



Agenda Date: 6/27/24
Agenda Item: 2H

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu

ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)
ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR THE)
APPROVAL OF CERTAIN TARIFF)
AMENDMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT)
P.L. 2023, c. 156) ORDER ACCEPTING TARIFF
REVISIONS, SUBJECT TO
MODIFICATION
DOCKET NO. ET24020108

Parties of Record:

Cynthia L.M. Holland, Esq., Atlantic City Electric Company
Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

BACKGROUND

On September 12, 2023, Acting Governor Tahesha Way signed into law P.L. 2023, c. 156 (N.J.S.A. 48:3-111.1) (“Legislation”) regarding the installation and operation of meter collar adapters, subject to certain conditions and other related criteria.¹ The Legislation directed the State of New Jersey’s electric public utilities to “modify [their] electric service requirements as necessary” to implement the Legislation’s provisions. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) now considers the February 12, 2024 petition filed by Atlantic City Electric Company (“ACE” or “Company”) seeking approval of proposed revisions to its Tariff for Electric Service (“Tariff”) (“Petition”).

PETITION

In the Petition, ACE proposed new Tariff language at Section II – Standard Terms and Conditions, Paragraph 4.8 (Meter Collars), which largely tracked the Legislation’s requirements. ACE also proposed Tariff revisions to Paragraph 5.3 (Attachment to Company Owned Facilities), Paragraph 5.4 (Right of Entrance to Customer’s Premises), Paragraph 5.5 (Access to Company Facilities), Paragraph 8.1 (Company Liability), and Paragraph 8.3 (Tampering with Company Equipment) to

¹ “Meter collar adapter” is defined as “an electronic device that is installed between a residential electric meter and the meter socket, for the purpose of facilitating the deployment and interconnection of an onsite electricity generation source or for the purpose of isolating a customer’s electrical load to enable the provision of backup power.” N.J.S.A. 48:3-111.1(h).

further align with the Legislation and to accord with access Tariff provisions elsewhere approved by the Board.

New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (“Rate Counsel”) Comments:

On March 20, 2024, Rate Counsel filed comments regarding ACE’s proposed Tariff language stating, in part, that 1) it did not object to the proposed Tariff language regarding installation, and 2) it did not object to ACE requiring a customer to notify and receive permission from ACE, so long as the permission is not unreasonably withheld or delayed for an unreasonable amount of time.

However, Rate Counsel expressed concern that ACE’s proposed Tariff language did not provide that ACE will not seek recovery of costs associated with utility work on the customer-owned meter collar, or maintenance or repair of utility-owned equipment due to the installation of the meter collar, in rates. Rate Counsel stated that ACE’s proposed Tariff language should include language indicating that customers will be directly responsible for these costs consistent with the Legislation.

ACE Reply Comments:

On April 3, 2024, ACE filed a reply to Rate Counsel’s comments. ACE noted that, as provided in the Petition, it does not seek a rate increase in connection with its proposed Tariff language. Additionally, ACE stated that the meter collar installations are generally associated with interconnection projects, and the Board’s regulations already require the interconnecting customer to pay such costs. Accordingly, ACE concluded there was no need to include further revisions to its proposed language, and requested that the Board approve its filing as submitted.

However, ACE noted that, in the alternative, should the Board deem it necessary to further amend ACE’s proposed language, ACE stated that Rate Counsel’s concerns could be resolved through a limited revision and the submission of final Tariff sheets following an Order from the Board. Specifically, ACE stated that a limited revision could include the insertion of the following language at the end of Paragraph 4.8: “Customers will be directly responsible for any and all costs associated with meter collars.” While ACE stated that this language would satisfy Rate Counsel’s request, ACE maintained that no revisions are necessary to its proposed Tariff language.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

After review of the Legislation, the Petition, Rate Counsel’s comments, and ACE’s reply, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that additional Tariff language is necessary to ensure that ACE’s Tariff comports with the Legislation’s requirements regarding cost responsibility. As provided in the Legislation at N.J.S.A. 48:3-111.1(c), “[a]n electric public utility may recover the cost of service work on any customer-owned meter collar adapter, or maintenance or repair work on any electric public utility-owned equipment necessary due to the installation of a customer-owned meter collar adapter, by charging the customer directly.” As such, notwithstanding ACE’s assertion that it does not seek a rate increase, the Board believes that additional language is necessary to ensure that any costs related to the installation and operation of a meter collar adapter are attributed to the customer and not allocated to ratepayers.

Therefore, consistent with the Legislation, the Board **HEREBY ORDERS** ACE to incorporate the following language into its proposed Tariff: “Customers will be directly responsible for any and all costs associated with meter collars.”

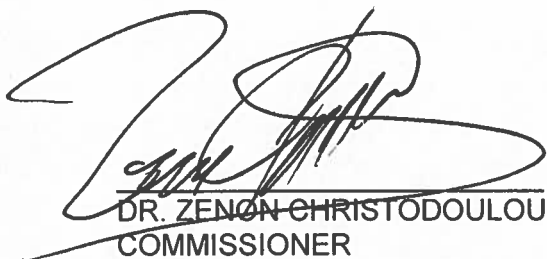
Subject to inclusion of the language provided above, the Board **HEREBY APPROVES** ACE's proposed Tariff language, and **HEREBY DIRECTS** ACE to file revised tariff sheets reflecting the tariff language discussed herein within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on July 5, 2024.

DATED: June 27, 2024

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

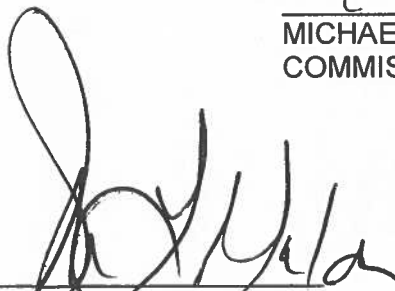

CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOVY
PRESIDENT


DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU
COMMISSIONER


MARIAN ABDOU
COMMISSIONER


MICHAEL BANGE
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


SHERRIL GOLDEN
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 THE APPROVAL OF
CERTAIN TARIFF AMENDMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT P.L. 2023, c. 156

DOCKET NO. ET24020108

SERVICE LIST

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Sherri Golden, Board Secretary
board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Stacy Peterson, Deputy Executive Director
stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov

Counsel's Office

Michael Beck, General Counsel
michael.beck@bpu.nj.gov

Carol Artale, Deputy General Counsel
carol.artale@bpu.nj.gov

Heather Weisband, Senior Counsel
heather.weisband@bpu.nj.gov

Division of Engineering

Dean Taklif, Director
dean.taklif@bpu.nj.gov

David Brown
david.brown@bpu.nj.gov

Nisa Rizvi
nisa.rizvi@bpu.nj.gov

New Jersey Division of Law

NJ Department of Law and Public Safety
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Public Utilities Section
25 Market Street, P.O. Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625

Pamela Owen, ASC, DAG
pamela.owen@law.njoag.gov

Steven Chaplar, DAG
steven.chaplar@law.njoag.gov

Matko Ilic, DAG
matko.ilic@law.njoag.gov

Daren Eppley, SC, DAG
daren.eppley@law.njoag.gov

ACE

500 N. Wakefield Dr.
P.O. Box 6066
Newark, DE 19714-6066

Cynthia L.M. Holland, Esq., Assistant General Counsel
cynthia.holland@exeloncorp.com

Heather Hall, Manager, Regulatory Affairs
heather.hall@atlanticcityelectric.com

Mary Anne Phillips
Sr. Rate Analyst, Regulatory Affairs – New Jersey
mary.phillips@atlanticcityelectric.com

New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625-0003

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director
blipman@rpa.nj.gov

T. David Wand, Esq., Managing Attorney
dwand@rpa.nj.gov

Bethany Rocque-Romaine, Esq.
bromaine@rpa.nj.gov

Brian Weeks, Esq.
bweeks@rpa.nj.gov

Debora Layugan
dlayugan@rpa.nj.gov

Annette Cardec
acardec@rpa.nj.gov