## PUBLIC NOTICE TO ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY CUSTOMERS

## In the Matter of Rockland Electric Company's Annual Societal Benefits Charge Filing Reconciling Costs for 12 Months Ending July 31, 2023 and Estimating Costs for 12 Months Ending July 31, 2024

## BPU Docket No. ER23030200

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that, on March 31, 2023, Rockland Electric Company ("RECO" or "Company") made an Annual Compliance Filing with supporting documentation requesting that the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU" or "Board") approve increases in RECO's Societal Benefits Charge ("SBC") ("March 2023 Filing"). The SBC allows the Company to recover costs associated with RECO's demand-side management ("DSM") programs, the Clean Energy Program, the Universal Service Fund ("USF") and Lifeline programs, and the Company's uncollectible expenses. The SBC is adjusted annually pursuant to RECO's tariff. RECO proposed to increase only the DSM, the Clean Energy Program, and the uncollectible expense program components of the SBC ("Component Programs").

In the March 2023 Filing, RECO proposed to increase the overall Component Programs' rate to 0.4226¢/kilowatt-hour ("kWh"), including Sales and Use Tax ("SUT"), from the currently effective rate of 0.3556¢/kWh, including SUT, for all classes of customers effective August 1, 2023. Subsequent to the March 2023 Filing, RECO updated the USF and Lifeline programs components of the SBC. Based on the revised USF and Lifeline programs rates added to the proposed change in the Component Programs rates, the result is a combined proposed SBC rate of 0.6295¢/kWh, including SUT.

Residential Electric Service				
Typical Average Monthly Bill				
(Includes SUT)				
			Increase	
	Present Charges (1)	Proposed Charges (2)	Amount	Percent
650 kWh average monthly use	\$138.04	\$138.47	\$0.43	0.3
925 kWh average monthly use	\$200.63	\$201.25	\$0.62	0.3
1,500 kWh average monthly use	\$331.31	\$332.31	\$1.00	0.3

The effect of the proposed SBC changes on typical residential electric bills, if approved by the Board, is illustrated below.

(1) Based upon Basic Generation Service Residential Small Commercial Pricing ("BGS-RSCP") and Delivery Rates in effect March 1, 2024 and assumes that the customer receives BGS-RSCP service from RECO.

(2) Same as (1) except includes change in the SBC.

Based on the March 2023 Filing, the statewide average residential customer using 808 kilowatt hours per summer month, and 7,800 kilowatt hours on an annual basis, would see an

annual bill increase of \$5.16 from \$1,656.48 to \$1,661.64, or approximately 1.3%. The percentage change applicable to specific customers will vary according to the customer's service classification and the usage. Any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers in any rate or schedule as the Board may determine.

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, to establish the SBC at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish the SBC at levels other than those proposed by RECO. As a result, the described charges may increase or decrease based upon the Board's decision. The March 2023 Filing is available for review on RECO's website at:

https://lite.oru.com/\_external/orurates/documents/nj/pendingelectricregulatoryfilings/annualsbc-filing-2023.pdf

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that as authorized by N.J.S.A 10:4-9.3, virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following day and times so members of the public may present their views on the March 2023 Filing.

<u>Date</u>: May 2, 2024 <u>Times</u>: 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM

Join the link

https://conedison.webex.com/conedison/j.php?MTID=m3a4b20602f3c5a3a84957f1679 ddcaea

-or-

Go To www.webex.com and choose "Join a Meeting" at the top of the web page.

When prompted, use Meeting number 2630 631 5754 to access the meeting. Meeting password: 3UGnphya\$77

-or-

Join by phone: Dial 1-844-621-3956 (United States Toll Free)

When prompted, use meeting number 2630 631 5754 to access the meeting. If prompted to provide an attendee ID, you may choose the option in the prompts to allow you to skip this step.

Representatives of the Company, Board Staff, and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing the link or the dial-in information above to express their views on the March 2023 Filing. All comments will be made a part of the final record in this proceeding to be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters or listening devices, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at <u>board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov</u>.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket listed above using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's Public Document Search tool. Comments are considered public documents for the purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Only public documents should be submitted using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's Public Document Search tool. Any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3. In addition to hard copy submissions, confidential information may also be filed electronically via the Board's e-filing system or by email to the Secretary of the Board. Please include "Confidential Information" in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Board's webpage: <a href="https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/">https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/</a>.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Secretary of the Board 44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor PO Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 Phone: 609-913-6241 Email: <u>board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov</u>

## **ROCKLAND ELECTRIC COMPANY**