NOTICE TO SOUTH JERSEY GAS COMPANY CUSTOMERS

In the Matter of the Petition of South Jersey Gas Company for Approval of New Energy Efficiency Programs and Associated Cost Recovery Pursuant to the Clean Energy Act

BPU DOCKET No. GO20090618

On November 20, 2023, South Jersey Gas Company ("SJG" or "Company") filed a Letter Petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") seeking approval to extend, by six (6) months, the energy efficiency ("EE") programs previously approved by the Board to be implemented for a three-year period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024 ("Triennium 1" or "T1"). The EE programs were proposed by SJG and approved by the Board in accordance with the Clean Energy Act of 2018 ("CEA"). SJG is seeking approval for a budget of \$34.827 million for the six-month extension. The Petition states that the requested budget is designed to meet customer demand for the Company's current T1 programs.

SJG's T1 programs were approved by Board Order on April 7, 2021. By Order dated May 24, 2023, the Board directed each electric and gas public utility to propose EE programs for Triennium 2 ("T2") on or before October 2, 2023. By Order dated October 25, 2023, the Board found it was reasonable, prudent, and in the public interest to provide additional time for Board Staff ("Staff") and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") to conduct a thorough and diligent concurrent review of the T2 programs, as well as to provide parties and interested stakeholders with additional time to review, analyze, and discuss the filings. As a result, the Board ordered that T2 programs would commence on January 1, 2025, concluding on June 30, 2027, and directed the electric and gas utilities to each file a Letter Petition to extend their T1 programs, without changes, by six (6) months to December 31, 2024.

According to the Petition, SJG will seek recovery of the costs related to the six-month extension of T1 programs in future annual rate filings made in accordance with Rider "N" of the Company's tariff, which recovers costs associated with EE programs. SJG will also seek recovery of lost revenues associated with the EE Programs in future annual rate filings related to its Conservation Incentive Program and made in accordance with Rider "M" of the Company's tariff. The current EE programs provide a broad range of offerings for residential, commercial, and industrial customers, including special resources for low to moderate income customers. They also include discounted energy saving measures, grants, financing opportunities, technical assistance, and other resources to help address barriers to saving energy and making investments in energy efficiency improvements more accessible for all customers. The Company's filing is available for review at the Company's website at: <u>SJG-2023-EEP-Triennium-1-Filing-GO20090618-11-20-23_Final.pdf</u> (southjerseygas.com)

Since recovery will be sought by the Company in a subsequent filing, this request results in no immediate impact on any customer's bill and is strictly for approval of the BPU-ordered extension of the T1 Programs.

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 Letter Petition:

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS Date: March 7, 2024 Hearing Times: 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting Join a Microsoft Teams Meeting by ID | Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 268 676 502 006 Passcode: hLmZ7K

(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: 1-609-594-2077 Conference ID: 814 963 521, followed by the # sign

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, Staff, and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings.

Members of the public are invited to participate utilizing the link or dial-in information above to express their views on the Letter Petition. All comments will become 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 accommodations, such as interpreters or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearing 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 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: Sherri L. Golden, 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>

South Jersey Gas Company