**NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION OF AQUA NEW JERSEY, INC.**

**FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICE**

**AND TRUE-UP FOR 2021 AND 2022 WASTEWATER RATES**

**BPU Docket No. WR23080576**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on August 22, 2023, Aqua New Jersey, Inc. (“Company”), filed a petition (“Petition”) with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) for approval to increase the current level of its Purchased Sewerage Treatment Adjustment Clause (“PSTAC”). Specifically, the Company is seeking authorization to adjust the level of its PSTAC to reflect a net under-recovery of wastewater treatment costs for 2022 and 2023, and to set prospective rates for 2024 to recover estimated wastewater treatment cost increases. Consequently, the Company is proposing to increase its PSTAC surcharge from $25.21 per thousand cubic feet (“Mcf”) to $25.60 per Mcf, an increase of $0.39 (or 1.56%) per Mcf. The PSTAC surcharge provides no profit to the Company and is a pass-through of actual charges from the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority, the Ocean County Utilities Authority, and the Logan Township Municipal Utilities Authority.

**IF APPROVED, AN AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER PAYING A FIXED CHARGE WILL SEE HIS/HER TOTAL BILL FOR WASTEWATER SERVICE INCREASE FROM APPROXIMATELY $762.72 TO APPROXIMATELY $767.40, AN INCREASE OF $4.68 ANNUALLY, OR APPROXIMATELY 0.61%.**

The tariff for the proposed PSTAC is part of the Petition, which was served upon the Director of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel (“Rate Counsel”). Notice of the filing of the Petition was also served on the clerks of the municipalities in the service areas of the Company. Further information and copies of the Petition may be obtained at the Company’s offices located at 10 Black Forest Road, Hamilton, New Jersey 08691, and on the Company’s website at www.aquaamerica.com. Copies of the Petition are also available to review online at the Board’s website, https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us/ where you can search by the above-captioned docket number, WR23080576. Copies of the Petition are also available for review at the Board, located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor, Trenton, New Jersey, by appointment. To make an appointment, please call (609) 913-6298.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following date and times so that members of the public may present their views on the Petition:

 **Date: November 27, 2023**

 **Times: 4:30 PM and 5:30 P.M.**

 **Link: https://saul.zoom.us/j/98978366205?pwd=L3VOeUpHUzY3TWFLMlk3MERWWWg5UT09**

 **Dial-in: 1-301-715-8592**

 **Meeting ID: 989 7836 6205**

 **Passcode: 823268**

Representatives of the Company, Board Staff, and Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to participate by utilizing the Meeting ID or the Dial-In Number set forth above and may express their views on this Petition. All comments will be made part of the final record to be considered by the Board. In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearing to the Board Secretary at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

The Board is also accepting written and electronic comments. Comments may be submitted directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool at https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us. Comments are considered public documents for purposes of the State’s Open Public Records Act. Only documents that are intended to be public should be submitted using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. Any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3. In addition to hard copy submissions, confidential information may also be filed electronically via the Board’s e-filing system or by email to the Secretary of the Board at board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov. Please include “Confidential Information” in the subject line of any email. Instructions for confidential e-filing are found on the Board’s webpage, https://www.nj.gov/bpu/agenda/efiling/.

Emailed and/or written comments may also be submitted to:

Secretary of the Board

44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor

PO Box 350

Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Phone: 609-913-6241

Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

 **AQUA NEW JERSEY, INC.**

 10 Black Forest Road

 Hamilton, NJ 08691