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Cabinet Member

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To: Honorable Richard J. Hughes, Governor
From: Board of Public Utility Commissioners
Subject: Monthly Report - April, 1964

I am pleased to submit the Board's monthly report which is here summarized.

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The Board approved gas franchise renewals granted by 6 municipalities to City Gas Company of New Jersey. A new franchise given to the New Jersey Natural Gas Company by Colts Neck Township was also approved.

The Board was represented in Washington, D. C. before the I.C.C. on oral arguments in the Norfolk & Western Railway - New York, Chicago & St. Louis railroad merger case.

William F. Hyland
William F. Hyland
President

Attachment

WFH/mdk





State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

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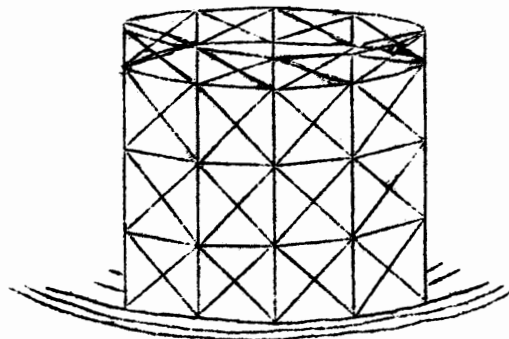
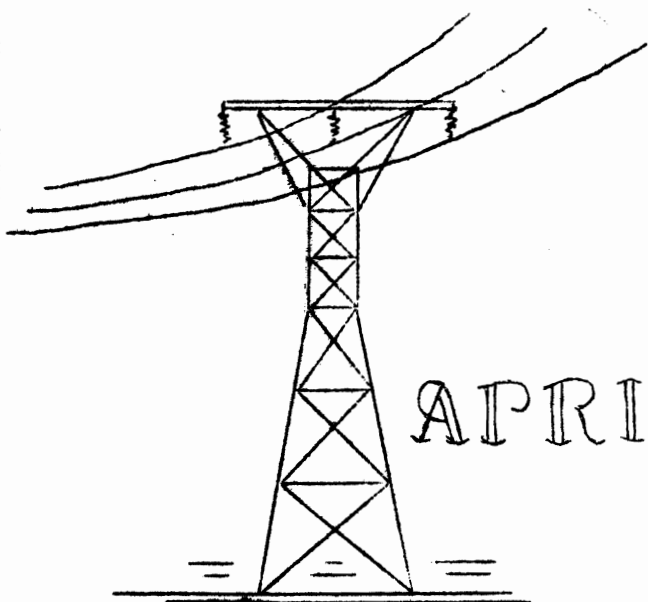
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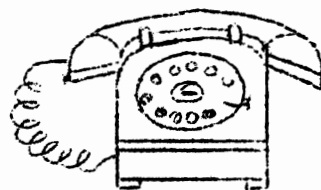
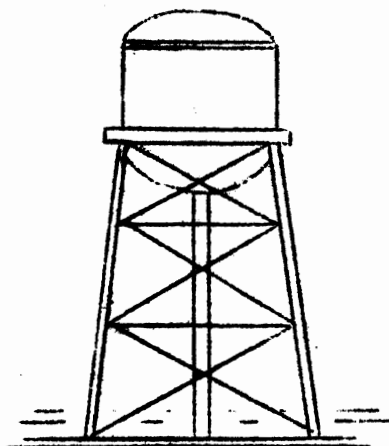
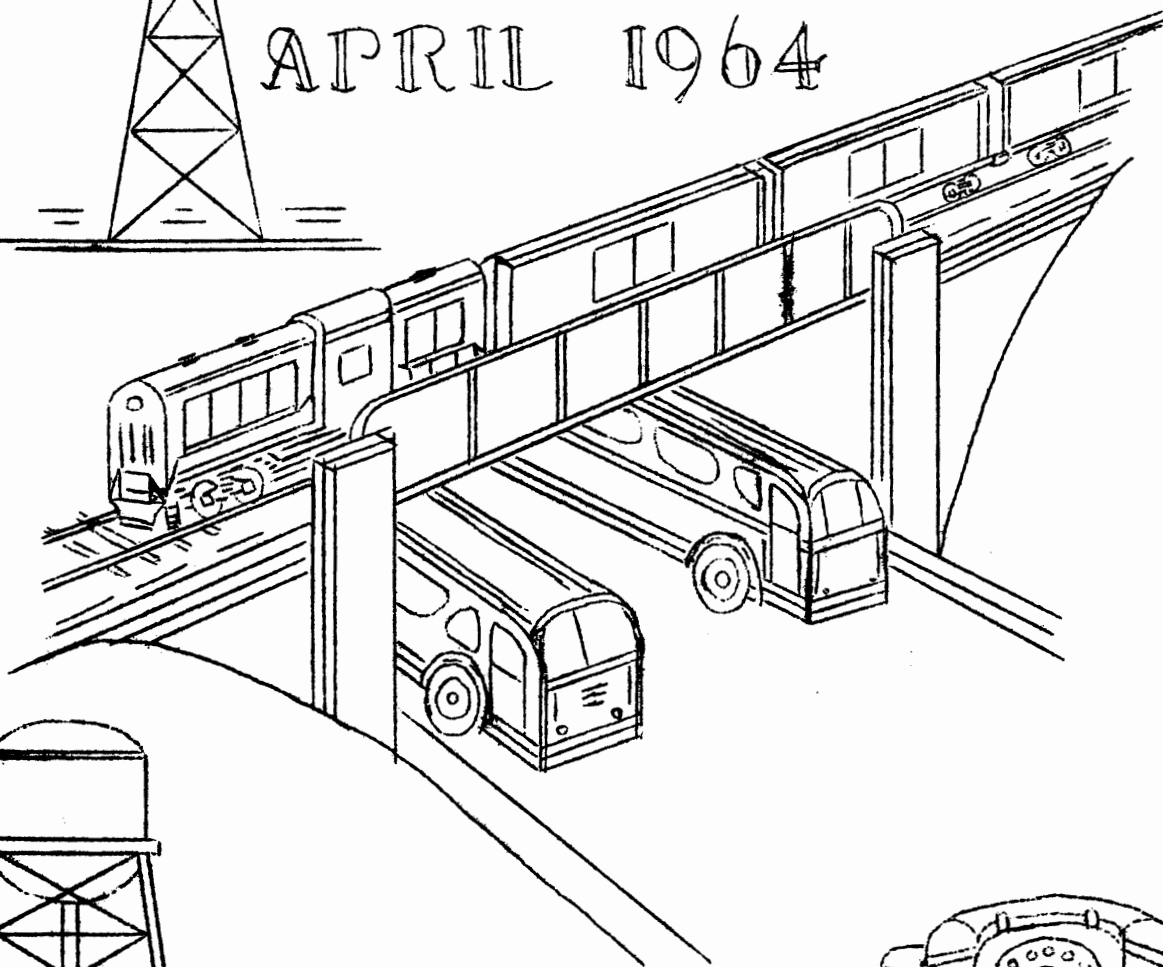
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WFH/mkk

MONTHLY REPORT



APRIL 1964



NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

REPORT TO GOVERNOR RICHARD J. HUGHES

FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1964

ACTIVITIES

	Decisions Issued	105	
	Petitions Filed	100	
	Formal Hearings	48	
	Informal Proceedings	3,099	
<u>REVENUES</u>		<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Filing Fees and Other Sources for the Month of April		\$101,930.09	\$112,744.08
Filing Fees and Other Sources for the Months of July-April.		\$229,816.53	\$286,334.68

Note- Of the total fees collected for April, 1964, \$90,668.39 is attributed to the fees for examination and auditing of utility annual reports.

PSCT RATE INCREASE PROPOSAL

Public Service Coordinated Transport filed on April 10, 1964, for a rate increase effective May 10, 1964, but the Board suspended the new rates for 4 months until September 10, 1964, and set initial public hearings at Trenton on May 13 and 14. Rate Counsel, appointed by the Attorney General to represent the public interest, are Messrs. Cuccio, Matthews, and Wall.

Generally, there is proposed a 5¢ increase for present one-zone 15¢ rides and the use of paid transfer and exchange privileges. Multiple-zone fares on a single bus will not be increased except on longer lines. Those making 2-zone rides on one bus will continue to pay 25¢, those making 3-zone rides will continue to pay 30¢, etc. Student ticket fares will rise to 60%

of the adult one-way fares, the first increase on such fares since 1958.

GAS FRANCHISE APPROVED

CITY GAS COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY

City Gas Company of New Jersey, having received renewed gas rights from the Boroughs of Hopewell and Pennington and the Township of Hopewell in Mercer County and the Borough of Stockton and Townships of West and East Amwell in Hunterdon County to service each municipality, received Board permission to continue their operations under the new franchises.

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

The company, presently serving gas to the adjoining Township of Marlboro, Freehold, Howell, Wall, New Shrewsbury, Middletown, and Holmdel, received an additional gas franchise for the Township of Colts Neck, Monmouth County. Requests for service from 132 customers have been received. No other utility is serving in Colts Neck.

RAILROAD BRIDGE HEARINGS

Questions to be answered at public hearings set for April and May concerning 4 railroad bridges are (1) is the bridge good and sufficient, (2) does it impede travel, (3) is the width and character of the bridge suitable for the locality, and (4) should the bridge be enlarged, changed, reconstructed, relocated or modified. The 4 bridges are located in the Borough of Berlin, Camden County (Pennsylvania Reading Seashore Lines); in the Borough of Fanwood, Union County (Central Railroad of New Jersey); in

Edison Township, Middlesex County (Lehigh Valley Railroad Company); and in Lawrence Township, Mercer County (Pennsylvania Railroad Company). Cost apportionment for work on bridges is fixed by statute, N.J.S.A. 48:12-49.1, enacted in 1960, amended in 1962 and 1963. The railroad company or companies involved pay 15% and the Board 85% but if the Board finds the necessary changes are caused by increased vehicular or pedestrian traffic within a municipality or county having jurisdiction of the road involved, it may order that costs be paid 15% by the railroad, 15% by the municipality or county and 70% by the Board.

RAILROAD CROSSINGS & STATION CHANGE

Board Orders granted authority to Pennsylvania Railroad Company to (1) discontinue manual protection and substitute automatic flashing lights at a grade crossing in Mount Holly Township, Burlington County and to (2) establish an industrial side track crossing at grade in Delanco Township, Burlington County, to serve Kaiser Gypsum Co., Inc.

Central Railroad Company of New Jersey, operating a main line between Jersey City and Phillipsburg, was permitted to change the status of its Phillipsburg station, Warren County, from agency freight and passenger to agency freight station and to abandon the present building. Passenger business had declined substantially. The company was directed to see that the passenger shelter was continued. Although the building is leased to a pharmacy, the lease provides that the passengers have access to the station platform, the tracks, and a shelter canopy.

Dates for public hearings were set, on the Board's own motion, to determine whether two grade crossings are adequately protected for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. One case involves a site in the Borough of Wenonah, Gloucester County, over the PRSL and, the other a road in Hazlet, Raritan Township, crossing the New York and Long Branch Railroad Company.

PRIVATE TO PUBLIC SEWERAGE

The Board approved the transfer of sewage plant and system from Mar-Dale Manor Sewerage Corp., a public utility, to the Gloucester Township Sewerage Authority, being assured that the transferee will continue the operation in that Township in Camden County.

RAILROAD MERGER HEARING

A deputy attorney general assigned to the Board participated in oral argument heard by the ICC at Washington, D.C. in the Norfolk & Western Railway-New York, Chicago & St. Louis R.R. merger case. It was argued that New Jersey railroads especially the N.Y. Susquehanna and Western and the Erie-Lackawanna, must be considered in this as well as in the N.Y. Central-Pennsylvania R. Co. merger.

CONDEMNATION OF ELECTRIC LINE RIGHT OF WAY

To meet load requirements in northern New Jersey, Jersey Central Power & Light Company was given authority by the Board to exercise powers of eminent domain for rights of way over private lands in 2 cases. Thereafter, construction can proceed on a 230 KV transmission line between the Metropolitan Edison Company's Portland Generating Station (Pennsylvania) and the company's Kittatinny substation. There will be a tie-in with facilities

of P.S. E. & G. Co. and an interconnection with generating sources in Pennsylvania, and at Yards Creek, in northwestern New Jersey.

REDUCTION OF ELECTRIC RATES DENIED

On petitions by 3 municipalities (West Milford Township, Passaic County; Borough of Oakland, Bergen County; and the Borough of Ringwood, Passaic County) seeking a general reduction of Rockland Electric Company rates or a reapportionment of service areas, the Board found that the allegations of discriminatory and unreasonable rates were not supported by the petitioner's evidence. Rockland's rates were higher than rates of other electric utilities serving areas adjacent to the petitioners and were therefore unreasonable, the petitioners claimed. They also charged that service of a municipality by more than 1 utility at different rates was geographical discrimination. The Board held otherwise on the basis of its own prior cases and of court decisions. In 1963, after a Board review of its rates Rockland had filed reductions of \$211,000 on residential and \$20,000 on commercial rates. Thereafter, in April 1964, a rate reduction of \$65,000 on commercial rates was filed.