## NOTICE TO JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY CUSTOMERS

## Notice of a Filing and Notice of Public Hearings

In the Matter of the 2025/2026 Annual Compliance Filings for a Change in the Statewide Electric and Gas Permanent Universal Service Fund Program Factors within the Electric and Gas Societal Benefits Charges Rates Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1

## BPU Docket No. ER25060371

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, on June 27, 2025, Jersey Central Power & Light Company ("JCP&L" or "Company") made an Annual Compliance Filing ("Filing") with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") providing supporting documentation for changes in the Universal Service Fund ("USF") and Lifeline components of JCP&L's Societal Benefits Charge ("SBC") to become effective on October 1, 2025. The requested changes in electric USF/Lifeline components are made pursuant to Board Orders at BPU Docket Nos. EX00020091, EO09060506, and EO09090771, and includes the recovery of funding for the USF Program through uniform statewide rates.

The USF Program was established by the Board in 2003, pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act ("EDECA"), N.J.S.A. 48:3-49, *et seq.*, to assist qualifying low-income individuals in paying their energy bills. The SBC also includes funding for the Lifeline Program, which provides assistance with heating costs to qualifying elderly and disabled persons. The State of New Jersey's Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") and Department of Human Services ("DHS") are the Administrators of the USF and Lifeline Programs, respectively. DCA and DHS authorize the disbursement of benefits to eligible customers in the respective programs.

Based upon the results and available estimates known to date for the 2024/2025 USF Program year, and the available estimates for the 2025/2026 USF Program year, it is anticipated that the USF rates will be set to collect approximately \$332.1 million, of which approximately \$242.1 million would be recovered through electric rates with the remaining approximately \$90 million recovered through gas rates on a statewide basis. The Lifeline rates are anticipated to collect approximately \$74.6 million, of which approximately \$50.7 million would be recovered through electric rates with the remaining approximately \$23.9 million recovered through gas rates on a statewide basis.

The current combined rate, with sales and use tax ("SUT"), for the USF and Lifeline Programs for electric customers is \$0.002969 per kilowatt-hour ("kWh"). As proposed, the USF component with SUT would increase by \$0.001516 per kWh and the Lifeline component with SUT would increase by \$0.000023 per kWh. The proposed USF/Lifeline Program charge with SUT will increase to \$0.004508 per kWh.

The proposed statewide charges for electric customers are as follows:

Universal Service/Lifeline Fund Components of Societal Benefits Charge							
	Present	Present (Incl. SUT)	Proposed	Proposed (Incl. SUT)			
USF-Electric per kWh	\$0.002075	\$0.002212	\$0.003496	\$0.003728			
Lifeline-Electric per kWh	\$0.000732	\$0.000757	\$0.000732	\$0.000780			
Total USF/Lifeline per kWh	\$0.002807	\$0.002969	\$0.004228	\$0.004508			

The above requests will not result in any profit to JCP&L. The revenues received under the proposed USF and Lifeline Program factors are designed to permit the Company to recover its costs associated with these programs only. Actual program costs will be reconciled with the revenues received through the USF and Lifeline Program charges in the next scheduled annual USF and Lifeline compliance filing to be made no later than July 1, 2026.

If approved by the Board, the effect of the proposed changes in the electric combined USF/Lifeline Program charges on a typical residential electric bill is illustrated below:

Impact of Proposed USF and Lifeline Charges								
On Typical Residential Electric Bills								
Monthly	Annual	Present	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed			
kWh	kWh	Annual	Annual	Annual	%			
Usage	usage	Bill (1)	Bill (2)	Increase	Increase			
500	6,000	\$ 1,216.76	\$1,225.99	\$9.23	0.8%			
1,000	12,000	\$ 2,492.44	\$2,510.91	\$18.47	0.7%			
1,500	18,000	\$ 3,795.67	\$3,823.37	\$27.70	0.7%			

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on Residential Full Service (RS) rates in effect June 1, 2025.

As set forth above, based on JCP&L's Filing, a residential electric customer using 500 kilowatt hours per month, and 6,000 kilowatt hours on an annual basis, would see an increase in their monthly bill from \$101.40 to \$102.17, or \$0.77 or approximately 0.8%, and in their annual bill from \$1,216.76 to \$1,225.99, or \$9.23 or approximately 0.8%.

The percentage of change applicable to specific customers will vary according to the applicable service classification and the level of the customer's usage.

<sup>(2)</sup> Based on Residential Full Service (RS) rates in effect June 1, 2025, with proposed charges.

The Board has the statutory authority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 to establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels it finds just and reasonable. Therefore, the Board may establish the USF and Lifeline charges at levels other than those proposed by JCP&L. As a result, the above-described charges may increase or decrease based upon the Board's decision.

Copies of the Filing can be reviewed on JCP&L's website at:

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/jersey central power light/regulatory.html.

**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 Filing:

Date: September 3, 2025

Hearing Times: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Link: https://fecorp.co/PH-09-03-2025

**Dial-In Number:** 878-787-7704 **Phone Conference ID:** 866-378-105 **Meeting ID:** 254 556 968 027 6

**Passcode:** gq6R7k9o

Representatives from 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 link or dial-in information set forth above and may express their views on this Filing. All comments will be made a part of the final record of this proceeding and will be considered by the Board. To encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any request for needed accommodations, such as interpreters and/or listening devices, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at <a href="mailto:board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov">board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov</a>.

The Board will also accept written and/or 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 at <a href="https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/">https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/</a>. 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, Sherri L. Lewis. Please include "Confidential Information" in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Board's webpage at <a href="https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/">https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/</a>.

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

Sherri L. Lewis, Secretary of the Board 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor P.O. Box 350

Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 Phone: (609) 913-6241

Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

All comments should include the name of the matter referenced above and the assigned docket number.