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September 5, 2017

PA PUC SECRETARY'S BUREAU FRONT DESK

### **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Petition of Just Energy Solutions, Inc. d/b/a Just Energy for a Reduction in Level

of Bonding; Docket No. A-110117

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

Enclosed please find Just Energy Solutions, Inc. d/b/a Just Energy ("Just Energy") Petition for a Renewal of Reduced Bonding Level Authorization ("Petition"). This filing includes commercially valuable and sensitive information regarding its business activity in Pennsylvania for which Just Energy requests confidential treatment. Accordingly, enclosed is a version of the Petition marked "Public Version" for inclusion in the public record, and a version of the Petition marked "Confidential Version". Just Energy respectfully requests that the Confidential Version of its Petition be maintained by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") under seal. Also enclosed is a filing fee in the amount of \$350.00.

Please note that Just Energy has requested a bond reduction renewal date of December 9.

Copies of Just Energy's Public Version of its Petition have been served on each of the Public Advocates, the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Revenue, the Office of Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection and all Pennsylvania electric distribution companies as indicated in the attached Certificate of Service.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding this filing. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

John F. Povilaitis

JFP/jls Enclosures

cc: Certificate of Service

RECEIVED **BEFORE THE** PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION 5 PM 3: 05

Petition of Just Energy Solutions,

Docket No. A-110117

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Inc. d/b/a Just Energy, For A

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Reduction in Level of Bond

or Security

### PETITION OF JUST ENERGY SOLUTIONS, INC. d/b/a JUST ENERGY FOR A REDUCTION IN LEVEL OF BOND OR SECURITY

#### I. Introduction

- Just Energy Solutions, Inc. d/b/a Just Energy ("Just Energy" or "Company") is an electric generation supplier ("EGS") authorized by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PaPUC" or "Commission") to provide service to residential, commercial and industrial customers in the PECO service territory. Just Energy, f/k/a as Commerce Energy Corp, received its initial license to operate as an EGS by order of September 15, 1999 at Docket No. A-110117. As a licensed EGS, Just Energy is subject to the Commission's authority to require it to furnish a bond or other security in order to operate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to Section 2809(c) of the Public Utility Code ("Code") and Section 54.40 of the Commission's regulations. 66 Pa.C. S. §2809(c); 52 Pa.Code §54.40.
- 2. Section 54.40(d) of the Commission's regulations requires EGSs to provide a security level of 10% of the licensee's reported gross receipts. However, a licensee may seek approval from the Commission of an alternative level of bonding, commensurate with the nature and scope of its operations. 52 Pa.Code §54.40(d). According to the Commission's regulations, the purpose of the bond is to ensure payment of the Pennsylvania Gross Receipts Tax ("GRT") and to ensure the supply of electricity at the retail level in accordance with contracts, agreements or arrangements. 52 Pa.Code §54.40(f)(2). On July 24, 2014, after consideration of formal

comments submitted to a December 5, 2013 Tentative Order, the Commission found that requiring an EGS to post a bond or security in the amount of 10% of gross receipts after the first year of operation "may be excessive in relation to the risk intended to be secured, unnecessarily burdening EGSs, and presenting a potential barrier to entry into Pennsylvania's retail electric market." Therefore the Commission announced in the July 24, 2014 Order that it was adopting the policy of accepting applications by EGSs to reduce their level of bonding/security after the first year of operation to 5% of the EGS's most recent 12 months of gross revenue or \$250,000, whichever is higher. In addition, the July 24, 2014 Order delegated authority to review uncontested requests for a reduction in the level of bonding to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services.<sup>2</sup>

- 3. Based on the July 24, 2014 Order, the Code, the Commission's regulation at Section 54.40(d) and the following supporting material, Just Energy respectfully requests that the Commission approve a reduction in its security requirement to 5% of its most recent 12 months of gross revenue.
- 4. In addition, Just Energy respectfully requests that the Commission set the bond reduction renewal date to December 9 for it and its two other affiliates- Hudson Energy Services, LLC, Docket No. A-2010-2192137, and Just Energy PA Corp, Docket No. A-2009-2097544. Just Energy's aforementioned affiliates are filing similar requests in their bond reduction filings in order to streamline the entire process for the Commission and the companies.

<sup>2</sup> July 24, 2014 Order at 12-13.

Public Utility Commission Bonding/Security Requirements for Electric Generation Suppliers; Acceptable Security Instruments, Docket No. M-2013-2393141 (July 24, 2014) ("July 24, 2014 Order") at 10.

### II. Information Provided in Support of Bond Reduction Request

- 5. Prior to filing this Application to reduce its bonding requirement, Just Energy informally consulted with Commission staff to obtain guidance as to the appropriate information to support such a request, as was suggested by the Commission in the July 24, 2014 Order.<sup>3</sup> Based on that consultation, this Application includes Confidential Attachments 1 through 4. Confidential Attachment 1 provides Just Energy's gross revenues for the sale of electricity to retail customers in Pennsylvania for the most recent twelve (12) months.
- 6. Confidential Attachment 2 is a Tax Status Letter of Good Standing obtained by Just Energy from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue ("DOR").
- 7. Confidential Attachment 3 documents Just Energy's full compliance with the requirements of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards ("AEPS") Act. This attachment shows compliance data for the most recent 12 month period (June 1 through May 31) taken from the report of the Statewide Administrator of the Pennsylvania AEPS Alternative Energy Credit Program, stating the compliance obligation for the most recent energy year.
- 8. Confidential Attachment 4 is proof that Just Energy has prepaid gross receipts taxes.
- 9. Based on the foregoing information which demonstrates that Just Energy is in compliance with the AEPS Alternative Energy Credit Program and is in good standing with DOR, Just Energy requests that its bonding requirement be reduced to 5% of its most recent twelve (12) months of gross revenue. This amount is reasonable and satisfies the requirements of Section 2809(c) of the Public Utility Code ("Code") and Section 54.40 of the Commission's regulations. 66 Pa.C. S. §2809(c); 52 Pa. Code §54.40.

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<sup>3</sup> *Id*.

III. **Relief Requested and Conclusion** 

> 10. Based on its standing as an EGS licensed to do business in Pennsylvania, the

Commission's regulations and the July 24, 2014 Order, Just Energy respectfully requests that it

be authorized to amend its current bond security on file with the Commission to 5% of its most

recent twelve (12) months of revenue. Upon approval of this Application by the Commission,

Just Energy will submit a new bond in this amount that also complies with the Commission's

bond requirements for EGSs listed in Section 55.40(f) of the Commission's regulations. 52

Pa.Code §54.40(f).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 5, 2017

John F. Povilaitis

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

409 North Second Street

Suite 500

Harrisburg, PA 17101

(717) 237-4825

Counsel for Just Energy Solutions, Inc.

d/b/a Just Energy

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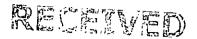
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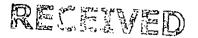
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### **VERIFICATION**

I, Charles C.S. Iannello, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, on behalf of Just Energy Solutions, Inc. d/b/a Just Energy, hereby verify that the information in the foregoing Petition is true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief. I understand that the statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to the unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature

Dated: September 5, 2017

### BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Just Energy Solutions, Inc.

d/b/a Just Energy, For A Reduction in Level:

of Bond Security

Docket No. A-110117

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION SECRETARY'S BUREAU

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the **public version** of the attached document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

### Via First Class Mail

Small Business Advocate Commerce Building, Suite 1102 300 North Second Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Richard Kanaskie, Director Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

John M. Abel
Margarita Tulman
Office of Attorney General
Bureau of Consumer Protection
15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Tonya McCloskey Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Bureau of Compliance Harrisburg, PA 17128-0946 Daniel Mumford,
Director of Office of Competitive Market
Oversight
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
3rd Floor, Room N-309
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Bureau of Technical Utility Services Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 3rd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17105

Legal Department West Penn Power d/b/a Allegheny Power 800 Cabin Hill Drive Greensburg, PA 15601-1689

Citizens' Electric Company Attn: EGS Coordination 1775 Industrial Boulevard Lewisburg, PA 17837

Regulatory Affairs Duquesne Light Company 411 Seventh Street, MD 16-4 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Legal Department Attn: Paul Russell PPL Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18108-1179

Director of Customer Energy Services Orange and Rockland Company 390 West Route 59 Spring Valley, NY 10977-5300

UGI Utilities, Inc. Attn: Rates Dept. – Choice Coordinator 2525 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 360 P.O. Box 12677 Reading, PA 19612-2677 Legal Department First Energy 2800 Pottsville Pike Reading, PA 19612

Wellsboro Electric Company Attn: EGS Coordination 33 Austin Street P.O. Box 138 Wellsboro, PA 16901

Manager Energy Acquisition PECO Energy Company 2301 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19101-8699

Dated this 5th day of September, 2017.

/John F. Povilaitis