Agenda Date: 8/18/11 Agenda Item: VB



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 THE)	ORDER SUSPENDING
ATLANTIC CITY SEWERAGE COMPANY FOR	.)	INCREASES, CHANGES OR
AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE TARIFF RATES)	ALTERATIONS IN RATES
AND CHARGES FOR SEWERAGE SERVICE	<u>)</u>	
	ý	BPU DOCKET NO. WR1104024

Parties of Record:

Stacy A. Mitchell, Esq., Cozen O'Connor, 457 Haddonfield Road, Suite 300, Libertyview, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 for Petitioner Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Division of Rate Counsel, 31 Clinton Street, Newark, NJ 07102

BY THE BOARD:

On April 29, 2010, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12, Petitioner, the Atlantic City Sewerage Company, Inc. ("Petitioner," "Company), a public utility of the State of New Jersey, subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") and providing wastewater service to approximately 7,640 customers within its defined territory consisting of the City of Atlantic City, Atlantic County, New Jersey, filed a petition to increase base wastewater rates in the overall amount of \$1,803,445 or 9.5%. The increase in rates was proposed to become effective on May 30, 2011. The Petitioner does not seek interim rate relief pending final determination on the petition.

According to the petition, the Company seeks the increase to provide for the capital improvements to the Company's sanitary sewerage collection system and the replacement of certain portions of its service territory. The Company also seeks the increase to enable it to continue to provide safe, adequate and proper utility service to its customers, to attract capital and to earn a fair and reasonable return on its investments.

On May 16, 2011, the Board issued its first Order suspending the Company's proposed rate increase until September 30, 2011. This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearings. A public hearing was held on July 26, 2011 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. No members of the public attended the hearing.

In light of the fact that this proceeding will not be resolved before September 30, 2011, the expiration of the first suspension period, 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 January 30, 2012, 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 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 clerk of the affected municipality, the clerk to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the affected county, and if 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. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within fifteen (15) days of the date of this Order.

This Order is effective on August 28, 2011.

DATED: 8/18/11

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

LEE A. SOLOMON PRESIDENT

EANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER OSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

CARMEN DIAZ

ACTING 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 ATLANTIC CITY SEWERGE COMPANY FOR AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE TARIFF RATES AND CHARGES FOR SEWERGE SERVICE - BPU DOCKET NO. WR11040247

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