

John S. Tomac Senior Director Rates and Regulatory 1 Water Street Camden, NJ 08102

January 23, 2020

VIA REGULAR MAIL

TO ALL: MUNICIPAL CLERKS, CLERKS OF THE BOARDS OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS AND SALE FOR RESALE CUSTOMERS

Re:

In the Matter of The Petition Of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. For Approval of Increased Tariff Rates and Charges For Water And Wastewater Service And Other Tariff

Modifications

OAL Docket No. PUC 17894-2019 S; BPU Docket No. WR19121516

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-32.2 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 (b), (c) and (d), enclosed herewith for service upon you are the Notice of Filing of Proposed Rate-Increase and of Public Hearing, and the Board of Public Utilities' Suspension Order entered January 8, 2020.

Please note the dates and times of the public hearings at which members of the public are invited to attend and express their views on the proposed rate increases are as follows:

February 18, 2020

4:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Lecture Hall 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

5:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Lecture Hall 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

February 19, 2020

4:30 p.m.

Howell Township Municipal Building Main Meeting Room 4567 Route 9 North Howell, NJ 07731

5:30 p.m. Howell Township Municipal Building Main Meeting Room 4567 Route 9 North Howell, NJ 0773

February 20, 2020

4:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

The Peter J. Biondi Building Senior Activities Room 379 South Branch Road Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Hillsborough Twp. Municipal Complex Hillsborough Twp. Municipal Complex The Peter J. Biondi Building Senior Activities Room 379 South Branch Road Hillsborough, NJ 08844

In the event of inclement weather, the public hearings will be rescheduled for the dates, times and locations as indicated in the enclosed Public Notice, and as posted on the Company's website at https://amwater.com/njaw/customer-service-billing/your-water-and-wastewater-rates.

John S. Tomac

cc:

Service list (via e-mail)
Hon. Jacob Gertsman, ALJ (via regular mail)
Hon. Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary of the BPU (via regular mail)
Department of Law & Public Safety (via regular mail)
Division of Rate Counsel (via regular mail)

NOTICE OF FILING OF PROPOSED RATE INCREASE AND PUBLIC HEARING

ALL CUSTOMERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND PRESENT THEIR VIEWS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASED TARIFF RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICE, AND OTHER TARIFF MODIFICATIONS

OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 17894-19 S BPU DOCKET NO. WR19121516

TO OUR CUSTOMERS:

Notice is hereby given that on December 16, 2019, New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc., (the "Company") filed with the Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-18, N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.1, N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.7 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, a petition ("Petition") seeking to increase rates for water and wastewater service and to implement other tariff revisions. These changes were proposed to become effective for service rendered on or after January 15, 2020, or at such later date as may be determined by the Board. Based on the Company's total projected operating revenues for the twelve months ending June 30, 2020, the new rates proposed herein will yield additional operating revenues of \$87.8 million or 12.3%. The total projected operating revenues include the revenue being recovered through the Distribution System Improvement Charge ("DSIC") previously approved by this Board, and revenues recovered through the PWAC/PSTAC.

The average residential water customer using 5,400 gallons per month will see their bill increase from \$55.89 to \$62.35, an increase of \$6.46 or 11.55% per month. The actual percentage increase to specific customers will vary according to the applicable rate schedule and level of the customer's usage. The changes proposed in the Petition will result in the changes indicated in the chart below.

The following comparisons of average present and proposed rates will permit customers to determine the approximate net effect upon them of the proposed increases and adjustments in rates. Any assistance required by customers in this regard will be furnished by the Company upon request. Complete information about the present and proposed rates for every class of customer is

available on the Company's website at www.newjerseyamwater.com by first selecting Customer Service and then Rates Information. Please note that the Board, in its discretion, may apply all or any portion of whatever rate increase the Board may ultimately find just and reasonable to any class or classes of customers or to any rate schedule or schedules, or in a manner different than what the Company has proposed in its filing. Accordingly, the final rates and charges to be determined by the Board in this proceeding may be different than what the Company has described herein. All rates include both a fixed service charge and a consumption charge.

	Usage	Ra	ites	Change	
Customer Class		Current Bill*	Proposed Bill	Amount	Percentage
General Metered Service:	5,400 gal/mo.				
All except SA-1B, SA-					
1C, SA-1E and SA-1F		\$55.89	\$62.35	\$6.46	11.55%
SA-1B (Pennsgrove) and	5,400 gal/mo.				
SA-1C (Shorelands)		\$51.57	\$62.35	\$10.78	20.90%
SA-1E (Haddonfield)	5,400 gal/mo.	\$49.47	\$54.18	\$4.71	9.52%
SA-1F (Roxbury)	5,400 gal/mo.	\$25.27	\$28.18	\$2.91	11.52%
Manasquan Resale	Various	Various	Various	Various	6.90%
Optional Industrial	Various	Various	Various	Various	10.80%
Wholesale					
Sales for Resale – CD	Various	Various	Various	Various	10.40%
Sales for Resale – SOS	Various	Various	Various	Various	12.30%
Private Fire Protection	Various	Various	Various	Various	12.00%
Public Fire Protection	Various	Various	Various	Various	7.00%
Sewer					•
Ocean City	44,000	\$65.50	\$69.48	\$3.98	6.07%
•	gal/summer				
Lakewood/Elk Twp.	5,400 gal/mo.	\$58.98-	\$63.65-	\$4.67-	7.92%-
•	' "	\$49.27	\$58.10	\$8.83	17.92%
Adelphia	5,400 gal/mo.	\$69.05	\$73.07	\$4.02	5.82%
Former	5,400 gal/mo.	\$77.12-	\$77.12-	\$0.00	0.00%
AWWM/Pottersville		\$88.36	\$88.36		
Jensen's Run	5,400 gal/mo.	\$65.86	\$78.65	\$12.79	19.42%
Haddonfield	5,400 gal/mo.	\$19.05	\$23.22	\$4.17	21.88%
Mount Ephraim	Flat Fee	\$8.33	\$8.33	\$0.00	0.00%

^{*}Rates include the Purchased Water Adjustment Clause (PWAC) and Purchased Wastewater (Sewer) Treatment Adjustment Clause (PSTAC) as approved by the Board under BPU Docket Number WR18111241 and the fully implemented Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC) of \$3.32 expected to be approved by the Board under BPU Docket No. WR17111183, effective July 1, 2020. Currently, the DSIC is \$2.36, effective January 1, 2020.

In addition to actual rate changes, the Company is proposing other changes and additions to its Tariff, some of which would apply to all customers and others that would apply only to specified customers. These changes include, but are not limited to, changes to various rate schedules.

Notice of this filing is being served upon the clerk, executive or administrator of each municipality and county within the Company's service areas. Such notice has also been served,

together with the Verified Petition, Tariffs, and all other exhibits, upon the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel, who will represent the interests of ratepayers in this proceeding. Copies of the Verified Petition, Tariffs, and all other exhibits are available for inspection at the Company's office at 1 Water Street, Camden, NJ, and can also be found on the Company's website at www.newjerseyamwater.com by first selecting Customer Service and then Rates Information.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law (OAL) has scheduled public hearings for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding the Petition. Public hearings will be held at the following times and places:

February 18, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Lecture Hall 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

February 18, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Lecture Hall 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

February 19, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.
Howell Township Municipal Building
Main Meeting Room
4567 Route 9 North
Howell, NJ 07731

February 19, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
Howell Township Municipal Building
Main Meeting Room
4567 Route 9 North
Howell, NJ 07731

February 20, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.
Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex
The Peter J. Biondi Building
Senior Activities Room
379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

February 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex
The Peter J. Biondi Building
Senior Activities Room
379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

In the event of inclement weather, the public hearings will be held at the locations below on the following dates and times:

> March 3, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Room 111 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

March 3, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Ocean City Public Library Room 111 1735 Simpson Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

March 4, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Howell Township Municipal Building
Main Meeting Room
4567 Route 9 North
Howell, NJ 07731

March 4, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Howell Township Municipal Building
Main Meeting Room
4567 Route 9 North
Howell, NJ 07731

March 5, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex
The Peter J. Biondi Building
Senior Activities Room
379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

March 5, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex
The Peter J. Biondi Building
Senior Activities Room
379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

The public is invited to attend and interested persons will be permitted to testify and/or make a statement of their views on the proposed increases.

In addition, members of the public may submit written comments concerning the Petition to the OAL and BPU regardless of whether they attend a hearing by addressing them to: the Hon. Jacob S. Gertsman, ALJ, Office of Administrative Law, P.O. Box 049, Trenton, New Jersey

08625-0049, or to the Secretary, Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor, P.O. Box 350, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350. Such written comments should be identified with the heading "New Jersey American Water Company Rate Filing: Public Hearing," and include the OAL Docket Number PUC 17894-19 S and BPU Docket Number WR19121516 and the name of the judge assigned to this case, the Honorable Jacob S. Gertsman, ALJ.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, including interpreter, listening devices or mobility assistance, 48 hours prior to these hearings to: Denise Free, Director of Communications and External Affairs, NJAWC, 856-955-4874, Denise.Free@amwater.com.

NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

BY: CHERYL NORTON
PRESIDENT
NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
1 Water Street
Camden, NJ 08102

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW)	ORDER SUSPENDING
JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR)	INCREASES, CHANGES OR
APPROVAL OF INCREASED BASE TARIFF RATES)	ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
AND CHARGES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER	j	WATER SERVICE
SERVICE, AND OTHER TARIFF REVISIONS	í	
	í	BPU DOCKET NO. WR19121516
	,	

Parties of Record:

Bruce V. Miller, Esq., Cullen and Dykman LLP, on behalf of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. **Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director,** New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On December 16, 2019, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, New Jersey-American Water Company ("Company" or "Petitioner"), a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), filed a petition for authority to increase its base tariff rates and charges for water and wastewater service amounting to approximately \$87.8 million or 12.3% in additional annual revenues. The increase in rates is proposed to become effective on January 15, 2020.1

The Company provides water service to approximately 652,000 customers and provides wastewater service to approximately 50,000 customers in portions of the following counties, Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Union, and Warren.

According to the petition, the proposed rate increase is necessary for the following reasons: (1) to establish an income level which will permit the Company to finance essential and continuing plant investment; (2) to permit Petitioner to earn a fair and adequate rate of return on its net investment in used and useful property; (3) to establish rates which will be sufficient to enable the

¹ By letter dated December 19, 2019, the Company indicated that it would not implement rates on an interim basis prior to the effective date of the Board's initial suspension order in this matter. However, the Company noted that it did not waive its right to implement the proposed rates at the conclusion of the second suspension period on September 15, 2020, should the Board not issue a final Decision and Order by that date.

Company, under efficient and economical operation, to maintain and support financial integrity and to raise such funds as may be necessary for the proper discharge of its public duties; (4) to offset increases in operating expenses experienced, and to be experienced, by the Company in the course of its operations; (5) to provide earnings sufficient to attract investors and provide sufficient cash flow to fund the Company's operations; and (6) to enable the Company to provide safe, adequate and proper service to its customers.

It appearing that the proposed revisions will increase existing rates and change or alter existing classifications in Petitioner's tariff, it is **HEREBY ORDERED** that:

- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, the proposed revisions be, and are, suspended until May 15, 2020, unless prior to that date, the Board makes a determination disposing of the petition;
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least 10 days prior to the date set for hearing on the petition by the Office of Administrative Law, file with this Board and with the Office of Administrative Law (33 Washington Street, Newark, N.J. 07102), proof of compliance with the notice provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:2-32.2 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12(b) and (c), which notice shall include a statement that any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers on any rate or schedule as the Board may determine; and
- (3) Petitioner shall serve copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (140 East Front Street, 4th Floor, Post Office Box 003, Trenton, NJ 08625-0003), the clerk of the affected municipalities, the clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the affected county and, where appropriate, the executive officer of the affected county within its service area. Service of this petition, notice of hearings and this Order may be made simultaneously. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within 15 days of the date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on January 18, 2020.

DATED: 1/8/20

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MOSEPH L. FIORDALISO PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASED TARIFF RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICE, AND OTHER TARIFF REVISIONS BPU DOCKET NO. WR19121516

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