Agenda Date: 4/23/14 Agenda Item: IIA



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

ENERGY

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ITS TARIFF TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE PURSUANT TO <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 AND <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21.1 AND FOR OTHER APPROPRIATE RELIEF (2014) ORDER SUSPENDING INCREASES, CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR SERVICE

BPU DOCKET NO. ER14030245

# Parties of Record:

Phillip J. Passanante, Esq., on behalf of Atlantic City Electric Company, Petitioner Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On March 14, 2014, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.12, Atlantic City Electric Company ("Petitioner" or "Company"), a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), filed a petition for approval of an increase in its current base rates for electric service of approximately \$65.97 million, including Sales and Use Tax, or 5.62%, as well as for certain other tariff changes, Cost of Service and Rate Design related thereto, to be effective for electric service provided on or by December 15, 2014.

The Company is also requesting a return on equity of 10.25% and a determination by the Board that it will not to seek or apply a consolidated tax adjustment. Additionally, the Company is requesting that the Board relieve it of the obligation to file an alternative rate design using Peak and Average Coincident Peak method as required by the Board in the Order issued in connection with in Docket No. ER03020110, and that it be relieved of its obligation to file an alternative capital structure as required by the Board in the Order issued in connection with Docket No. ER03020110, and that it be relieved of its obligation to file an alternative capital structure as required by the Board in the Order issued in connection with Docket No. EM01050306. According to the petition, the primary reason for the requested increase is that Company's base rates do not reasonably cover the ongoing increased carrying costs for investments and other costs required to maintain the utility infrastructure so as to provide safe, adequate, and reliable electric distribution service to customers over the long-term.

It appearing that the proposed revisions, if approved, will increase existing rates and change or alter existing classifications in Petitioner's tariff, it is **HEREBY ORDERED** that:

- Pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 (d), the proposed revisions are suspended until July 14, 2014, unless prior to that date the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for hearing on the petition by the Office of Administrative Law, file with this Board and with the Office of Administrative Law, proof of compliance with the notice provisions of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-32.2 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.12 (b) and (c), which notice shall include a statement that any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers on any rate or schedule as the Board may determine; and
- (3) Petitioner shall, at the same time it files with the Board the proof of compliance with notice required under (2) above, also file proof of service of copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, Division of the Rate Counsel, the clerks of each affected municipality, the clerks of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of each affected County, and where appropriate, the executive officer of each affected County within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Suspension Order may be made simultaneously.

This Order shall be effective on May 2, 2014.

DATED: 4/24/14

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

DIANNE' SOLOMON PRESIDENT

Jeanne M. For

JEANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ITS TARIFF TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE PURSUANT TO <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 AND <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21.1 AND FOR OTHER APPROPRIATE RELIEF (2014) DOCKET NO. ER14030245

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