

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 S. Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

> <u>DIVISION OF ENERGY AND</u> OFFICE OF CLEAN ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PUBLIC)	ORDER
ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL)	SETTING SCHEDULE
OF A SOLAR LOAN III PROGRAM AND AN ASSOCIA	TED)	
COST REOCVERY MECHANISM AND FOR CHANGE	S)	
IN THE TARIFF FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE, B.P.U.N.J.	.)	
NO. 15 ELECTRIC PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-21,)	
48:2-21.1 and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-98.1)	DOCKET NO. E012080726

(NOTIFICATION LIST ATTACHED)

Matthew M. Weissman, **Esq**. and **Sheree L. Kelly, Esq**., Attorneys for Petitioner, Public Service Electric and Gas Company

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY Commissioner Joseph L. Fiordaliso:

By Order dated May 23, 2012, the Board approved an extension of the EDC SREC Financing Programs over a three year period, subject to the development of programs that appropriately implement the goals stated in the Order with subsequent Board review and approval ("May 2012 Order"). In addition, the May 2012 Order directed the electric distribution companies, including Public Service Electric and Gas Company ("PSE&G" or "Company") to file, within five business days of service of the Order, a notice of their intention to participate or not participate. Subsequently, on June 1, 2012, the Company notified the Board of its interest in participating in the extension of EDC SREC Financing Programs.

On August 1, 2012, PSE&G filed the instant petition with the Board. By letter dated August 31, 2012, Board Staff notified PSE&G that the filing was administratively complete.²

In the filing, the Company requests approval of a three-year Solar Loan III program. In addition, the Company proposes to recover all program costs through a new component of its electric Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Recovery Charge ("RRC") using its weighted average cost of capital to calculate a return on its investment. According to the petition, PSE&G intends to invest up to \$193 million over a three-year period by providing loans to parties to develop PSE&G's allocation of 97.5

¹ In re Review of Utility Supported Solar Programs, BPU Docket No. EO11050311V, Order dated May 23, 2012.

² N.J.S.A. 48: 3-98.1 requires the Board to decide cost recovery issues within 180 days. Pursuant to the Board Order issued in response to a further statutory directive within that section, Board Staff must review a petition for completeness within 30 days and, when a petition is determined to be complete, set the beginning of the 180-day period. In re Electric Public Utilities and Gas Public Utilities Offering Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs, Investing in Class I Renewable Energy Resources, and Offering Class I Renewable Energy Programs in their Respective Service Territories on a Regulated Basis Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-98.1, Dkt. No. EO08030164 (May 8, 2008). Accordingly, the 180-day period for a Board determination commenced on August 1, 2012.

MW dc of solar systems as delineated in the May 2012 Order. Of the 97.5 MW, 9.8 MW will be allocated to a residential segment, and the remaining 87.7 MW will be allocated to a non-residential segment.

By Order dated September 13, 2012, the Board retained this matter for hearing and, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-32, designated me as the presiding officer who is authorized to rule on all motions that arise during the pendency of these proceedings and modify any schedules that may be set as necessary to secure a just and expeditious determination of the issues.

Pursuant to that authority, I <u>HEREBY SET</u> the schedule for this proceeding which was developed by Board Staff, PSE&G and the Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel"):

Motions to Intervene/Participate: October 15, 2102

Opposition to Motions to Intervene/Participate: October 22, 2012

Discovery Requests on Initial Testimony: October 5, 2012

Responses to Discovery on Initial Testimony: October 19, 2012

Discovery Conference: Week of October 29, 2012 Second Round of Discovery: November 5, 2012

Responses to Second Round of Discovery: November 16, 2012

Public Hearings: Week of November 26, 2012 (Tentative)

Discovery/Settlement Conference: Week of November 26, 2012

Intervener/Respondent Testimony: December 7, 2012

Discovery on Intervener/Respondent Testimony: December 12, 2012

Responses to Discovery on Intervener/Respondent Testimony: December 21, 2012

Rebuttal Testimony: January 4, 2013

Discovery on Rebuttal Testimony: January 9, 2013

Responses to Discovery on Rebuttal Testimony: January 16, 2013

Hearings (if necessary): Week of January 21, 2013

Position Papers: Week of February 4, 2013

Oral Surrebuttal allowed at hearing.

Any requests for changes to the schedule should be made prior to the due date with notice to all those included on this e-mail.

I <u>HEREBY DIRECT</u> that this Order be posted on the Board's website and include the following language in the heading: Notice of Schedule.

All filings should be made by electronic mail to the Board's Secretary at

Board.Secretary@bpu.state.nj.us, and to the parties on this e-mail list. A hard copy of any filing should also be made with the Board's Secretary. Parties wishing to be added to the e-service list may do so by emailing stacy.peterson@bpu.state.nj.us.

This provisional ruling is subject to the ratification or other alteration by the Board as deemed appropriate.

DATED:

October 4, 2012

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

oseph L. Fiordaliso

Presiding Commissioner

DOCKET NO. EO12080726

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