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April 2, 2019

**By Hand Delivery** 

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street – Second Floor North PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RE: Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. Water Divisions; Dicket No. R-2019-\_\_\_\_; AMENDED SUPPLEMENT NO. 5 TO TARIFF WATER - Pa. PUC NO. 1- FILING FOR INCREASE IN RATES FOR THE SERVICE TERRITORIES FORMALLY KNOWN AS PENN ESTATES UTILITIES, INC. AND UTILITIES, INC. - WESTGATE AND REQUEST FOR CONSOLIDATION OF PROCEEDINGS

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission on behalf of Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. (CUPA) Water Divisions are the following documents:

- 1) Amended Supplement No. 5 to Tariff Water Pa. PUC No. 1, tariff page 2; and
- 2) Amended Supporting Data required by 52 Pa. Code §53.52, Attachment (b)(1) Statements.

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A copy of the enclosed materials has been served upon the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to call either me or undersigned counsel.

Very truly yours,

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Thomas J. Sniscak (Attorney ID No. 33891) Whitney E. Snyder (Attorney ID No. 316625) Bryce R. Beard (Attorney ID No. 325837)

Counsel for Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc.

WES/das Enclosures

cc: Per Certificate of Service

Supplement No. 5 to Tariff Water-Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 Fourth Revised Page No. 2 Cancelling Third Revised Page No. 2

## LIST OF CHANGES

Supplement No. 5 increases the schedule of rates applicable to all metered customers and fire protection customers in accordance with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Final Order in Dkt. No. R-2016-2538660. The increase moves rates toward unitization as stated in the Joint Petition filed at the foregoing docket. The increase in annual operating revenue is intended to produce an additional \$362,019 per year.

Supplement No. 5 also revises Part III: RULES AND REGULATIONS, Section H – Fire Protection Service to include a standard definition of "Fire Hydrant" and such governing standards which are subject to Company's Fire Protection Rates. Supplement No. 4 also adds Section L – Liability of Company to Part III: RULES AND REGULATIONS, adding provisions to govern the liability of the Company in the event of fires, breaks, leaks, or defects in the customer's service pipes, damage to property, damage caused by change in water quality from maintenance procedures of pipes and reservoirs when not due to the lack of reasonable care on the part of the Company.

### Community Utilities of Pennsylvania - Water Operations

Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. ("Company") is filing Supplement No. 1 to Tariff Water – Pa. P.U.C. No. 1. on April 1st 2019 with a requested effective date of June 1st, 2019 for the purpose of increasing water service revenue by \$362,019 per annum which represents a 25.29% increase over the service revenues previously generated by the service territories formally known as Penn Estates Utilities, Inc. and Utilities Inc. - Westgate.

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020, respectively, utility operations produced book net income, forecasted net income under present rates, and fully projected pro-forma net income under proposed rates as follows:

Period	Net Income/(Loss)	Reference					
Base Year per Books (12/31/2018)	\$215,600 <sup>1</sup>	Section 1 (pp. 1-19)					
Future Test Year (12/31/2019)	\$79,290 <sup>1</sup>	Section 1 (pp. 1-19)					
Future Test Year (12/31/2020)	\$569 <sup>1</sup>	Section 1 (pp. 1-19)					
Pro-Forma Proposed (12/31/2020)	\$253,386 <sup>2</sup>	Section 1 (pp. 1-19)					

The current rate filing is necessary to realize a reasonable rate of return on the Company's actual and forecasted capital investment and recover forecasted operating expenses. The factors given consideration in calculating the proposed increase are set forward in the following narrative.

#### **Operating Revenues**

The per books operating revenue for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018 totaled \$1,431,510. The Company performed a billing analysis to reflect the proper level of service revenue for the test years ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020. The analysis produced an adjustment that resulted in an overall decrease in service revenue of \$39,523 for the twelve months

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Present rates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Proposed rates

ended December 31, 2019 and an overall decrease in service revenue of \$17,327 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020. These adjustments, combined with projected levels of miscellaneous revenues, forfeited discounts, and uncollectible accounts produce pro-forma operating revenue under present rates of \$1,380,282 and \$1,363,103 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively. After accounting for the increase in uncollectible accounts (\$3,083) related to the Company's revenue request of \$362,019, the Company's proposed fully projected test year net operating revenue is \$1,722,038.

#### **Operating Expenses**

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020, respectively, utility operations produced per book, forecasted, and fully projected pro-forma operating expenses as follows:

Period	Operating Expense	Reference
Base Year Per books (12/31/2018)	\$1,121,623	Section 1 (pp. 1-11)
Future Test Year (12/31/2019)	\$1,175,952	Section 1 (pp. 1-11)
Future Test Year (12/31/2020)	\$1,217,436	Section 1 (pp. 1-11)
Fully projected (12/31/2020)	\$1,322,549	Section 1 (pp. 1-11)

The Company has projected net increased operating expenses of \$200,926 between the base year ended December 31, 2018 and the fully projected future test year ended December 31, 2020 as reflected in response to tariff Regulation c (1) Sheets1a.

#### **Original Cost – Plant in Service**

The original costs of the plant in service at December 31, 2018 were compiled through Company records. The gross plant in service per books at the end of the base year is \$8,707,891. Pro-forma plant additions of \$986,800 and \$839,161 for the future test years ended December 31, 2019, and December

31, 2020 respectively have been included on Tariff Regulation (c) (3) to reflect the fully projected future test year level of utility plant in service as of December 31, 2020.

#### Accumulated Depreciation and Annual Depreciation Expense

The calculations of annual and accumulated depreciation are based upon the straight-line method. An adjustment has been made to calculate pro-forma depreciation expense and the level of pro-forma accumulated depreciation using class of asset rates on the Company's books, going level, as well as projected plant in service as of December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020. These adjustments result in increases to depreciation expense of \$15,442 and increase of \$20,766 for the future test years ended December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively. The pro-forma accumulated depreciation amounts to \$3,008,188 and \$3,260,674 as of December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively. Please see Supporting Schedules No. 4 and No. 9 in Section 2.

#### Calculation of Rate Base

Five elements were used to determine rate base for the Company have been included on Tariff Regulation (c) (3). They are as follows:

- I. Net Plant in Service
- II. Contributions in Aid of Construction (Net)
- III. Net Plant Acquisition Adjustment
- IV. Customer Deposits
- V. Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes
- VI. Pro forma Plant Additions (Net of Retirements)
- VII. Cash Working Capital

#### I. Net Plant in Service

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Net Plant in Service was determined by deducting per-books and pro forma accumulated depreciation from per books and pro forma gross utility plant in service as of December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020.

	Supporting	Per Bo	ooks Base Year	F	uture Test	Pro-forma FPFTY				
Water Operations	Schedule No.	Ended 12/31/2018		Year E	nded 12/31/2019	End	ed 12/31/2020			
Utility Plant in Service	(c)(3)	\$	8,707,891	\$	9,694,691	\$	10,533,852			
Accumulated Depreciation	(c)(4)		(2,808,776)		(3,008,188)		(3,260,674)			
Net Utility Plant:	-	\$	5,899,115	\$	6,686,503	\$	7,273,178			

II. Cash Working Capital

The amount included for Cash Working Capital is based on 1/8 method using per books and pro forma operating and maintenance expenses of \$951,995, \$1,019,567, and \$1,072,270 for the test years ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively resulting in cash working capital levels of \$118,999, \$127,446, and \$134,034 for the test years ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively. Please see Supporting Schedules No. 11 in Section 2.

#### III. Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes

The amount included in Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes are per books and projected prorated amounts of (\$449,237), (\$688,763), and (\$747,167) for the test years ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020.

#### IV. Customer Deposits

The amount included in Customer Deposits are per books (\$2,841), for the test years ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively.

#### V. Plant Acquisition Adjustment

The amount included in Plant Acquisition Adjustment is the per books number net of accumulated amortization as of December 31, 2018 and amounts to (\$727,543). Net PAA is rolled forward to December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020 using current amortization rates and result in Net PAA of (\$832,353) and (\$800,538) for the test years ended December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020 respectively.

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### Rate of Return

The Company uses the capital structure of its parent company, Utilities, Inc. to calculate its rate of return. Utilities Inc.'s capital structure as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 is as follows:

Debt	\$272,742,026
Common Equity	<u>269,100,108</u>
Total Capital	\$541,852,134

For December 31, 2020, the Company adopts a 50/50 debt-to-equity capital ratio and 6.16% cost of debt. The Company has utilized an overall 8.46% weighted average cost of capital and 10.75% cost of equity for this application.

### Tariff Design

Community Utilities is proposing to consolidate rates between its two service territories formally known as Penn Estates Utilities, Inc. and Utilities, Inc. – Westgate. The overall proposed increase in an average 5/8" meter size customer's bill is approximately 27.64% for customers of the formally known territory, Penn Estates Utilities, Inc. and 16.78% for customers of the formally known territory Utilities, Inc. - Westgate as follows:

Comm Averag	•	of Pennsylvania Inc.																			
	A	B	с	D	E	F		G	н		I	J	к	L		м		N		0	P
						12/31/18							12/31/20								
						Average				F	WAC	Average	Average	Propose	l Pr	oposed	Pro	posed	Pro	posed	
Line	Co	Name	w/ww	Class	Meter Size	Usage		BFC	Usage Rate	e Su	scharge	BW	Usage	8FC*	υ	sage"	Aver	age Bill	ĺnd	rease	Increase %
1.	315 315 - U	blitics, Inc Westgate	w	RES	5/8*	3,890	S	17.25	\$ 7.22	7 \$	•	\$ 45.53	3,725	\$ 29.1	; \$	6.45	\$	53.1B	\$	7.64	16.78%
2.	317 317 - Pe	rnn Estates Utilities, Inc.	w	RES	5/8-	3,931	\$	17.25	\$ 6.26	55	-	\$ 41.86	3,764	5 29.1	\$	6.45	5	53.43	\$	11.57	27.64%

A billing analysis at present rates was prepared for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018, December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2020. The calculations are contained in supporting Schedule No. 1. The results of that analysis were used to prepare proof of revenues for the proposed rates contained

in supporting Schedule No. 2. The allocation of the proposed revenues is shown in response to tariff Regulation (b) (4).

#### General Comments

Community Utilities of Pennsylvania water service territories the Company is forecasting for operating and maintenance expenses to increase of 11% and is forecasted to spend \$1.8 million in capital through the December 31, 2020 fully projected future test year. The Company's water service territories have experienced an average declining consumption of 2.15% over the last 10 years as a result of consumer conservation efforts along with advances in household technology. The proposed level of operating revenue will allow the Company enough revenue to meet debt obligations and recover reasonable levels of operating cost and capital investments. The increased revenue for Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc.'s water division will also ensure continued safe and adequate service to its customers.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to

service by a party).

# BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street Forum Place, 5th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Office of Small Business Advocate Commerce Building, Suite 202 300 North 2nd Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

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Thomas J. Sniscak Whitney E. Snyder Bryce R. Beard

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2019