Agenda Date: 11/28/07 Agenda Item: VA



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
www.nj.gov/bpu

WATER

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF S. B. WATER COMPANY FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 & N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12

ORDER SUSPENDING
INCREASES, CHANGES OR
ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
WATER SERVICE

BPU DOCKET NO. WR07110840

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On November 1, 2007, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-21, <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.11 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.12, S. B. Water Company (S.B., 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 seeking to increase and revise its rates and charges for water service amounting to approximately \$30,721 or 20.54%. The increase in rates is proposed to become effective on December 7, 2007.

Petitioner states that the reasons for the requested increase are: "to enable the Company to meet increased operating costs and furnish safe, adequate, and proper service, to encourage continued good management and to earn a reasonable return upon the fair value of the company's property used and useful in the public service." In view of the fact that this proceeding will not be completed by December 7, 2007, and that this matter is expected to be transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing and determination, a suspension of the proposed rates is warranted.

S. B. provides water service to approximately 280 customers in a portion of the Township of Colts Neck, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

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

- 1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, the proposed revisions be, and are suspended until April 7 2008, 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, 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, at the same time it files with this Board, also file proof of service of 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 the affected municipality, the clerk to 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 the petition, notice of hearings and this Suspension Order may be made simultaneously.

DATED: 11/28/07

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDAL COMMISSIONER

CHRISTINE V. BATOR 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

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