# NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

### IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY TO REVISE THE COST RECOVERY CHARGE ASSOCIATED WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS ("EET CHARGE") BPU DOCKET NO. GR24070550

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that, on July 31, 2024, South Jersey Gas Company ("South Jersey" or "Company") filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") in Docket No. GR24070550 requesting an increase in its Energy Efficiency Tracker ("EET") charge by October 1, 2024 and to continue to recover costs associated with its Energy Efficiency Programs ("EEPs"). South Jersey is also requesting approval from the Board to earn a return on its investments associated with its EEPs provide participating customers with incentives to reduce their natural gas consumption. South Jersey proposes to recover the costs of its EEPs through its EET which will operate consistent with the Board-approved tracker mechanism.

The Company proposes to increase its EET charge to \$0.049535 per therm, including taxes, in order to recover a total revenue requirement of \$24.9 million (excluding taxes) for the period October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. The proposed EET charge would be applied to all customer classes. The overall impact of the proposed rate change is to increase the monthly bill of a typical residential heating customer using 100 therms by \$0.84, from \$183.35 to \$184.19, or an increase of 0.5% as compared to rates in effect on October 1, 2024. Approval of the filing would impact charges for a typical customer with usage as follows:

# **BILL IMPACTS**

	Monthly Bill as of		Dollar	Percent
Therm Level	October 1, 2024	Proposed	Increase	Increase
25	\$53.71	\$53.92	\$0.21	0.4%
100	\$183.35	\$184.19	\$0.84	0.5%
200	\$356.19	\$357.88	\$1.69	0.5%

# **Residential Heating Service (RSG)**

#### General Service (GSG) (Using less than 5,000 therms per year)

	Monthly Bill as of		Dollar	Percent
Therm Level	October 1, 2024	Proposed	Increase	Increase
500	\$783.88	\$788.11	\$4.23	0.5%
1,000	\$1,527.27	\$1,535.72	\$8.45	0.5%
2,000	\$3,014.05	\$3,030.95	\$16.90	0.6%

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21 to establish South Jersey's rates at levels it finds just and reasonable, as well as to establish the effective date of such rates. Therefore, the Board may establish a Rider "N" rate at a level and/or an effective date other than those proposed by South Jersey. South Jersey's costs addressed in the Petition will remain subject to audit by the Board, and Board approval shall not preclude or prohibit the Board from taking any such actions deemed appropriate as a result of any such audit.

Any assistance required by customers in ascertaining the impact of the proposed rate increase will be provided by the Company upon request.

A copy of South Jersey's petition can be reviewed on the Company's website at <u>www.southjerseygas.com</u> under Regulatory Information. The petition is also available to review on the Board's website at <u>https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/</u> where you can search by the above-captioned docket number. In addition, the petition and Board file may be reviewed at the Board located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Trenton, New Jersey with an appointment. To make an appointment, please call (609) 913-6298.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Company's Petition:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Date: November 13, 2024 Hearing Times: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting Press Ctrl key + Click on this link: <u>https://teams.microsoft.com/l/joinTeamsMeetingSJGhearing11-13-2024</u>

Select 'Join Now' to enter the meeting. If prompted, enter the following Meeting ID, Meeting Passcode and your name. Meeting ID: 235 907 543 924 Passcode: rboYjL

-or-

Join by Phone

Dial-In: 866-984-3164 When prompted, enter Conference ID: 546 440 694, followed by the # sign to access the meeting.

A copy of this Notice of Filing and Public Hearings in this matter is being served upon the clerk, executive or administrator of each municipality and county within the Company's service territory. 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 Microsoft Teams meeting link or Dial-In Number and Conference ID set forth above to express their views on this petition. All comments will become part of the final record to be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for accommodations, such as interpreters or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearing to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket number listed above using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's Public Document Search tool. Comments are considered public documents for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Only documents that are intended to be public 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 at <u>https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/</u>.

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>