SOUTH JERSEY INDUSTRIES INC Form 10-K March 01, 2010

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 10-K

TANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009

£TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13	OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
For the transition period from	to
Commission File	Number 1-6364
SOUTH JERSEY IN (Exact name of registrant a	•
New Jersey (State of incorporation)	22-1901645 (IRS employer identification no.)

1 South Jersey Plaza, Folsom, New Jersey 08037 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(609) 561-9000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Stock (\$1.25 par value per share) (Title of each class)

New York Stock Exchange (Name of exchange on which registered)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act: Yes T No £

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Act: Yes £ No T

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes T No £

•	t mark whether the reg ctive Data File required				•
1	months (or for such sh	orter period that the	registrant was requi	red to submit and po	ost such files).
Yes £ No £					
SJI - 1					

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. T

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer T Accelerated filer £

Non-accelerated filer £ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company £

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes £ No T

The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2009 was \$1,034,720,588. As of February 22, 2010, there were 29,812,932 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding.

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

In Part I of Form 10-K: None In Part II of Form 10-K: None

In Part III of Form 10-K: Portions of the registrant's proxy statement filed within 120 days of the close of the registrant's fiscal year in connection with the registrant's 2010 annual meeting of shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

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Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this Annual Report on form 10-K may qualify as "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Report should be considered forward-looking statements made in good faith by the Company and are intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. When used in this Report, or any other of the Company's documents or oral presentations, words such as "anticipate", "believe", "expect", "estimate", "forecast", "goal", "objective", "plan", "project", "seek", "strategy" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statement Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to the risks set forth under "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and elsewhere throughout this Report. These cautionary statements should not be construed by you to be exhaustive and they are made only as of the date of this Report. While South Jersey Industries, Inc. (SJI or the Company) believes these forward-looking statements to be reasonable, there can be no assurance that they will approximate actual experience or that the expectations derived from them will be realized. Further, SJI undertakes no obligation to update or revise any of its forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Available Information

The Company's Internet address is www.sjindustries.com. We make available free of charge on or through our website SJI's annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains these reports at http://www.sec.gov. Also, copies of SJI's annual report will be made available, free of charge, upon written request. The content on any web site referred to in this filing is not incorporated by reference into this filing unless expressly noted otherwise.

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Units of Measurement

For Natural Gas:	
1 Mcf	= One thousand cubic feet
1 MMcf	= One million cubic feet
1 Bcf	= One billion cubic feet
1dt	= One decatherm
1 MMdts	= One million decatherms
dts/d	= Decatherms per day
MDWQ	= Maximum daily withdrawal
	quantity

PART I

Item 1. Business

Description of Business

The registrant, South Jersey Industries, Inc. a New Jersey corporation, was formed in 1969 for the purpose of owning and holding all of the outstanding common stock of South Jersey Gas Company, a public utility, and acquiring and developing non-utility lines of business.

SJI currently provides a variety of energy related products and services primarily through the following subsidiaries:

- South Jersey Gas Company (SJG) is a regulated natural gas utility. SJG distributes natural gas in the seven southernmost counties of New Jersey.
- South Jersey Resources Group, LLC (SJRG) markets wholesale natural gas storage, commodity and transportation in the mid-Atlantic and southern states.
 - Marina Energy, LLC (Marina) develops and operates on-site energy-related projects.

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- South Jersey Energy Company (SJE) acquires and markets natural gas and electricity to retail end users and provides total energy management services to commercial and industrial customers.
- South Jersey Energy Service Plus, LLC (SJESP) provides residential and light commercial service and installation of HVAC systems, plumbing services and appliance repair and service/maintenance contracts.

Additional Information on the nature of our business can be found in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," under Item 7 of this report.

Financial Information About Reportable Segments

Information regarding Reportable Segments is incorporated by reference to Note 7 of the consolidated financial statements included under Item 8 of this report.

Sources and Availability of Raw Materials

South Jersey Gas Company

Transportation and Storage Agreements

SJG has direct connections to the interstate natural gas pipeline systems of both Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) and Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia). During 2009, SJG purchased and had delivered approximately 34.4 Million decatherms (MMdts) of natural gas for distribution to both on-system and off-system customers. Of this total, 22.5 MMdts were transported on the Transco pipeline system while 11.9 MMdts were transported on the Columbia pipeline system. SJG also secures firm transportation and other long term services from two additional pipelines upstream of the Transco and Columbia systems. They include Columbia Gulf Transmission Company, LLC (Columbia Gulf) and Dominion Transmission, Inc. (Dominion). Services provided by these upstream pipelines are utilized to deliver gas into either the Transco or Columbia systems for ultimate delivery to SJG. Services provided by all of the above-mentioned pipelines are subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Unless otherwise indicated, our intentions are to renew or extend these service agreements before they expire.

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Transco:

Transco is SJG's largest supplier of long-term gas transmission services which includes both year-round and seasonal firm transportation (FT) service arrangements. When combined, these FT services enable SJG to purchase gas from third parties and have delivered to its city gate stations by Transco a total of 280,525 dts per day (dts/d). Of this total, 133,917 dts/d is long-haul FT (where gas can be transported from the production areas of the Southwest to the market areas of the Northeast) while 146,608 dts/d is market area FT. The terms of SJG's year-round agreements extend for various periods through 2025. The terms of its seasonal agreements vary in length with the longest extending into 2013.

Of the 280,525 dts/d of Transco services mentioned above, SJG has released a total of 89,800 dts/d of its long-haul FT and 25,565 dts/d of its market area FT service. These releases were made in association with SJG's Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) discussed further under Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

SJG currently has six long-term gas storage service agreements with Transco that, when combined, are capable of storing approximately 5.0 MMdts. Through these agreements, SJG can inject gas into market and production area storages during periods of low demand and extract gas at a Maximum Daily Withdrawal Quantity (MDWQ) of up to 107,407 dts during periods of high demand. The terms of these storage service agreements extend for various periods from 2009 to 2013. During 2008, SJG released 17,433 dts/d of Transco SS-1 storage demand and 1,353,159 dts of its SS-1 storage capacity (both represent 100 percent of this service) thereby reducing its Transco maximum daily storage withdrawal quantity to 107,407 dts/d, and its storage capacity to approximately 5.0 MMdts. Also released was 17,433 dts/d of winter season firm transportation service associated with SS-1 storage service.

Dominion:

SJG currently subscribes to a single firm transportation service from Dominion under Rate Schedule FTNN. This service facilitates the transportation of up to 5,545 dts/d from various Appalachian aggregation points to Transco's Leidy Line for ultimate delivery to SJG city gate stations during the winter season (November through March) each year. The initial primary term of this agreement extends through October 31, 2010.

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SJG also subscribes to a firm storage service from Dominion, under its Rate Schedule GSS. This storage has a MDWQ of 10,000 dts during the period between November 16 and March 31 of each winter season, with an associated total storage capacity of 423,000 dts. Gas withdrawn from Dominion GSS storage is delivered through both the Dominion and Transco (Leidy Line) pipeline systems for delivery to SJG service territory. The primary term of this agreement extends through March 31, 2015.

Columbia:

SJG has two firm transportation agreements with Columbia which, when combined, provide for 45,022 dts/d of firm deliverability and extend through October 31, 2019. In 2009, SJG released 14,714 dts/d of this amount to SJRG in conjunction with its CIP thereby reducing the availability of firm transportation on the Columbia system to 30,308 dts/d.

SJG also subscribes to a firm storage service (FSS) with Columbia under three separate agreements, the longest of which extends through October 31, 2019. When combined, these three FSS storage agreements provide SJG with a winter season MDWQ of 52,891 dts with an associated 3,473,022 dts of storage capacity. During 2009, SJG released to SJRG 17,500 dts of its FSS MDWQ along with 1,249,485 dts of its Columbia FSS storage capacity. In addition, SJG also released to SJRG 17,500 dts of its Columbia SST MDWQ transportation service which is associated with FSS service. Both of these releases were made by SJG in connection with its CIP.

Columbia Gulf:

Entering 2009, SJG had one firm transportation agreement with Columbia Gulf which provided up to 45,985 dts/d of firm deliverability in the winter season and 43,137 dts/d during the summer season. This service facilitates the movement of gas from the production area in southern Louisiana to an interconnect with the Columbia pipeline system at Leach, KY. During 2009, SJG permanently released this capacity to SJRG.

Gas Supplies

SJG no longer has any long-term gas supply agreements with third party producer-suppliers. In recent years, due to increased liquidity in the market place, SJG has replaced its long-term gas supply agreements with short-term agreements and uses financial contracts secured through SJRG to hedge against forward price risk. Short-term agreements typically extend between one day and several months in duration. As such, its long-term contracts were allowed to expire under their terms.

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Supplemental Gas Supplies

During 2009, SJG entered into two seasonal Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) sales agreements with two separate third party suppliers. The term of the first agreement which was used during the 2009 summer season to refill SJG's storage tank, extended through November 30, 2009, and had an associated contract quantity of 250,000 dts. The second agreement was acquired to replenish LNG in storage during the 2009-2010 winter season. This agreement extends through March 31, 2010 and provides SJG with up to 250,000 dts of LNG.

SJG operates peaking facilities which can store and vaporize LNG for injection into its distribution system. SJG's LNG facility has a storage capacity equivalent to 434,300 dts of natural gas and has an installed capacity to vaporize up to 96,750 dts of LNG per day for injection into its distribution system.

Entering 2009, SJG operated a high-pressure pipe storage field at its New Jersey LNG facility which was capable of storing 12,420 dts of gas and injecting up to 10,350 dts/d into SJG's distribution system. During 2009, SJG retired this high-pressure storage field as it was no longer required for peaking services.

Peak-Day Supply

SJG plans for a winter season peak-day demand on the basis of an average daily temperature of 2 degrees Fahrenheit (F). Gas demand on such a design day for the 2009-2010 winter season is estimated to be 459,139 dts. SJG projects that it has adequate supplies and interstate pipeline entitlements to meet its design requirements. SJG experienced its highest peak-day demand for calendar year 2009 of 429,281 dts on January 16th while experiencing an average temperature of 12.22 degrees F that day.

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Natural Gas Prices

SJG's average cost of natural gas purchased and delivered in 2009, 2008 and 2007, including demand charges, was \$8.38 per dt, \$9.90 per dt and \$9.07 per dt, respectively.

South Jersey Energy Company

Transportation and Storage Agreements

Access to gas suppliers and cost of gas are significant to the operations of SJE. No material part of the business of SJE is dependent upon a single customer or a few customers. SJE purchases delivered gas only, primarily from SJRG. Consequently, SJE maintains no transportation or storage agreements.

Electric Supply

Due to the liquidity in the market, SJE purchases delivered electric in the day-ahead market through regional transmission organizations and consequently does not own or operate any generation or transmission assets.

South Jersey Resources Group

Transportation and Storage Agreements

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation:

SJRG has a long term storage service agreement with National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National Fuel) which extends through March 31, 2010, under which up to 4,746,000 Mcf of gas may be stored. SJRG has an additional contract for 224,576 Mcf of capacity that expires March 31, 2023. Both agreements carry evergreen continuation clauses on a year by year basis after expiration. Total injection rights under the combined agreements total 29,623 Mcf/d and firm withdrawal rights total 50,042 Mcf/d.

SJRG holds long term firm transportation agreements with National Fuel associated with the above-mentioned agreements. Under these agreements, National Fuel will provide SJRG with a maximum daily injection transportation quantity of 29,623 Mcf/d with primary receipt points from Tennessee Gas Pipeline for delivery into storage, and 50,042 of maximum daily withdrawal transportation quantity with a primary receipt point of storage and a primary delivery point of Transcontinental Gas Pipeline.

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Transcontinental Gas Pipeline:

SJRG has a storage agreement with Transco for storage service at Transco's WSS facility which expires in October 2017. Under this evergreen contract, up to 24,500 Mcf/d may be injected and up to 51,837 Mcf/d may be withdrawn. Total storage capacity on the agreement is 4,406,000 Mcf.

SJRG has a storage agreement with Transco for storage service at Transco's SS-1 facility which expires March 31, 2010. Under this evergreen contract, up to 17,433 Mcf/d may be withdrawn in the winter period and up to 7,617 Mcf/d may be injected during the summer period. Total storage capacity under the agreement is 1,353,159 Mcf. This service was released to SJRG by SJG as discussed above.

SJRG has a transportation agreement with Transco associated with the SS-1 storage agreement mentioned above. Under this evergreen agreement, Transco will provide SJRG with a maximum transportation quantity of 17,433 Mcf/d with receipts at Leidy, Pennsylvania and deliveries in Zone 6 New Jersey. This transportation agreement provides service only during the months of November to March each year. This service was released to SJRG by SJG in 2008.

SJRG also has a firm transportation agreement with Transco which expires September 30, 2010. Under this evergreen contract, Transco will provide SJRG with receipts at various production points in Texas and Louisiana and deliveries in New Jersey totaling 89,800 Mcf/d. This service was released to SJRG by SJG as discussed above.

Dominion Gas Transmission:

SJRG has a firm transportation agreement with Dominion which expires October 31, 2022. Under this agreement, Dominion will provide SJRG with 5,000 Mcf/d of deliveries to Leidy, Pennsylvania and receipts at Lebanon, Ohio.

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SJRG also has a firm transportation agreement with Dominion related to SJRG's Transco SS-1 storage. Under this contract, Dominion will provide receipts at Leidy, Pennsylvania and deliveries to storage in the amount of 17,432 Mcf/d. This evergreen contract expires March 31, 2011. This service was released to SJRG by SJG in 2008.

Columbia Gas Transmission:

SJRG holds a firm transportation agreement with Columbia. Under this evergreened agreement, Columbia provides receipts at Leach, Kentucky and deliveries of 14,714 Mcf/d to New Jersey.

SJRG holds a storage agreement with Columbia for service under Columbia's FSS rate schedule. Under this evergreen agreement which expires October 31, 2010, Columbia will provide SJRG with storage capacity of 1,249,485 Mcf. Under this agreement, 17,500 Mcf/d may be withdrawn from storage and 9,996 Mcf/d may be injected.

SJRG holds firm transportation related to the above mentioned storage agreement which provides for receipts at storage and deliveries to New Jersey of 17,500 Mcf/d. This evergreen contract expires October 31, 2010. These services with Columbia were released to SJRG by SJG as discussed above.

Columbia Gulf Transmission:

SJRG holds a firm transportation agreement with Columbia Gulf which expires October 31, 2019. Under this evergreen agreement, Columbia provides receipts in Louisiana with deliveries at Leach, Kentucky in the amount of 15,000 Mcf/d. This service was released to SJRG by SJG as discussed above.

Patents and Franchises

South Jersey Gas Company

SJG holds nonexclusive franchises granted by municipalities in the seven-county area of southern New Jersey that it serves. No other natural gas public utility presently serves the territory covered by SJG's franchises. Otherwise, patents, trademarks, licenses, franchises and concessions are not material to the business of SJG.

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Seasonal Aspects

South Jersey Gas Company

SJG experiences seasonal fluctuations in sales when selling natural gas for heating purposes. SJG meets this seasonal fluctuation in demand from its firm customers by buying and storing gas during the summer months, and by drawing from storage and purchasing supplemental supplies during the heating season. As a result of this seasonality, SJG's revenues and net income are significantly higher during the first and fourth quarters than during the second and third quarters of the year.

Non-Utility Companies

Among SJI's non-utility activities, wholesale and retail gas marketing have seasonal patterns similar to SJG's. Activities such as energy services and energy project development do not follow seasonal patterns. Other activities such as retail electric marketing and appliance service can have seasonal earnings patterns that are different from the utility. While growth in the earnings contributions from nonutility operations has improved SJI's second and third quarter net income levels, the first and fourth quarters remain the periods where most of SJI's revenue and net income is produced.

Working Capital Practices

Reference is made to "Liquidity and Capital Resources" included in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," of this report.

Customers

No material part of the Company's business is dependent upon a single customer or a few customers, the loss of which would have a material adverse effect on SJI performance on a consolidated basis. One of SJI's subsidiaries, Marina Energy, does currently receive the majority of its revenues and income from one customer. However, that customer is under a long-term contract through 2027.

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Backlog

Backlog is not material to an understanding of SJI's business or that of any of its subsidiaries.

Government Contracts

No material portion of the business of SJI or any of its subsidiaries is subject to renegotiation of profits or termination of contracts or subcontracts at the election of any government.

Competition

Information on competition for SJI and its subsidiaries can be found in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," of this report.

Research

During the last three fiscal years, neither SJI nor any of its subsidiaries engaged in research activities to any material extent.

Environmental Matters

Information on environmental matters for SJI and its subsidiaries can be found in Note 14 of the consolidated financial statements included under Item 8 of this report.

Employees

SJI and its subsidiaries had a total of 617 employees as of December 31, 2009. Of that total, 332 employees are unionized. SJG and SJESP employees represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers ("IBEW") operate under a new collective bargaining agreement that runs through February 2013. The remaining unionized employees are represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers ("IAM"). SJG and SJESP employees represented by the IAM recently agreed to a new collective bargaining agreement that expires in August 2014.

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Financial Information About Foreign and Domestic Operations and Export Sales

SJI has no foreign operations and export sales have not been a significant part of SJI's business.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

SJI and its subsidiaries operate in an environment that involves risks, many of which are beyond our control. SJI has identified the following risk factors that could cause SJI's operating results and financial condition to be materially adversely affected. Investors should carefully consider these risk factors and should also be aware that this list is not all inclusive of existing risks. In addition, new risks may emerge at any time, and SJI cannot predict those risks or the extent to which they may affect SJI's businesses or financial performance.

6JI is a holding company and its assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. Should SJI's subsidiaries be unable to pay dividends or make other payments to SJI for financial, regulatory, legal or other reasons, SJI's ability to pay dividends on its common stock could be limited. SJI's stock price could be adversely affected as a result.

6JI's business activities are concentrated in southern New Jersey. Changes in the economies of southern New Jersey and surrounding regions could negatively impact the growth opportunities available to SJI and the financial condition of customers and prospects of SJI.

Changes in the regulatory environment or unfavorable rate regulation at its utility may have an unfavorable impact on SJI's financial performance or condition. SJI's utility business is regulated by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities which has authority over many of the activities of the business including, but not limited to, the rates it charges to its customers, the amount and type of securities it can issue, the nature of investments it can make, the nature and quality of services it provides, safety standards and other matters. The extent to which the actions of regulatory commissions restrict or delay SJG's ability to earn a reasonable rate of return on invested capital and/or fully recover operating costs may adversely affect its results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

6JI may not be able to respond effectively to competition, which may negatively impact SJI's financial performance or condition. Regulatory initiatives may provide or enhance opportunities for competitors that could reduce utility income obtained from existing or prospective customers. Also, competitors in all of SJI's business lines may be able to provide superior or less costly products or services based upon currently available or newly developed technologies.

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