

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/

<u>ENERGY</u>

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF ATLANTIC)	ORDER APPROVING A ZERO
CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A)	EMISSION CERTIFICATE
CHANGE TO ITS ZERO EMISSION CERTIFICATE)	RECOVERY CHARGE
RECOVERY CHARGE (2024))	
, ,)	DOCKET NO. ER24100836

Parties of Record:

Neil A. Hlawatsch, **Esq.**, Atlantic City Electric Company **Brian O. Lipman**, **Esq.**, **Director**, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

By this Decision and Order, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") considers a petition filed by Atlantic City Electric Company ("ACE" or "Company") seeking authority to maintain its Zero Emission Certificate ("ZEC") Reconciliation Charge of \$0.0000 as of February 1, 2025 ("Petition").1

BACKGROUND

On May 23, 2018, Governor Phil Murphy signed into law N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.3 to -87.7 ("Act"), which required the Board to implement a ZEC program. The Act mandates that the Board authorize certain eligible nuclear energy generators ("Units") to receive ZECs, and the ZECs are purchased by New Jersey's electric distribution companies ("EDCs").² The Act also requires the Board to order the full recovery of EDCs' costs associated with purchased ZECs via a non-bypassable charge imposed on each EDC's retail distribution customers.³

The Act directs each EDC to file with the Board a tariff to recover a ZEC charge of \$0.004 per kilowatt-hour ("kWh") from its retail distribution customers ("ZEC Charge"). The ZEC Charge constitutes the emissions avoidance benefits associated with the continued operation of a

¹ All rates quoted herein exclude Sales and Use Tax unless otherwise stated.

² The EDCs are ACE, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Rockland Electric Company and Butler Electric ("Butler"). Butler is regulated to the extent it serves customers outside of its municipal borders.

³ N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.5(j) (1).

selected nuclear power plant. The ZEC Charge is one (1) component of the Zero Emissions Certificate Recovery Charge ("ZECRC").

The Act also directs the EDCs to return excess monies in each EDC's separate, interest-bearing account to its retail distribution customers at the end of each Energy Year ("EY"). This constitutes the second component of the ZECRC: the ZEC Reconciliation Charge.

October 2024 Petition

On October 31, 2024, ACE filed the Petition wherein it stated that the net balance for prior EYs and EY 2024 resulted in an over-collection of \$37,586.4 Given the small balance, the Company proposed maintaining the ZEC Reconciliation Charge rate at zero beginning February 1, 2025, with any remaining balance due to customers, including interest, carried over into the subsequent ZEC Reconciliation Charge rate filing.

Because the Petition requested no change to the ZEC Reconciliation Charge rate, public hearings were neither required nor held. Additionally, no written comments were received by the Board.

New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel Comments

On December 20, 2024, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") filed a letter with the Board. Rate Counsel stated that it did not oppose ACE's requests in the Petition.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

The Board, having reviewed the record in this matter, including the Petition and Rate Counsel's comments, <u>HEREBY APPROVES</u> ACE's proposed ZECRC rate. Accordingly, the Board <u>HEREBY AUTHORIZES</u> ACE to maintain its ZEC Reconciliation Charge of \$0.00000 for a total ZECRC rate of \$0.00400 per kWh, for service rendered on and after February 1, 2025. As a result, a residential customer would see no increase to their monthly bill.

The Board **HEREBY DIRECTS** ACE to file revised tariffs prior to February 1, 2025.

The Company's costs will remain subject to audit by the Board. This Order shall not preclude or prohibit the Board from taking further action relating to any such audit.

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⁴ EY 2024 runs from June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

This Order shall be effective on January 22, 2025.

DATED: January 15, 2025

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

HRISTINE GUHL-SADO

PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU COMMISSIONER

MARIAN ABDOU 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 APPROVAL OF A CHANGE TO ITS ZERO EMISSION CERTIFICATE RECOVERY CHARGE (2024)

DOCKET NO. ER24100836

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