

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL OF A RATE ADJUSTMENT PURSUANT TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE
INVESTMENT PROGRAM (“IIP”)
BPU Docket No. GR23040269

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 28, 2023, South Jersey Gas Company (“South Jersey” or “Company”) filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) seeking approval to increase rates associated with the Company’s Infrastructure Investment Program (“IIP”) (“Petition”). The Board approved the IIP and the associated cost recovery mechanism on June 8, 2022 in Docket No. GR20110726 (“IIP Order”). The IIP Order authorized the Company to invest up to \$200 million over a five-year period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027, to replace up to 250 miles of pre-code coated steel and pre-1971 vintage Aldyl-A plastic mains and related services, as well as the installation of excess flow valves on new service lines (“IIP Projects”). The IIP Order also authorized the Company to make annual filings with the Board to recover the costs associated with the in-service IIP Projects and to earn a return on and a return of those investments through annual adjustments to rates. This Petition seeks Board approval to recover \$4.3 million of revenue requirements associated with approximately \$40.8 million of IIP Projects placed in-service from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, with an October 1, 2023 rate effective date. The IIP Projects are intended to enhance distribution safety and reliability to the benefit of South Jersey’s customers, to help support the environment and to facilitate economic development and employment in New Jersey.

If the proposed rate increase is approved by the Board, effective October 1, 2023, the per therm rates, inclusive of taxes, to all firm customers served under Service Classifications RSG, GSG, GSG-LV, CTS, LVS, EGS, EGS-LV, NGV, YLS, and SLS, including certain firm, Board approved special contract customers served under the Company's firm rate classes, if applicable, would be as follows:

		Current Rates per <u>Therm</u>	Proposed Rates per <u>Therm</u>	Change per <u>Therm</u>
RSG	Residential	\$0.000000	\$0.011513	\$0.011513
GSG	General Service	\$0.000000	\$0.009176	\$0.009176
GSG-LV	General Service - Large Volume	\$0.000000	\$0.005172	\$0.005172
CTS	Comprehensive Firm Transportation Service	\$0.000000	\$0.003200	\$0.003200
LVS	Large Volume Service	\$0.000000	\$0.001668	\$0.001668
EGS	Electric Generation Service	\$0.000000	\$0.002238	\$0.002238
EGS-LV	Electric Generation Service – Large Volume	\$0.000000	\$0.000285	\$0.000285
NGV	Natural Gas Vehicles	\$0.000000	\$0.003984	\$0.003984
YLS*	Yard Lighting Service	\$0.000000	\$0.119790	\$0.119790
SLS*	Street Lighting Service	\$0.000000	\$0.129131	\$0.129131
	Firm Special Contracts	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000

*Represents the monthly rate per installation

The impact of the proposed increases as compared to rates in effect on July 1, 2023, for a residential heating customer using 100 therms, is to increase the customer's monthly bill by \$1.15 from \$191.58 to \$192.73, an increase of 0.6%.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-1, any relief determined by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated to customers in such manner, and in such amounts or percentages, as the Board may deem appropriate. The Board may authorize an increase on any customer class or group or may exclude from increase any customer class or group, varying the percentage increase applicable. Therefore, the Board may approve a Rider "B" rate that is different than the rate 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.

Copies of South Jersey's Petition can be reviewed on the Company's website at www.southjerseygas.com under regulatory information.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, 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:

Date: August 29, 2023

Hearing Times: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 214 774 653 433

Passcode: wW7DwM

(Access the Microsoft Teams App or Microsoft Teams on the web. On the left side of the screen, click the "Teams" icon. Select "Join or 'create a team'". Press "Join" and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode when prompted.)

or

Dial In: 866-984-3164

Conference ID: 572 818 049 followed by #

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 Meeting ID or the Dial-In Number set forth above and may express their views on this Petition. All comments will be made part of the final record of the proceeding to be considered by the Board. In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters, or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings 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 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 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.
<https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/>.

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

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South Jersey Gas Company
Brent Schomber
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