

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
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Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF MOUNT OLIVE VILLAGES WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES ORDER SUSPENDING
INCREASES, CHANGES OR
ALTERATIONS IN RATES
FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER
TARIFF CHANGES

BPU DOCKET NO. WR19060770

Parties of Record:

Stephen B. Genzer, Esq., Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, LLP, on behalf of Mount Olive Villages Water Company, Inc. **Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director**, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On June 28, 2019, Mount Olive Villages Water Company, Inc. ("Company" or "Petitioner"), a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board"), filed a verified petition pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, 48:2-21.2, 28:3-7.1 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, seeking to increase and revise its rates and charges for water service amounting to approximately \$186,160 or 71.79%. The increase in water rates is proposed to become effective for service rendered on and after 30 days from the filing date of the Company's petition.¹ Mount Olive Villages Water Company serves approximately 353 water customers in a portion of the Township of Mount Olive, Morris County, New Jersey.

According to the petition, the Company seeks the increase to achieve a satisfactory cash flow position; preserve its current financial position; permit proper maintenance and operation required to furnish safe, adequate and proper service to its customers; encourage good management; provide incentives for efficiency; mitigate confiscation or diminution of its property; and earn a reasonable return upon the fair value of its property used and useful in public service.

¹ The Company indicated in the petition that it seeks approval to increase rates for water service rendered on or before August 1, 2019. By letter dated July 3, 2019, the Petitioner notified the Board that it will not implement the proposed rates on an interim basis prior to the effective date of the Board's Suspension Order resulting from the Board's August 7, 2019 meeting, but that this "will not change the intention of the Company to implement the proposed rates at the conclusion of the eight-month suspension period on April 1, 2020, should the Board not issue a final Decision and Order by that date."

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 December 1, 2019 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 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 (140 East Front Street, Post Office. Box 003, 4th Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625), the clerk of the affected municipality, 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 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 15 days of the date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on August 17, 2019.

DATED: 8/7/19

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA

COMMISSIONER

ROBERT M. GORDON

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF MOUNT OLIVE VILLAGES WATER COMPANY, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES

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