



Agenda Date: 9/23/16
Agenda Item: IIA

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PIVOTAL)
UTILITY HOLDINGS, INC. D/B/A ELIZABETHTOWN)
GAS FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASED BASE TARIFF)
RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS SERVICE AND)
OTHER TARIFF REVISIONS)
ORDER SUSPENDING INCREASES,
CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS IN
RATES FOR SERVICE
BPU DOCKET NO. GR16090826

Parties of Record:

Mary Patricia Keefe, Esq., Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Elizabethtown Gas
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On September 1, 2016, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a/ Elizabethtown Gas ("ETG 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 the authority to: (1) increase base delivery rates for gas service designed to produce an increase in revenues of approximately \$19 million or 6.6%; (2) modify its depreciation rates; (3) to roll in and recover certain costs and finalize certain rates associated with the Accelerated Infrastructure Replacement Program approved by the Board in Docket No. GO12070693 and the Elizabethtown Natural Gas Distribution Utility Reinforcement Program approved by the Board in Docket Nos. GO13090826 and GR15060656; (4) establish certain regulatory assets; (5) establish a new Societal Benefits Charge component rate, the Customer Benefit Charge of \$0.0097 per therm; and (6) implement other tariff revisions.

According to the petition, the requested increase is necessary to permit the Company to: meet the cost of operating facilities used and useful in the service of the public while earning a just and reasonable return on the investment in such facilities and maintain its financial integrity. ETG also states that the additional revenue is needed to compensate investors for risks assumed by the Company, continue to provide safe and adequate service to the public, as well as maintain its facilities in a condition sufficient to enable ETG to discharge its public duty.

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

- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21(d), the proposed revisions are suspended until February 1, 2017, unless prior to that date the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) ETG 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 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) ETG shall, at the same time it files with the Board, also file proof of service of copies of this Order upon the New Jersey Division of 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.

The Board **HEREBY DIRECTS** staff to post this Order on the Board's website.

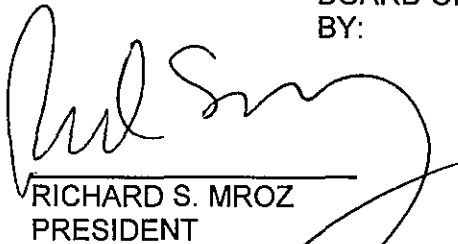
This Order shall be effective on October 1, 2016.

DATED: 9/23/16

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:



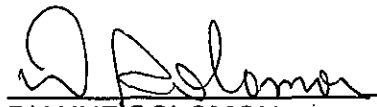
JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER



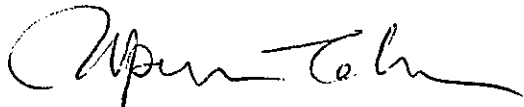
RICHARD S. MROZ
PRESIDENT



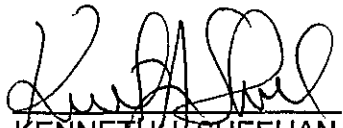
MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER



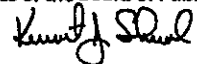
DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER



UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: 
KENNETH J. SHEEHAN
ACTING 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 PIVOTAL UTILITY HOLDINGS, INC. D/B/A
ELIZABETHTOWN GAS FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASED BASE TARIFF RATES AND
CHARGES FOR GAS SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF REVISIONS

DOCKET NO. GR16090826

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