

**SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY TO
REVISE THE LEVELS OF ITS SOCIETAL BENEFITS CLAUSE (“SBC”) CHARGES
AND ITS TRANSPORTATION INITIATION CLAUSE (“TIC”) CHARGE
BPU DOCKET NO. GR24070549**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 31, 2024, South Jersey Gas Company (“South Jersey” or “Company”) filed a petition with The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) requesting an \$11.7 million, including Sales and Use Tax (“SUT”), increase in the overall level of its Societal Benefits Clause (“SBC”) charges through an increase to its Remediation Adjustment Clause (“RAC”) charge, and an increase to its Clean Energy Program (“CLEP”) charge (both components of the SBC), as well as an increase to its Transportation Initiation Clause (“TIC”) charge (“Petition”).

The RAC recovers costs associated with environmental remediation of former manufactured gas plant sites, while the CLEP recovers costs associated with energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The TIC recovers capital expenditures and operating costs, including consulting and transaction costs, associated with the Electronic Data Interchange. The SBC and TIC provide no profit to the Company. These clauses allow the Company to pass through only increases or decreases in the costs incurred to conduct the related mandated programs.

Set forth below are the current and proposed rates, inclusive of SUT, so customers may determine the effect of the proposed increased rates. Any assistance required by customers in understanding these rates will be furnished by the Company upon request.

The proposed rates, when compared to rates in effect on October 1, 2024, for a residential heating customer using 100 therms will increase the customer's monthly bill by \$2.19 from \$183.35 to \$185.54, an increase of approximately 1.19%.

| | <u>RAC</u> | <u>CLEP</u> | <u>TIC</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Current Rate | \$0.058983 | \$0.026858 | \$0.000776 | \$0.086617 |
| Proposed Rate | <u>\$0.065214</u> | <u>\$0.042407</u> | <u>\$0.001005</u> | <u>\$0.108626</u> |
| Rate (Decrease)/Increase | <u>\$0.006231</u> | <u>\$0.015549</u> | <u>\$0.000229</u> | <u>\$0.022009</u> |
| Dollar (Decrease)/Increase | \$0.62 | \$1.55 | \$0.02 | \$2.19 |
| Percentage (Decrease)/Increase | 0.34% | 0.85% | 0.01% | 1.19% |

The Board has the statutory authority under N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to establish South Jersey's rates at levels it finds just and reasonable, as well as the effective date of such rates. Therefore, the Board may establish the rates at levels and/or an effective date other than those proposed by South Jersey.

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 the Petition can be reviewed on the Company's website at www.southjerseygas.com under Regulatory Information. The Petition is also available to review online through the Board's website, <https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us>. The Petition and Board's file may also be reviewed at the Board located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st 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 Petition:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Date: November 13, 2024

Hearing Times: 4:30pm and 5:30pm

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

Press Ctrl key + Click on this link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/joinTeamsMeetingSjGhearing11-13-2024>

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 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 of 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 <https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

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: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

South Jersey Gas Company