to provide the forecasted and actual legacy meter stranded costs deferred to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date:

Response: See Attachment 2

Section 15: ACE to provide the estimated SEN project completion date:

**Response:** ACE has completed the SEN project as of November 2024.

# Attachment 1

SEN Semi-Annual Reporting

Section 12

Actual SEN Program costs to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date

ACE SEN Full Program Costs - 1/1/2021 through 12/31/2024	2021					2022				2023					2024					Total					
Variance ITN Actuals Budget Over / (Under) Budget			r)			Variance er / (Under) Budget		Actuals Budget		Variance Over / (Under) Budget		Actuals B		Variance Budget Over / (Und Budget		er / (Under)	) Actuals								
66668: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Install Costs	\$	539,607	\$	775,083	\$ (235,47	6) \$	14,351,449	\$	13,335,932	\$	1,015,517	\$	24,626,989	\$	19,105,251	\$	5,521,738	\$	17,944,652	\$	15,828,008	\$	2,116,644	\$	57,462,696
68664: ACE O&M Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$	1,289,659	\$	-	\$ 1,289,65	9 \$	1,238,003	\$	1,232,580	\$	5,423	\$	(307,147)	\$	44,448	\$	(351,595)	\$	32,557	\$	236,890	\$	(204,333)	\$	2,253,072
68989: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Meter Purchases	\$	2,500,136	\$	-	\$ 2,500,13	6 \$	26,872,438	\$	25,968,895	\$	903,543	\$	36,505,530	\$	45,918,448	\$	(9,412,918)	\$	2,689,732	\$	3,696,670	\$	(1,006,938)	\$	68,567,836
68994: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program -Comms Network Costs	\$	830,793	\$	-	\$ 830,79	3 \$	7,334,140	\$	7,626,109	\$	(291,969)	\$	1,614,738	\$	3,103,245	\$	(1,488,507)	\$	1,761,449	\$	1,960,586	\$	(199,137)	\$	11,541,120
69344: AMI NJ System Integrations (ACE)	\$	2,739,644	\$	15,159,436	\$ (12,419,79	2) \$	21,927,869	\$	38,428,028	\$	(16,500,159)	\$	15,906,045	\$	14,586,252	\$	1,319,793	\$	984	\$	25,302	\$	(24,318)	\$	40,574,542
75270: ACE Reg Asset Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$	-	\$	250,000	\$ (250,00	0) \$	1,650,780	\$	3,974,641	\$	(2,323,861)	\$	5,699,542	\$	4,338,052	\$	1,361,490	\$	4,453,510	\$	3,247,543	\$	1,205,967	\$	11,803,833
188203: AMI Analytics ITRON Renewal 2024- 2028 (PHI)(ACE)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	- \$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	16,619	\$	24,169	\$	(7,550)	\$	16,619
Total	\$	7,899,838	\$	16,184,519	\$ (8,284,68	1) \$	73,374,679	\$	90,566,185	\$ (	(17,191,506)	\$	84,045,697	\$	87,095,696	\$	(3,049,999)	\$	26,899,503	\$	25,019,168	\$	1,880,336	\$	192,219,717

ACE SEN Full Program Costs - Current reporting period	Ju	ly-C	December 20	24	
ITN	Actuals		Budget	٥١	Variance ver / (Under) Budget
66668: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Install Costs	\$ 6,773,432	\$	3,940,489	\$	2,832,943
68664: ACE O&M Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ 15,541	\$	118,696	\$	(103,155)
68989: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Meter Purchases	\$ (2,245,868)	\$	-	\$	(2,245,868)
68994: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program -Comms Network Costs	\$ 805,561	\$	-	\$	805,561
69344: AMI NJ System Integrations (ACE)	\$ -	\$	12,630	\$	(12,630)
75270: ACE Reg Asset Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ 1,601,235	\$	713,215	\$	888,020
188203: AMI Analytics ITRON Renewal 2024- 2028 (PHI)(ACE)	\$ (516)	\$	-	\$	(516)
Total	\$ 6,949,385	\$	4,785,030	\$	2,164,355

SEN Semi-Annual Reporting

Section 13

Actual SEN O&M costs to date for the reporting period and for the program-to-date

ACE SEN O&M Costs - 1/1/2021 through 12/31/2024		2021			2022			2023				Total	
ITN	Actuals	Budget	Variance Over / (Under) Budget	Actuals	Budget	Variance Over / (Under) Budget	Actuals	Budget	Variance Over / (Under) Budget	Actuals	Budget	Variance Over / (Under) Budget	Actuals
66668: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Install Costs	\$ 22,266	\$ -	\$ 22,266	\$ 155,231	\$ -	\$ 155,231	\$ 263,545	\$ 956,74	\$ (693,199)	\$ 181,322	\$ 809,250	\$ (627,928)	\$ 622,365
68664: ACE O&M Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ 1,289,659	\$ -	\$ 1,289,659	\$ 1,238,003	\$ 1,232,580	\$ 5,423	\$ (307,147)	\$ 44,44	\$ (351,595)	\$ 32,557	\$ 236,890	\$ (204,333)	\$ 2,253,072
68989: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Meter Purchases	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
68994: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program -Comms Network Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
69344: AMI NJ System Integrations (ACE)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
75270: ACE Reg Asset Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 950	\$ -	\$ 950	\$ 2,883	\$	- \$ 2,883	\$ 53,059	\$ 129,527	\$ (76,468)	\$ 56,891
188203: AMI Analytics ITRON Renewal 2024- 2028 (PHI)(ACE)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	- \$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 1,311,925	\$ -	\$ 1,311,925	\$ 1,394,184	\$ 1,232,580	\$ 161,604	\$ (40,719)	\$ 1,001,192	! \$ (1,041,911)	\$ 266,938	\$ 1,175,667	\$ (908,729)	\$ 2,932,328

ACE SEN O&M Costs - Current reporting period	Ju	ly-l	December 2	2024	1
ITN	Actuals		Budget	O۱	Variance ver / (Under) Budget
66668: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Install Costs	\$ 76,351	\$	195,997	\$	(119,646)
68664: ACE O&M Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ 15,541	\$	118,696	\$	(103,155)
68989: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program - Meter Purchases	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-
68994: ACE Smart Energy Network NJ/AMI Program -Comms Network Costs	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-
69344: AMI NJ System Integrations (ACE)	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-
75270: ACE Reg Asset Smart Energy Network AMI Program	\$ 53,088	\$	38,173	\$	14,915
188203: AMI Analytics ITRON Renewal 2024- 2028 (PHI)(ACE)	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-
Total	\$ 144,981	\$	352,866	\$	(207,885)

# Attachment 2

Account Number	Account Description	July 2024 Balance	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
			Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance
182425	RA-AMI Full Program	8,139,715.88	8,409,718.15	8,610,819.62	8,702,070.27	8,721,727.72	8,732,239.24
182426	RA- AMI Full Program- Non-O&M	8,587,104.49	8,647,530.19	8,901,362.52	8,968,337.37	9,038,784.69	9,301,402.03
182830	Accelerated Depreciation AMI	32,405,758.89	32,405,758.89	32,524,627.42	32,524,627.42	32,524,627.42	32,644,137.81

January 2025 Forecasted Activity	February 2025 Forecasted Activity	March 2025 Forecasted Activity*	April 2025 Forecasted Activity	May 2025 Forecasted Activity	June 2025 Forecasted Activity*
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$119,510.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$119,510.39

<sup>\*</sup>Return on stranded assets booked quarterly