



Agenda Date: 2/10/12
Agenda Item: VA

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

WATER

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER SUSPENDING
MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL))	INCREASES, CHANGES OR
OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER)	ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES)	WATER SERVICE
)	
)	BPU DOCKET NO. WR12010027

Stephen B. Genzer, Esq. for Petitioner
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On January 10, 2012, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and 14:1-5.11, 14:1-5.12 and 14:9-7.1 et seq., Petitioner, Middlesex Water Company (“Company” or “Petitioner”) a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”), and filed a petition to increase base water rates in the amount of \$11,330,217 or 17.47%. The increase in rates is proposed to become effective on February 21, 2012.

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 Company 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. The Company also services under a special contract basis for water treatment and pumping services the Township of East Brunswick.

As part of its filing, Middlesex seeks to update the base consumption and base costs which were established in the last base rate proceeding (Docket No. WR09080666) within the meaning of the applicable Purchased Water Adjustment Clause (“PWAC”) regulations at N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 et seq. and to establish a baseline for a Distribution System Improvement Charge (“DSIC”)(in light of the Board’s pending DSIC regulations) to recover a portion of the costs of necessary improvements in the Company’s distribution system and to implement several tariff changes

According to the petition, Middlesex seeks the increase to enable it to maintain a satisfactory credit position, preserve its financial integrity, permit proper maintenance, development and

improvements of the utility plant required to furnish safe, adequate, and proper service, encourage continued good management, prevent confiscation or diminution of the Company's property, and earn a reasonable return upon the fair value of the Company's property used and useful in the public service. (See Petition at paragraph 6.)

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 June 21, 2012, unless the Board prior to that date makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (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 clerks of all affected municipalities, the clerks of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of all affected counties, and where appropriate, the executive officer of the 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.


This Order shall be effective on February 20, 2012:


DATED: 2/10/12

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:



ROBERT M. HANNA
PRESIDENT

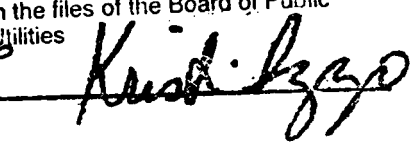

JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER


NICHOLAS ASSELTA
COMMISSIONER


JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: 
KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY



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

I/M/O THE PETITION OF
MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES
FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES
BPU DOCKET NO. WR12010027
SERVICE LIST

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