



Agenda Date: 10/06/21  
Agenda Item: VB

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Post Office Box 350  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350  
[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

WATER

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SUEZ ) AMENDED ORDER<sup>1</sup>  
WATER NEW JERSEY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF )  
AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER/SEWER ) BPU DOCKET NO. WR20110729  
SERVICE AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES ) OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 10966-20

**Parties of Record:**

**Stephen B. Genzer, Esq.**, Saul Ewing Arnstein and Lehr LLP, on behalf of SUEZ New Jersey, Inc.

**Brian Lipman, Esq. Acting Director**, on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

**James H. Laskey, Esq.** Norris McLaughlin PA, Intervenor, on behalf of Gordon's Corner Water Company

**BY THE BOARD:**

On November 23, 2020, SUEZ Water New Jersey Inc. ("SWNJ," "Petitioner" or "Company"), a public utility corporation of the State of New Jersey engaged in the business of collecting, treating and distributing water for retail and wholesale customers and wastewater service to approximately 260,000 customers located in portions of Bergen, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren Counties, in the State of New Jersey, filed with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") a petition to increase rates for water and wastewater services and to make other tariff changes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12.

The Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL"), and Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Irene Jones was assigned to hear the case. Effective December 25, 2020, the Board entered an Order suspending increases, changes or alternations in rates until May 1, 2021 and the implementation of changes SUEZ sought to make to their tariffs pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21. Effective May 1, 2021, the Board entered an Order Further Suspending the rate implementation until September 1, 2021, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 pending a Final Decision and Order.

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<sup>1</sup> This Order supersedes the Order entered on May 19, 2021 to further reflect the Board's action.

On January 21, 2021, Gordon's Corner Water Company ("Gordon's Corner") filed a Motion for Intervention, which was granted by ALJ Jones.

Numerous settlement discussions were held during the course of this proceeding and the Company, Board Staff, the Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") and Gordon's Corner (collectively, "Signatory Parties") agreed to an overall increase in revenues totaling \$16,350,000 representing a 5.51% increase over total present water and wastewater sales revenues of \$296,797,004. The Signatory Parties executed a Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") and on May 3, 2021, ALJ Jones issued an Initial Decision in this matter recommending adoption of the Stipulation executed by the Signatory Parties, finding that the Signatory Parties had voluntarily agreed to the Stipulation and that the Stipulation fully disposed of all issues and is consistent with the law. By Order dated May 19, 2021 ("May 19 Order"), the Board adopted the Initial Decision and approved the Stipulation.

Thereafter, the Company indicated via correspondence dated August 2, 2021, that one of the tariff pages approved by the May 19 Order contained an error. Specifically, the Company stated that Original Sheet No. 64 pertaining to sewer service to the former West Milford Municipal Utilities Association ("MUA") only included a fixed service charge for a 5/8-inch meter size. However, the Company indicated that there are a few commercial accounts with larger meter sizes. SWNJ further stated that this typographical error only affected the sewer tariff. The Company included with its correspondence the corrected proposed tariff page, which included all meter sizes.

Accordingly, the Company requested that the Board approve First Revised Sheet No. 64A and represented that Rate Counsel consented to the request.

### **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

Accordingly, based upon the above and absent any objection from Rate Counsel, the Board **HEREBY AMENDS** the Board's May 19 Order and **HEREBY APPROVES** the corrected tariff, First Revised Sheet No. 64A, which includes wastewater service charges for meter sizes ranging from 5/8 inches to 8 inches for customers of the former West Milford MUA and is attached to this Order.

The Board **ORDERS** that the terms and conditions of the Board's May 19 Order which are incorporated herein by reference, shall remain in effect, except as modified by this Order.

In addition, SWNJ's costs shall remain subject to audit by the Board. This Decision and Order shall not preclude the Board from taking any such actions deemed to be appropriate as a result of any such audit.

This Order shall be effective on October 13, 2021.

DATED: 10/6/21

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
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JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
PRESIDENT

  
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COMMISSIONER

  
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ROBERT M. GORDON  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:   
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AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH  
SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF SUEZ WATER NEW JERSEY, INC.  
FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER/SEWER SERVICE  
AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES

BPU DOCKET NO. WR20110729  
OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 10966-20

**SERVICE LIST**

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