

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held June 15, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman
Stephen M. DeFrank, Vice Chairman
Ralph V. Yanora
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority -
Wastewater

Docket Nos.
R-2023-3039921
C-2023-3040780
C-2023-3040846

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 9, 2023, The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority – Wastewater (PWSA-WW), Utility Code 2320555, filed Supplement No. 11 Tariff Wastewater - Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 (Supplement No. 11) with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) to become effective July 8, 2023. Supplement No. 11 proposes a multi-year rate increase that would increase PWSA-WW’s total annual operating revenues for wastewater service by approximately \$3.3 million, or 6.5%, through rates effective February 8, 2024, by approximately \$6.9 million, or 12.6%, through rates effective January 1, 2025, and by approximately \$9.5 million, or 15.4%, through rates effective January 1, 2026.

On May 19, 2023, the Office of Small Business Advocate filed a formal complaint at Docket No. C-2023-3040780. On May 23, 2023, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a formal complaint at Docket No. C-2023-3040846. Pursuant to Section 1308(d) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1308(d), the filing will be suspended

by operation of law until February 8, 2024, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date.

Investigation and analysis of this proposed tariff supplement and the supporting data indicates that the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations may be unlawful, unjust, unreasonable, and contrary to public interest. It also appears that consideration should be given to the reasonableness of PWSA-WW's existing rates, rules, and regulations; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an investigation on Commission motion be, and hereby is, instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules, and regulations contained in The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority - Wastewater's proposed Supplement No. 11 Tariff Wastewater - Pa. P.U.C. No. 1.

2. That The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority - Wastewater's proposed Supplement No. 11 Tariff Wastewater - Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 is suspended by operation of law until February 8, 2024, unless otherwise directed by Order of the Commission.

3. That within ten (10) days following the entry date of this Order, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 53.71, The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority – Wastewater shall e-file (or file) a tariff supplement, which shall bear no effective date, with the Commission and post the tariff supplement at the offices of The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority - Wastewater announcing that the aforementioned tariff supplement is suspended until February 8, 2024. A sample copy of a suspension supplement is provided in Attachment A of this Order.

4. That the investigation instituted in Ordering Paragraph No. 1 of this Order shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the existing rates, rules, and regulations of The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority - Wastewater.

5. That this case be assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for Alternative Dispute Resolution, if possible, and for the prompt scheduling of such hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a recommended decision.

6. That a copy of this Order shall be served upon The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority - Wastewater, the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and any persons who have filed formal complaints against the proposed tariff supplement.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: June 15, 2023

ORDER ENTERED: June 15, 2023

ATTACHMENT A
Sample Suspension Supplement

Supp. No. _____ to
_____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____.

(COMPANY NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

The application of rates proposed in Supplement No. _____ to Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective _____, is hereby suspended until _____, at Docket No. _____. Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended. Issued in compliance with Title 66 Pa. C.S. § 1308.