



Agenda Date: 1/20/10  
Agenda Item: VD

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**Two Gateway Center**  
**Newark, NJ 07102**  
[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

WATER

IN THE MATTER OF MIDDLESEX WATER	)	ORDER FURTHER SUSPENDING
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE	)	INCREASES, CHANGES OR
IN ITS RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND	)	ALTERATIONS IN RATES
OTHER TARIFF CHANGES	)	FOR SERVICE
	)	
	)	BPU DOCKET NO. WR09080666
	)	OAL DOCKET NO. PUCRL 11371-2009N

Stephen B. Genzer, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP, Newark,  
New Jersey for Middlesex Water Company

**BY THE BOARD:**

On August 17, 2009, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.11, 14:1-5.12 and 14:9-7.1 et. seq. Middlesex Water Company ("Middlesex" 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 approval of an increase in rates for water service and other tariff changes amounting to approximately \$15.1 million or 26.0%. According to the petition, the increase in rates is proposed to become effective on October 1, 2009. Petitioner also notified the Board that it will implement the proposed rates on June 1, 2010, on an interim basis, pursuant to law, if the Board has suspended the effective date of the new rates pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, but has not finally determined a new just and reasonable tariff schedule prior to that date.

As part of its filing, Middlesex also seeks to update the base consumption and base costs which were established in the last base rate proceeding (Docket No. WR07040275) within the meaning of the applicable Purchased Water Adjustment Clause regulations N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 et seq. and to establish a Distribution System Improvement Charge to recover a portion of the costs of necessary improvements in the Company's distribution system.

Middlesex services approximately 59,000 retail water customers in the Townships of Edison and Woodbridge, the Boroughs of South Plainfield, Metuchen and Carteret and the City of South Amboy in Middlesex County, the Township of Clark in Union County, and the Township of Downe in Cumberland County. On a contract basis, the Petitioner serves part of the Township of Edison, the Boroughs of Highland Park and Sayreville, the Old Bridge Municipal Utilities Authority, the Marlboro Township Municipal Utilities Authority and the City of Rahway. Middlesex also services under a special contract basis for water treatment and pumping services the Township of East Brunswick.

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for hearings on September 14, 2009. At its regularly scheduled agenda meeting on September 16, 2009, the Board suspended Middlesex's proposed rate increase until February 1, 2010. This matter is

currently before OAL Judge Walter M. Braswell and evidentiary hearings are scheduled for February 3, 4, and 5 and March 9 and 15, 2010 in Newark, NJ.

In light of the fact that this proceeding is still pending before the OAL, it is HEREBY ORDERED that:

- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, the proposed revisions be, and are further suspended until June 1, 2010, unless the Board prior to that date makes a determination disposing of the petition,
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least ten (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, NJ 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 Division of Rate Counsel (31 Clinton Street, P. O. Box 46005, Newark, NJ 07102), the clerk of each affected municipality, the clerk of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of each affected county, and where appropriate, the executive officer of each affected county within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Order may be made simultaneously. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within fifteen (15) days of the date of this Order.

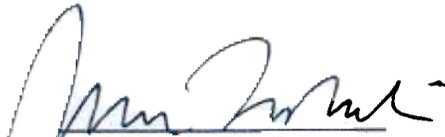
DATED: 1/21/10

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
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 ACTING PRESIDENT

  
 FREDERICK F. BUTLER  
 COMMISSIONER

  
 JEANNE M. FOX  
 COMMISSIONER

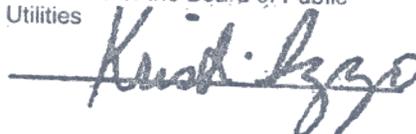
  
 JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
 COMMISSIONER

  
 NICHOLAS ASSELTA  
 COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
 CARMEN DIAZ  
 ACTING 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 MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL  
OF AN INCREASE IN ITS RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND  
OTHER TARIFF CHANGES

BPU DOCKET NO. WR09080666  
OAL DOCKET NO. PUCRL 11371-2009N

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