



Agenda Date: 3/4/26  
Agenda Item: 2A

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

REVENUE AND RATES

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF GORDON'S )  
CORNER WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO )  
CHANGE THE LEVELS OF ITS PURCHASED WATER )  
ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:9- )  
7.1 ET SEQ. ) ORDER APPROVING )  
STIPULATION )  
DOCKET NO. WR25080471 )

**Parties of Record:**

**Shane P. Simon, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP**, on behalf of Gordon's Corner Water Company, Attorney for Petitioner

**Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director**, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On August 29, 2025, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 to -7.7, Gordon's Corner Water Company. ("GCWC" or "Company") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") seeking to change the level of its Purchased Water Adjustment Clause ("PWAC") rate from \$0.00 to \$0.46 per thousand gallons of water. ("Petition"). By this Order, the Board considers a stipulation of settlement ("Stipulation") executed by Board Staff ("Staff"), the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel"), and GCWC (collectively, "Parties") intended to resolve all issues related to the Petition.

**BACKGROUND/PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

GCWC is a water public utility engaged in the business of collecting, treating, and distributing water for retail service to approximately 14,600 customers in portions of the Townships of Marlboro and Manalapan in Monmouth County, New Jersey. The Company's principal office is located at 27 Vanderburg Road, Marlboro, New Jersey, 07746.

On August 15, 2025, GCWC filed correspondence with the Board indicating its intent to file the Petition on or before August 29, 2025 and seeking, to the extent necessary, an extension of any applicable filing deadline pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.3 or a waiver of any applicable deadline under that provision pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:1-1.2.

By letter dated August 21, 2025, Rate Counsel indicated that it did not object to a Board grant of an extension or waiver of the filing deadline.

## **PETITION**

By the Petition, based on information available at the time of filing, the Company proposed to increase its PWAC rate from \$0.00 to \$0.46 per thousand gallons of water.

The Company purchases water on a routine basis from two (2) separate entities pursuant to water purchase agreements, each of which adjusts its rates for water service pursuant to contract: 1) the Marlboro Township Water Utility Division (“Marlboro”); and 2) Veolia-Matchaponix Water Company. By the Petition, GCWC indicated that Marlboro obtains a portion of its water supply from Middlesex Water Company (“MWC”), the cost of which will increase as a result of MWC’s most recent base rate case.<sup>1</sup> The Company received notice of MWC’s proposed rate increase on or about June 30, 2025. GCWC asserted that, based on the data contained in MWC’s base rate case filing, GCWC’s Marlboro purchased water rate would increase from \$5.74871 per thousand gallons to \$6.77972 per thousand gallons.

Following adequate notice, a Board-appointed Regulatory Officer presided over public hearings on December 18, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. No members of the public spoke at the hearing and the Board received no written comments on this matter.

## **STIPULATION**

Following a review of the Petition, conducting discovery, and discussions, the Parties executed the Stipulation, the key elements of which are as follows:<sup>2</sup>

1. The Parties recommend that the Board approve an increase to the Company’s PWAC rate upon PWAC Rate Schedule No. 1A from \$0.00 to \$0.27 per thousand gallons of water for general service customers.
2. The effective PWAC rate adjustment results in an increase in the monthly bill of a residential customer with a 5/8” meter, using 7,000 gallons of water per month, from \$67.57 to \$69.46, an increase of \$1.89 per month, or 2.8%. Attached to the Stipulation as Exhibit A is a Schedule reflecting GCWC’s new purchased water costs effective as of a date approved by the Board.
3. The PWAC rate of \$0.27 per thousand gallons of water is calculated as being effective as indicated in Exhibit B of the Stipulation on a date set by the Board.
4. The PWAC rate established herein will increase annual revenues by \$387,214, or 2.5%, as reflected in Exhibit B of the Stipulation.
5. Attached to the Stipulation as Exhibit C is PWAC Rate Schedule No. 1A, a tariff sheet reflecting the new PWAC rate. The new PWAC rate conforms to the Stipulation and is designed to produce the revenues to which the parties have stipulated.

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<sup>1</sup> By Order dated February 18, 2026, the Board approved an increase in MWC’s rates. In re the Joint Petition for an Approval of an Increase in Rates for Water and Wastewater Service and Other Tariff Changes for Middlesex Water Company, Pinelands Water Company, and Pinelands Wastewater Company, BPU Docket No. WR25060372, OAL Docket No. PUC 12680-25S, Order dated February 18, 2026.

<sup>2</sup> Although summarized in this Order, the detailed terms of the Stipulation control, subject to the findings and conclusions in this Order. Paragraphs are numbered to coincide with the Stipulation.

6. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.4, the Company shall file with the Board, not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the PWAC year, PWAC true-up schedules in connection with this proceeding. The Company's PWAC year resulting from this matter ends one (1) year from the effective date. Copies of the true-up schedules will be served upon Staff and Rate Counsel.

### **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

The Board first addresses the Company's request for extension of the forty-five (45)-day filing period specified in N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.3(b). Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.3(b), in obtaining approval of an initial PWAC, a utility must submit its petition to the Board within forty-five (45)-days of receiving notice of a change in its purchased water treatment costs. The Board is authorized to extend this deadline for just cause. After careful review of the request, and consistent with the governing rules of the Board and all applicable laws of the State of New Jersey, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the Company has demonstrated just cause for a two (2)-week extension to August 29, 2025, and **HEREBY GRANTS** the request *nunc pro tunc* to August 15, 2025.

Having reviewed the record in this matter, including the Petition and the Stipulation, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the Parties have voluntarily agreed to the Stipulation, and that the Stipulation fully disposes of all issues in this proceeding and is consistent with the law. The Board **FURTHER FINDS** the Stipulation to be reasonable and in public interest in accordance with the law. Therefore, the Board **HEREBY ADOPTS** the Stipulation attached hereto, including all attachments and schedules, as its own, incorporating by reference the terms and conditions of the Stipulation as if fully set forth at length herein.

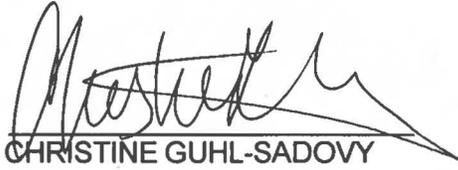
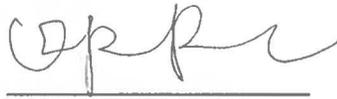
As a result of the Stipulation, the average residential customer paying a fixed charge will experience an increase in their monthly bill from \$67.57 to approximately \$69.46, an increase of \$1.89, or approximately 2.8%.

The Board **HEREBY DIRECTS** the Company to file tariff pages conforming to the terms and conditions of the Stipulation and this Order by March 5, 2026.

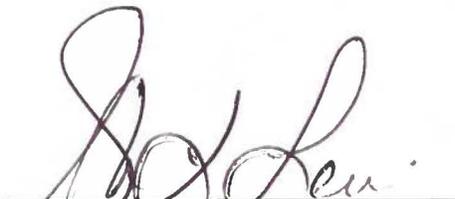
This Order shall be effective March 4, 2026.

DATED: March 4, 2026

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOVY  
PRESIDENT  
DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU  
COMMISSIONER  
MICHAEL BANGE  
COMMISSIONER  
EMMA REBHORN  
COMMISSIONER  
JOSEPH COVIELLO  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
SHERRIL L. LEWIS  
BOARD 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 THE PETITION OF GORDON'S CORNER WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE LEVELS OF ITS PURCHASED WATER ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 ET SEQ.

DOCKET NO. WR25080471

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February 6, 2026

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

Honorable Sherri L. Lewis, Secretary  
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Avenue, Suite 314  
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Re: In The Matter of the Petition of Gordon's Corner Water Company  
for Approval to Change the Levels of Its Purchased Water  
Adjustment Clause Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 et. seq.  
BPU Docket No. WR25080471

Dear Secretary Lewis:

Enclosed for filing please find a fully executed Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") resolving all matters at issue in the above-referenced proceeding.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shane P. Simon*

Shane P. Simon

SPS/jg  
Enclosures  
cc: Attached Service List (w/encls.)

## **SERVICE LIST**

In the Matter of the Petition of Gordon's Corner Water Company  
for Approval to Change the Levels of Its Purchased Water  
Adjustment Clause Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 et. seq.  
BPU Docket No. WR25080471

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF :  
GORDON’S CORNER WATER COMPANY FOR : BPU Docket No. WR25080471  
APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE LEVELS OF ITS :  
PURCHASED WATER ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE :  
PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 ET SEQ. :  
:

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**APPEARANCES:**

Shane P. Simon, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP, on behalf of Gordon’s Corner Water Company, Attorneys for Petitioner;

Christine M. Juarez, Esq., Deputy Rate Counsel (Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director) on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel;

Meliha Arnautovic, Esq. Deputy Attorney General, for the Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Jennifer Davenport, Esq., Acting Attorney General of New Jersey).

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

Petitioner, Gordon’s Corner Water Company (“Petitioner” or “Company”), is a public utility of the State of New Jersey, subject to the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) and franchised to provide water service in the Townships of Marlboro and Manalapan, Monmouth County, New Jersey. On August 29, 2025, Petitioner filed a petition with the Board, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1 *et seq.*, for approval to change the levels of its purchased water adjustment clause (“PWAC”) (“Petition”). The New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (“Rate Counsel”), Board Staff (“Staff”), and the Company (collectively, “Signatory Parties”), have reviewed the matter, and have agreed to a total overall stipulated increase of \$387,214, or 2.5% of the Company’s revenue total of \$15,419,264.

Petitioner purchases water on a routine basis from two (2) separate entities, each of which adjusts its rates for water service pursuant to contract: the Marlboro Township Water Utility Division and Veolia Water New Jersey, Inc., all pursuant to water purchase agreements. By the Petition, Petitioner proposed to increase its PWAC rate from \$0.00 to \$0.46 per thousand gallons of water.

Virtual public hearings were held on December 18, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., following publication of an appropriate public notice. While members of the public appeared, they did not speak or provide comments at the virtual public hearing.

During the course of this proceeding, Petitioner was served with, and responded in full to, discovery requests propounded by Rate Counsel and by Staff. As a result of an analysis of the Petition and Exhibits, Petitioner's responses to discovery, as well as the Parties' discussions in this matter, the Signatory Parties have reached an agreement resolving all issues in controversy in this matter, the provisions of which are set forth below.

### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

1. The Signatory Parties recommend that the Board approve an increase to Petitioner's PWAC rate upon PWAC Rate Schedule No. 1A from \$0.00 to \$0.27 per thousand gallons of water for general service customers.

2. The effective PWAC rate adjustment would result in an increase in the monthly bill of a residential customer with a 5/8" meter, using 7,000 gallons of water per month, from \$67.57 to \$69.46 an increase of \$1.89 per month, or 2.8%. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a Schedule reflecting Petitioner's new purchased water costs effective as of a date approved by the Board.

3. The PWAC rate of \$0.27 per thousand gallons of water is calculated as being effective on a date set by the Board as indicated in **Exhibit B**.

4. The PWAC rate established herein will increase annual revenues by \$387,214 or 2.5%, as reflected in **Exhibit B**.

5. Attached hereto as **Exhibit C** is PWAC Rate Schedule No. 1A, a tariff sheet reflecting the new PWAC rate. The new PWAC rate conforms to this Stipulation and is designed to produce the revenues to which the parties have stipulated herein.

6. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.4, the Petitioner shall file with the Board, not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the PWAC year, PWAC true-up schedules in connection with this proceeding. The Company's PWAC year resulting from this matter ends one (1) year from the effective date. Copies of the true-up schedules will be served upon Staff and Rate Counsel.

7. This Stipulation shall be binding on the Signatory Parties to this proceeding upon approval by the Board. This Stipulation shall bind the Signatory Parties in this matter only and shall not be considered precedential in any other proceeding involving the Signatory Parties hereto.

8. This Stipulation contains terms, each of which is interdependent with the others and essential in its own right to the signing of this Stipulation. Each term is vital to the agreement as a whole, since the Signatory Parties individually and jointly state that they would not have signed the Stipulation had any term been modified in any way. In the event that any modification whatsoever is made to this Stipulation, each of the Signatory Parties hereto is entitled to certain procedures in the event of such occurrence.

9. If any modification is made to the terms of this Stipulation, the Signatory Parties must be given the right to be placed in the position in which each Signatory Party existed before this Stipulation's execution. It is essential that each Signatory Party be given the option to modify its

own position, to accept the proposed change(s), or to resume the proceeding as if no agreement had been reached.

10. The Signatory Parties believe that these procedures are fair to all concerned and, therefore, they are made an integral and essential element of this Stipulation.

11. This Stipulation may be executed in as many counterparts as there are signatories to this Stipulation, each of which counterpart shall be an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

GORDON'S CORNER WATER COMPANY  
Attorney for Petitioner

February 6, 2026  
Date

By: Shane P. Simon  
Shane P. Simon, Esq.  
Saul Ewing LLP

BRIAN O. LIPMAN, ESQ.  
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

February 6, 2026  
Date

By:   
Christine Juarez, Esq.  
Deputy Rate Counsel

JENNIFER DAVENPORT, ESQ.  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Attorney for the Staff of the New Jersey  
Board of Public Utilities

2/6/2026  
Date

By: Meliha Arnautovic DAG  
Meliha Arnautovic, Esq.  
Deputy Attorney General

Exhibit A

SCHEDULE OF PURCHASED WATER COSTS

<u>PURVEYOR</u>	<u>RATE</u> <u>PER 1,000 GALLONS</u>	<u>MINIMUM TAKE OR</u> <u>PAY AMOUNTS</u> <u>(THOUSAND GALLONS)</u>	<u>COST</u>
VEOLIA-MATCHAPONIX	\$3.1382	547,500	\$1,718,165
MARLBORO TOWNSHIP WATER UTILITY DIVISION	\$6.3404	547,500	\$3,471,369
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,095,000</b>	<b>\$5,189,534</b>

## Exhibit B

### SCHEDULE OF INCREASE UNDER PURCHASE WATER ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

New Purchase Water Cost	\$ 5,189,534
Base Cost Determined in Last Base Rate Case	\$ 4,865,583
Purchased Water Cost Increase	\$ 323,951
Rate Case Cost @ \$25,000 (50% Cost Sharing)	\$ 12,500
Total Cost Increase	\$ 336,451
Cost Increase with GRFT @ 13.11%	\$ 387,214
Total Consumption(Thousand Gallons)	\$ 1,453,180
PWAC Water Rate/1000 Gal	\$ 0.27
Current PWAC Rate	\$0.00
Proposed PWAC Rate	\$ 0.27
Present Rate Revenue	\$ 15,419,264
Percentage Increase above Present Rate Revenue	2.5%

## Exhibit C

### RATE SCHEDULES

NO. 1A: GENERAL METERED SERVICE

PURCHASED WATER ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE (PWAC) CHARGE

A charge of \$ 0.27 per thousand gallons for all water sales will be made to recover increases in the purchased water costs not included in the Volume Charges in Rate Schedules No. 1 or 5.

**ISSUED:**

BY: DAVID G. ERN, PRESIDENT  
GORDON'S CORNER WATER COMPANY  
27 VANDERBURG ROAD  
MARLBORO, NJ 07746

**EFFECTIVE:**

FILED PURSUANT TO ORDER OF THE  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES IN  
**DOCKET NO. 25080471**