



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3<sup>RD</sup> Floor, Suite 314  
Post Office Box 350  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350  
[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED PETITION OF	)	ORDER SUSPENDING
ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR	)	INCREASES, CHANGES OR
APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN ELECTRIC RATES,	)	ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
ITS TARIFF FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE, AND ITS	)	SERVICE
DEPRECIATION RATES; APPROVAL OF AN	)	
ADVANCED METERING PROGRAM; AND FOR	)	
OTHER RELIEF ("2016 Base Rate Filing")	)	BPU DOCKET NO. ER16050428

**Parties of Record:**

**James C. Meyer, Esq.**, on behalf of Rockland Electric Company, Petitioner  
**Stefanie A. Brand, Esq.**, Director, Division of Rate Counsel

**BY THE BOARD:**

On May 13, 2016, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, Rockland Electric Company ("RECO" 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 \$9.644 million, including Sales and Use Tax, to be effective for electric service provided on or after June 12, 2016 (and in no event later than the anticipated conclusion of the Board-ordered suspension period(s) on February 12, 2017). The Company is also requesting a return on equity of 10.2%. According to the petition, the primary reason for the requested increase is that Company's current base rates are not adequate to recover the operating, capital and other costs of the company, do not provide an adequate return on investment and are not just and reasonable.

The Company is also seeking approval to change its electric and general plant depreciation rates and to deploy Advance Metering Infrastructure and smart meters throughout RECO's service territory from 2017 through 2019. Additionally, RECO is requesting approval to rely on a Company-sponsored Cost of Service Study ("COSS"), and be relieved of the obligation to file an alternative COSS Peak and Average Coincident Peak method as required by the Board in the Order issued in connection with Docket No. ER1311135.

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

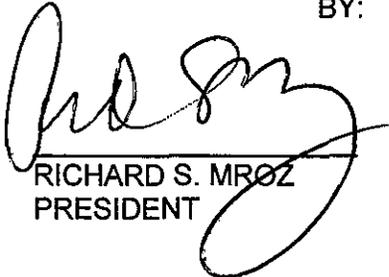
- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 (d), the proposed revisions are suspended until October 12, 2016, unless prior to that date the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) RECO shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the 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 N.J.S.A. 48:2-32.2 and N.J.A.C. 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) RECO shall serve copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, the Division of Rate Counsel (140 East Front Street, 4th Floor. Post Office Box 003, Trenton, N.J. 08625), the clerk of each affected municipality, the clerk of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of the affected county, and where appropriate, the executive officer of the affected county within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Order may be made simultaneously. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on June 4, 2016.

DATED:

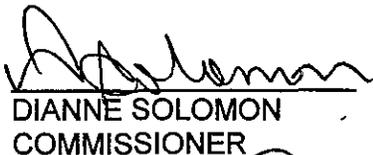
*May 25, 2016*

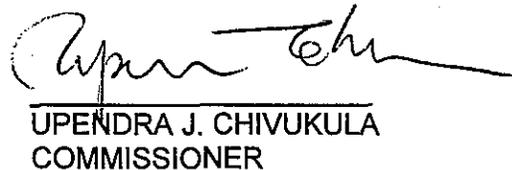
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
RICHARD S. MROZ  
PRESIDENT

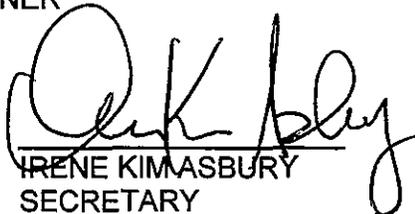
  
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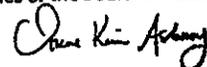
  
DIANNE SOLOMON  
COMMISSIONER

  
UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
IRENE KIMASBURY  
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 VERIFIED PETITION OF ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN ELECTRIC RATES, ITS TARIFF FOR ELECTRIC  
SERVICE, AND ITS DEPRECIATION RATES; APPROVAL OF AN ADVANCED  
METERING PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER RELIEF ("2016 Base Rate Filing")  
BPU DOCKET NO. ER16050428

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