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June 20, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
PA Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RE: The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority – Water – R-2023-3039920;
The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority – Wastewater – R-2023-3039921;
The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority – Stormwater – R-2023-3039919

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

On behalf of The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (“PWSA”) enclosed for filing please find the Verified Statement of Julie Mechling and attachments confirming compliance with the customer notice requirements of the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(b)(1) regarding the above-referenced base rate cases. Copies to be served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,



Deanne M. O'Dell

DMO/lww

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Gail M. Chiodo w/enc.
Cert. of Service w/enc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this day I served a copy of PWSA's Verified Statement of Julie Mechling upon the persons listed below in the manner indicated in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code Section 1.54.

Via Email Only

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Deanne M. O'Dell, Esq.

Dated: June 20, 2023

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Rate Filing : Docket Nos. R-2023-3039920 (water);
: R-2023-3039921 (wastewater)
: R-2023-3039919 (stormwater)

VERIFIED STATEMENT OF JULIE A. MECHLING

I, Julie A. Mechling, hereby state that the facts set forth below are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities):

1. I am the Director of Customer Service for The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (“PWSA”) and am authorized to make this verified statement on its behalf.
2. PWSA filed Tariff Water – Pa. P.U.C. No. 1, Supp. No. 12; Tariff Wastewater – Pa. P.U.C. No. 1, Supp. No. 11; and, Tariff Storm Water – Pa. P.U.C. No. 3 on May 9, 2023 with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), which filing constitutes a general rate increase.
3. The required notice of the Tariffs have been posted in a conspicuous place in the PWSA office in compliance with the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(b)(1);
4. **Attachment A** contains the news release that was both posted to PWSA’s website and distributed to all local new outlets (including radio, television and print media) and approximately 1,200 public organizations and individuals who have signed up to receive PWSA press releases on May 9, 2023 in compliance with the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(b)(3);
5. PWSA complied with the alternative method of customer notification set forth in the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code § 53.45(b)(4);
6. **Attachment B** contains the notice that PWSA inserted in envelopes containing customer bills beginning May 9, 2023, which notice continued to be inserted into envelopes containing customer bills for an entire billing cycle until all customers of PWSA whose rates would be increased received notice. This notice was printed on blue paper;
7. The billing envelopes for customer bills in the month of June 2023 called attention to the fact that rate increase information was contained in the mailings and included a second rate request notice that PWSA inserted in those envelopes in the month of June 2023. A sample of the envelope and the second rate request notice is provided in **Attachment C**;
8. PWSA’s electronic billing customers received a message in their eBilling account to view the bill insert discussed in paragraph 6 of this Verified Statement;
9. Notice was also provided through paid newspaper advertisements published in the New Pittsburgh Courier and in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Proofs of publication are provided in **Attachment D**.

10. Additionally, the following media entities ran stories to inform the public of PWSA's rate request:

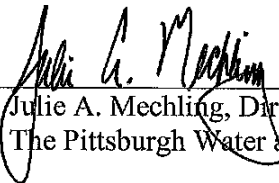
5/9/23

- [Rising waters: PWSA files request to hike rates by nearly 60% over 3 years](#) - *Post-Gazette*
- [PWSA submits \\$146M rate increase proposal](#) – *Pittsburgh Business Times*
- [PWSA Files Rate Request with PUC](#) *KDKA (Pittsburgh's CW)*

5/10/23

- [New water woes could soon be coming for Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority customers with substantial rate hikes.](#) – *KDKA PIT (CBS)*
- [Rate Filing](#) - *KDKA-AM (Radio)*
- [Rate Filing mention by Pittsburgh Business Times Managing Editor Mike Larson](#) – *WESA*
- [Request to Public Utilities Commission](#) - *WTAE-PIT (ABC)*
- [PWSA files request with PUC to increase rates nearly 70% over 3-year period](#) - *KDKA (Pittsburgh's CW)*
- [Pittsburgh Water Rates Poised To Skyrocket](#) – *Patch*
- [PWSA files for 60% rate increases over next 3 years](#) – *Trib Live*

Dated: June 20, 2023



Julie A. Mechling, Director of Customer Service
The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

List of Attachments

A	May 9, 2023 Press Release
B	Notice of Proposed Rate Changes Included With Customer Bills
C	Sample Rate Notice Envelope and Second Rate Request Notice Alert
D	Proofs of Publication of Notice of Rate Increase

From: The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority <communications@pgh2o.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 3:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] PWSA Files Rate Request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

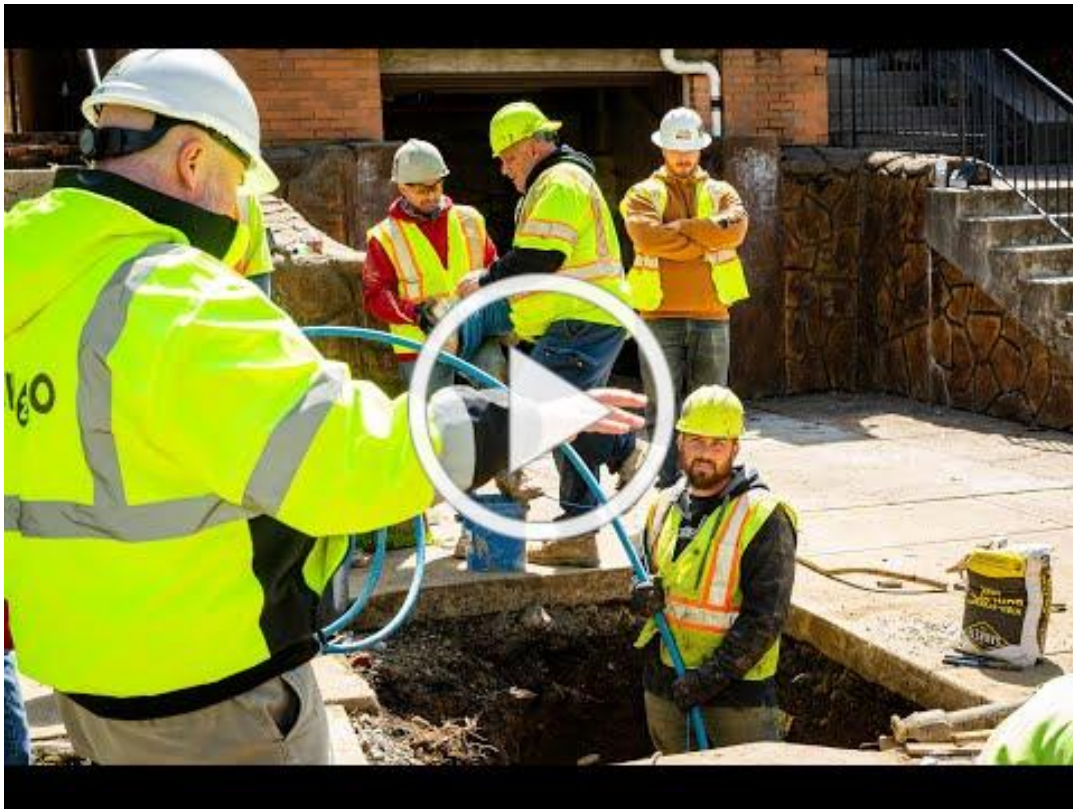
May 9, 2023

Media Contact:
412-430-3898

PWSA Files Rate Request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Assistance program enhancements would expand eligibility, increase benefits, and offer a one-time bill credit for residential customers to put towards rain barrels

Pittsburgh, PA – The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) is making an unprecedented level of investment in the water systems that serve Pittsburgh residents and its surrounding neighborhoods. Since 2018, we have invested more than \$524 million to renew critical drinking water infrastructure, remove lead service lines, construct new stormwater infrastructure, and rehabilitate century old sewer mains.



PWSA CEO Will Pickering shares some of our accomplishments from 2022. These all further our mission to protect public health and the environment.

In fact, PWSA has never been in a better position of fulfilling our mission to protect public health and the environment. In early 2023, we celebrated the removal of the 10,000th lead service line and are on track to remove all lead pipes from our system by 2026. We completed the first phase of large water pumping and distribution projects that are part of the [Water Reliability Plan](#) in late 2022 and immediately started constructing the second phase of projects. These once-in-a-generation projects, mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), require us to complete the work according to an aggressive schedule. Also in 2022, we completed [six stormwater projects](#) in five Pittsburgh neighborhoods and rehabilitated 19.6 miles of aging sewer main.

With this level of investment required for the next several years, PWSA filed a rate request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today that would provide essential funding for mandated infrastructure improvements, meet more stringent environmental and regulatory requirements, and address increasing operating costs related to inflation.

The PUC will evaluate the request, and if approved, will continue the investment that is needed to improve the safety and reliability of our water systems. Importantly, this proposal also includes an expansion of our customer assistance programs and a one-time \$40 credit for residential customers to put towards rain barrels.

The PUC review process can take up to nine months with the Commission considering the request in early 2024. More information about the rate filing is available at www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture.

“As a publicly owned and operated water utility, every dollar we receive from customers is invested into the water systems we rely on each day,” said Will Pickering, PWSA’s Chief

Executive Officer. “We never lose sight that this is your water and we’re dedicated to investing your rate dollars responsibly.”

To keep rates as low as possible, PWSA will continue to aggressively pursue grants and low-interest loans from state and federal funding partners. Since 2018, we have received more than \$645 in low-interest loans and grants from PENNVEST to support our capital program. Low-interest loans, and grants that do not need to be repaid, will over time save ratepayers millions of dollars in comparison to traditional financing. We have estimated that over 30-years, PENNVEST funding will save ratepayers approximately \$539 million.

What Customer Enhancements is PWSA Proposing?

Customer Assistance Programs

Since 2018, thousands of PWSA customers have benefitted from our customer assistance programs. Currently, more than 6,000 customers are enrolled in our monthly Bill Discount Program and through the Hardship Grant Program, we have distributed more than \$200,000 in grants to more than 850 households.

These essential programs help income-qualified customers reduce their monthly bill and pay down past due balances. What’s more, through a service-area-wide customer satisfaction survey conducted last summer, 72% of respondents support PWSA using ratepayer dollars to enhance or expand these programs. Enhancements to these programs under this proposal include:

- Increasing income eligibility for the Bill Discount Program from 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 200% FPL.
- Offering two separate \$300 grants to be made available through the Hardship Grant Program. If approved, income eligible customers could receive one \$300 annual grant for water services and another \$300 annual grant for wastewater conveyance services – increasing their total annual benefit to \$600.

For more information about our customer assistance programs, please visit www.pgh2o.com/cap.

Enhancements to Stormwater Credit Program

In 2022, PWSA established a stormwater fee to equitably charge for stormwater services across Pittsburgh. It is based on the hard or impervious surfaces on a property. Managing stormwater is a city-wide endeavor and there are steps we can all take to reduce stormwater runoff and protect our rivers and streams.

When the stormwater fee was first established, PWSA offered a credit program that focused on the installation of stormwater control measures to reduce stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. With this filing, PWSA is proposing a one-time \$40 rain barrel credit. Any residential property owner who currently has, has recently installed, or plans to install at least a 50-gallon rain barrel could receive a one-time reimbursement if approved.

For more information about the stormwater fee and the credit program, please visit www.pgh2o.com/stormwater-fee.

What does this mean for ratepayers if the request is approved by the PUC?

PWSA is requesting an overall rate increase of \$146.1 million over three years. If approved, this request continues the investment PWSA is making toward mandated

infrastructure improvements and will help to meet environmental and safe drinking water regulatory requirements. Additionally, non-discretionary operating expenses have increased significantly. Specifically, chemicals required for drinking water treatment and electricity costs for pumping and distributing water have increased by as much as 50 percent. As a public utility, responsible for protecting public health, these supplies and operating expenses are essential regardless of cost.

If the Authority's entire request is approved, the total bill for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management for a typical Residential customer using 3,000 gallons of water per month with a 5/8-inch meter and charged the base rate for stormwater services would increase from \$86.43 to \$103.41 per month or by 19.6% in 2024. It would increase from \$103.41 to \$123.55 or by 19.5% in 2025 and increase from \$123.55 to \$146.12 or 18.3% in 2026.

For a typical residential customer enrolled in PWSA's Bill Discount Program using 3,000 gallons per month with a 5/8-inch meter and a reduced stormwater fee, the total bill would increase from \$44.15 per month under the existing rates to \$51.85 per month or by 17.5% in 2024. It would increase from \$51.85 to \$60.83 or by 17.3% in 2025 and increase from \$60.83 to \$72.17 or 18.7% in 2026.

For more information about our rate filing, please visit www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture

PUC Rate Setting Process and Oversight

PWSA ratepayers will have an opportunity to participate in the PUC's review of the proposed rates. In the coming months, the PUC will hold public hearings on the proposal. PWSA will provide public testimony to justify and explain the requested rates. The PUC's Bureau of Investigations and Enforcement, Pennsylvania Office of the Consumer Advocate and Small Business Advocate will also likely review and comment on the request. The PUC may elect to change the rates included in the rate filing.

The PUC began providing oversight of our customer service, operations, and ratemaking after the Governor signed Act 65 in December 2017. We are the first municipal water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater authority to be regulated by the PUC. For more information on PUC oversight and actions customers can take in response to the rate request, please visit www.pgh2o.com/customer-rights.

"We are taking every reasonable step to provide our customers with safe and reliable water services at the lowest possible rates," Board Chair, Alex Sciulli stated. "With PUC oversight there is greater transparency and accountability throughout the process. We encourage the public to participate in our rate-setting process and appreciate your support as we make the mandated investment in our infrastructure."

Between May 9th and June 8th, customers will receive a detailed explanation of the rate proposal in their bill. For more information about the rate filing, please visit www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture.

About PWSA

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) is the largest combined water, sewer and stormwater authority in Pennsylvania, serving a population of approximately 500,000 throughout the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding areas.



The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority | 1200 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

To Our Customers:

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) on May 9, 2023 to increase your rates for water, wastewater conveyance and stormwater management. This notice describes the Authority's rate request, the PUC's role, and what actions you can take. The bill impacts in this Notice do not include ALCOSAN¹ charges for wastewater treatment.

PWSA has requested an overall rate increase of \$146.1 million over three years. If the Authority's entire request is approved, the total bill for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management for a typical Residential customer using 3,000 gallons of water per month and charged the base rate for stormwater services would increase from \$86.43 to \$103.41 per month or by 19.6% in 2024. It would increase from \$103.41 to \$123.55 or by 19.5% in 2025 and increase from \$123.55 to \$146.12 or 18.3% in 2026.

The typical Residential customer enrolled in our low-income customer assistance Bill Discount Program using 3,000 gallons of water per month and charged the base rate for stormwater currently pays \$44.15 per month under the existing rates. If the rate request is approved, this would change to \$51.85 per month or by 17.5% in 2024. It would increase from \$51.85 to \$60.83 or by 17.3% in 2025 and increase from \$60.83 to \$72.17 or 18.7% in 2026.

PWSA's rate filing will support ongoing infrastructure improvements, provide needed resources to meet more stringent environmental and regulatory requirements, and address increasing energy and chemical costs related to inflation. These factors are substantially driving the need for the rate filing and if approved, will ensure ongoing investment to modernize our water systems and provide essential water, sewer, and stormwater services for current and future generations of customers.

As a publicly owned and operated water authority, every dollar we receive is reinvested back into the water systems you rely on each day. In recent years, PWSA has made tremendous progress to renew Pittsburgh's water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure and since 2018, has invested approximately \$524 million in capital improvements. Over the next five years, a total of approximately \$1.8 billion is budgeted for much needed upgrades to critical infrastructure. This investment will improve drinking water quality, improve system reliability, maintain stormwater infrastructure, and meet all regulatory standards.

To support this investment, PWSA aggressively pursues state and federal funding and since 2018 has received more than \$645 million in low-interest loans and grants from PENNVEST. This funding supports our capital program and provides essential financial resources to construct large components of our water pumping and distribution system, improve public health by replacing lead services lines, replace water mains, and rehabilitate aging sewer pipes. Low-interest loans from state and federal funding partners and grants that do not need to be repaid will over time, save ratepayers millions of dollars in comparison to traditional financing.

PWSA has made substantial progress on its construction projects. In early 2023 we celebrated the removal of the 10,000th lead service line from our drinking water system and are on track to remove all lead lines by 2026. We completed the first phase of the Water Reliability Plan in late 2022 and immediately began constructing the second phase of projects. These once-in-a-generation improvements will strengthen our water system, add needed redundancy, and when complete will provide PWSA's drinking water customers with more reliable service.

In 2022, PWSA rehabilitated 19.6 miles of sewer pipe, replaced 233 storm drains, and constructed six new stormwater systems in five Pittsburgh neighborhoods. While this construction is taking place, our Operations department, working in the field and at the Water Treatment Plant, perform routine tasks essential for maintaining water quality. They repair water main breaks, unclog storm drains, treat and monitor water as it moves through the treatment process, and perform thousands of water quality tests each month.

¹ ALCOSAN is the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority, located along the Ohio River, responsible for sewage treatment in Allegheny County. They are a separate entity responsible for setting their own rates. PWSA bills and collects on their behalf.

This critical work requires ongoing investment to assure that our customers have high-quality water for drinking, cooking, cleaning, and personal hygiene; that sewer pipes safely move water away from homes and businesses, and that storm drains are properly maintained to capture runoff from neighborhood streets.

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

In 2018, PWSA established a series of customer assistance programs designed to provide financial relief for income-qualified customers. These programs have since expanded and PWSA is committed to providing financial assistance for essential water services. As such, this rate filing includes enhancing these programs.

Under our proposal, we would increase income eligibility for the Bill Discount Program from 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 200% FPL. More than 6,000 customers are currently enrolled in the Bill Discount Program. It offers a variety of benefits including a 100% reduction on fixed monthly water and wastewater conveyance charges, a 50% discount on volumetric charges for very low-income customers, an 85% reduction on the stormwater fee, and payment plans to help customers reduce past due balances. Customers enrolled in the Bill Discount Program are automatically enrolled in the Winter Hardship Moratorium and they are required to recertify or confirm income eligibility every two years.

This rate filing also proposes two separate \$300 grants to be made available through the Hardship Grant Program. It currently provides income-eligible customers with an annual \$300 grant to pay down past due balances for water and wastewater charges. Since 2018, we have provided grants to more than 850 households and distributed over \$200,000 in grants. If approved, the Hardship Grant Program would allocate two separate grants annually. Income-eligible customers could receive one \$300 annual grant for water services and another \$300 annual grant for wastewater services – increasing their total annual benefit to \$600.

STORMWATER FEE

In 2022, PWSA established a stormwater fee to equitably charge for stormwater services across Pittsburgh. It is included in the total bill amounts referenced above and is based on the amount of impervious or hard surfaces on a property. Our rate filing proposes incentivizing non-residential customers to retain runoff using green space, provided it can receive and treat runoff from 3/4-inch of rain from their impervious surfaces. For residential customers, a one-time \$40 credit, applied over time for the installation of at least a 50-gallon rain barrel, is also proposed.

In Pittsburgh, the average amount of impervious surface on a property is approximately 1,650 square feet. This is equal to one equivalent residential unit (ERU) of impervious surface, which is the unit of measure for calculating the stormwater fee and is accepted as the industry standard for determining a stormwater fee. The proposed monthly stormwater fees are shown in the table below:

Stormwater Monthly Fees	ERUs	2024	2025	2026
Residential Tier 1 (>=400 to <1,015 sf)	.5	\$5.13	\$6.07	\$7.10
Residential Tier 2 (>=1,015 to <2,710 sf)	1	\$10.26	\$12.14	\$14.20
Residential Tier 3 (>=2,710 sf)	2	\$20.52	\$24.28	\$28.40
Non-Residential	Per ERU	\$10.26	\$12.14	\$14.20

RATE REQUEST

The additional revenue would be recovered through a 22.5% rate increase, or \$46.8 million, beginning in 2024, a 17.8% rate increase or \$45.4 million in 2025, and 17.9% rate increase, or \$53.9 million in 2026 for its water and wastewater conveyance operations and stormwater management. The following tables describe how the typical customer in each customer class would be impacted by this rate filing.

The typical Residential customers uses 3,000 gallons of water per month with a 5/8-inch meter and generates stormwater runoff from 1 ERU.

Residential	Current Rates	2024 Rates	2025 Rates	2026 Rates
Water	\$58.59	\$71.67	\$86.55	\$103.17

Wastewater Conveyance	\$19.89	\$21.48	\$24.50	\$28.33
Stormwater	\$7.95	\$10.26	\$12.50	\$14.62
Total	\$86.43	\$103.41	\$123.55	\$146.12

The typical Residential customer enrolled in the Bill Discount Program uses 3,000 gallons of water per month with a 5/8-inch meter and generates stormwater runoff from 1 ERU.

Residential Bill Discount	Current Rates	2024 Rates	2025 Rates	2026 Rates
Water	\$30.74	\$36.81	\$45.31	\$54.40
Wastewater Conveyance	\$12.20	\$13.50	\$13.70	\$15.64
Stormwater	\$1.20	\$1.54	\$1.82	\$2.13
Total	\$44.15	\$51.85	\$60.83	\$72.17

The typical Commercial customer using 13,000 gallons per month with a 1-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 8 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$356.54 to \$441.19 per month or by 23.7% in 2024, from \$441.19 to \$565.41 per month or by 28.2% in 2025, and from \$565.41 to \$668.24 per month or by 18.2% in 2026 as shown below:

Commercial	Current Rates	2024 Rates	2025 Rates	2026 Rates
Water	\$223.10	\$285.39	\$370.93	\$442.18
Wastewater Conveyance	\$69.84	\$73.72	\$94.48	\$109.10
Stormwater	\$63.60	\$82.08	\$100.00	\$116.96
Total	\$356.54	\$441.19	\$565.41	\$668.24

The typical Industrial customer using 680,000 gallons per month with a 4-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 30 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$12,934.31 to \$16,945.22 per month or by 31.0% in 2024, from \$16,945.22 to \$20,846.87 per month or by 23.0% in 2025, and from \$20,846.87 to \$24,648.17 per month or by 18.2% in 2026 as shown below:

Industrial	Current Rates	2024 Rates	2025 Rates	2026 Rates
Water	\$9,148.89	\$12,753.45	\$15,876.61	\$18,905.87
Wastewater Conveyance	\$3,546.92	\$3,883.98	\$4,595.26	\$5,303.70
Stormwater	\$238.50	\$307.80	\$375.00	\$438.60
Total	\$12,934.31	\$16,945.22	\$20,846.87	\$24,648.17

The typical Health and Education customer using 50,000 gallons per month with a 2-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 32 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$1,474.16 to \$1,844.81 per month or by 25.1% in 2024, from \$1,844.81 to \$2,371.36 per month or by 28.5% in 2025, and from \$2,371.36 to \$2,804.42 per month or by 18.3% in 2026 as shown on the next page:

Health and Education	Current Rates	2024 Rates	2025 Rates	2026 Rates
Water	\$918.59	\$1,217.03	\$1,589.22	\$1,895.02
Wastewater Conveyance	\$301.17	\$299.46	\$382.14	\$441.56
Stormwater	\$254.40	\$328.32	\$400.00	\$467.84
Total	\$1,474.16	\$1,844.81	\$2,371.36	\$2,804.42

PWSA's rate request is scheduled to go into effect on July 8, 2023; however, in most cases, the PUC suspends the increase for up to an additional seven (7) months.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management bill contact PWSA at 412-255-2423. The rates requested by the Authority may be found in the Tariff Water – PA. P.U.C. No.1 Supp. No. 12, Tariff Wastewater – PA. P.U.C. No.1 Supp. No. 11, and Tariff Stormwater – PA. P.U.C. No. 1 Supp No. 3. You may also examine the material filed with the PUC, which explains the requested increase and the reasons for it. A copy of these documents is kept at PWSA's office. Upon request, the Authority will send you the Statement of Reasons for these Tariffs, explaining why the

rate increase has been requested.

PUC ROLE

The state agency which now approves rates for PWSA is the PUC. The PUC will examine the requested rate increase and can prevent existing rates from changing until it investigates and/or holds hearings on the request. The Authority must prove that the requested rates are reasonable. After examining the evidence, the PUC may grant all, some, or none of the request or may reduce existing rates.

The PUC may change the amount of the rate increase or decrease requested by the utility for each customer class. As a result, the rate charged to you may be different than the rate requested by the utility as shown above.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

There are three ways to support or challenge PWSA's request to change its rates:

1. You can be a witness at a public input hearing. Public input hearings are held if the PUC opens an investigation of the utility's rate increase request and if there is a large number of customers interested in the case. At these hearings, you have the opportunity to present your views in person to the PUC judge hearing the case and to the PWSA representatives. All testimony given "under oath" becomes part of the official rate case record. These hearings are held in the service area of the utility.
2. You can send the PUC a letter telling why you support or object to the requested rate increase. At times there is information in these letters that makes the PUC aware of successes or problems with the utility's service or management. This information can be helpful when the PUC investigates the rate request.
3. You can file a formal complaint. If you want a hearing before a judge, you must file a formal complaint. By filing a formal complaint, you assure yourself the opportunity to take part in hearings about the rate increase request. All complaints should be filed with the PUC before July 8, 2023. If no formal complaints are filed, the Commission may grant all, some, or none of the request without holding a hearing before a judge. Send your letter or request for a formal complaint form to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265.

For more information, call the PUC's Bureau of Consumer Services at 1-800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case. You may also contact the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA). The OCA represents the interests of consumers in cases before the PUC. You may contact the OCA with questions or requests for public input [hearings at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at \[consumer@paoca.org\]\(mailto:consumer@paoca.org\).](http://www.paoca.org)

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority | 1200 Penn Avenue | Pittsburgh, PA 15222 | 412-255-2423

Make a payment online via www.pgh2o.com
or by telephone to 412-255-2423, Option #2.



Penn Liberty Plaza 1
1200 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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06901**



NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

To read the full Public Notice, the PUC's role, and actions you can take, please visit www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture

On Tuesday, May 9th, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase your rates for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management.

As a publicly owned and operated water authority, every dollar we receive is reinvested back into the water systems you rely on each day. This rate filing will support ongoing infrastructure improvements, provide needed resources to meet more stringent environmental and regulatory requirements, and address increasing energy and chemical costs related to inflation.

In recent years, PWSA has made tremendous progress to renew Pittsburgh's water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure

and since 2018, has invested approximately \$524 million in capital improvements. Over the next five years, a total of approximately \$1.8 billion is budgeted for much needed upgrades to critical infrastructure. This investment will improve drinking water quality, improve system reliability, maintain stormwater infrastructure, and meet all regulatory standards.

PWSA has requested an overall rate increase of \$146.1 million over three years. The filing also proposes enhancements to our Customer Assistance Programs and a one-time \$40 credit that residential customers can put towards rain barrels.

The PUC is reviewing our request and will host a series of public input hearings in the coming weeks. PWSA customers are encouraged to participate to share their views about the rate filing. More information will be available on our website when scheduled.

Please visit www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture for the full public notice or call Customer Service at 412-255-2423, Press 5.

Date: May 10, 2023

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN THE
NEW PITTSBURGH COURIER PUBLISHING COMPANY**

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929, P.L. 1784

State of Pennsylvania)
County of Allegheny)

Rod Doss

Name.....Title Editor & Publisher of the New Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company, a corporation of the County and State aforesaid being duly sworn, deposes and says that the *New Pittsburgh Courier* is a newspaper published once a week at 315 East Carson Street, City of Pittsburgh, County and State aforesaid, which was established in the year 1966, since which date said newspaper has been regularly issued in said county, and that a copy of the printed notice or publication is attached hereto exactly the same was printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said weekly newspaper

Notice of Proposed Rate Changes to Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority Customers

on May 10, 2023

Affiant further deposes that he/she is an officer duly authorized by the New Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company, a corporation, publisher of the *New Pittsburgh Courier*, a newspaper published weekly, to verify the foregoing statement under oath and also declares that the affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or publication, and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.

Copy of notice or publication:

Rod Doss, Editor & Publisher

(Name) (Title)

New Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company,
a corporation:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th
day of...May, 2023.....

Notary Public

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Allison A. Paim, Notary Public
Allegheny County
My commission expires June 22, 2023
Commission number 1291582
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

Statement of Advertising Costs to:

Pgh. Water & Sewer Authority
Rebecca Zito, Sr. Manager
Public Affairs
1200 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

For publishing the notice or advertisement as attached hereto on the above stated dates:

\$ 1,488.24
\$
\$
\$ 5.00
\$ 1,493.24

New Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company, a corporation, publisher of the *New Pittsburgh Courier*, a newspaper published weekly; I hereby certify that the foregoing is the original proof of publication and advertising costs in the subject matter of said notice.

(Affiant's Signature)

Rod Doss, Editor & Publisher

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES TO PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY CUSTOMERS
The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) on May 9, 2023 to increase your rates for water, wastewater conveyance and stormwater management. This notice describes our request, the PUC's role, and the options you can take.
PWSA has requested an overall rate increase of \$146.1 million over three years. If the Authority's entire request is approved, the total bill for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management for a typical Residential customer using 3,000 gallons of water per month and charged the base rate for stormwater services would increase from \$86.43 to \$103.41 per month or by 19.6% in 2024. It would increase from \$103.41 to \$123.55 or 19.5% in 2025 and increase from \$123.55 to \$146.12 or 18.3% in 2026. As a publicly owned and operated water authority, every dollar we receive is reinvested back into the water systems you rely on each day. Since 2018, PWSA has invested approximately \$524 million in capital improvements and over the next five years, a total of approximately \$1.8 billion is budgeted for much needed upgrades to critical infrastructure. This rate filing, if approved, will ensure ongoing investment to modernize our water systems, and provide essential water, sewer, and stormwater services for current and future generations of customers.
The typical Residential customer enrolled in our low-income customer assistance Bill Discount Program using 3,000 gallons of water per month and charged the base rate for stormwater currently pays \$44.15 per month under the existing rates. If the rate request is approved, this would change to \$51.85 per month or by 17.5% in 2024. It would increase from \$51.85 to \$60.83 or by 17.3% in 2025 and increase from \$60.83 to \$72.17 or 18.7% in 2026.
The typical Commercial customer using 13,000 gallons per month with a 1-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 8 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$356.54 to \$441.19 per month or by 23.7% in 2024, from \$441.19 to \$565.41 per month or by 28.2% in 2025, and from \$565.41 to \$668.24 per month or by 18.2% in 2026.
The typical Industrial customer using 680,000 gallons per month with a 4-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 30 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$12,934.31 to \$16,945.22 per month or by 31.0% in 2024, from \$16,945.22 to \$20,846.87 per month or by 23.0% in 2025, and from \$20,846.87 to \$24,648.17 per month or by 18.2% in 2026.
The typical Health and Education customer using 50,000 gallons per month with a 2-inch meter and generating stormwater runoff from 32 ERU's, the total bill would increase from \$1,474.16 to \$1,844.81 per month or by 25.1% in 2024, from \$1,844.81 to \$2,371.36 per month or by 28.5% in 2025, and from \$2,371.36 to \$2,804.42 per month or by 18.3% in 2026. PWSA's rate request is scheduled to go into effect on July 8, 2023; however, in most cases, the PUC suspends the increase for up to an additional seven (7) months.
To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater management Commission, Post Office Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265 or more information, call the PUC's Bureau of Consumer Services at 800-692-7380. You may leave your name and address so you can be notified of any public input hearings that may be scheduled in this case. You may also contact the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA). The OCA represents the interests of consumers in cases before the PUC. You may contact the OCA with questions or requests for public input hearings at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.
Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority
1200 Penn Avenue | Pittsburgh, PA 15222 | 412-255-2423

ads@newpittsburghcourier.com
E-mail:
a rule on the aforesaid persons, and show cause within thirty days of the date of the order. ALL ENCLOSURES, AGREEMENTS, and other documents must be filed with the order. Page 21, SUBJECT TO ALL

No. _____ Term, _____

Proof of Publication of Notice in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Under Act No 587, Approved May 16, 1929, PL 1784, as last amended by Act No 409 of September 29, 1951

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny, ss D. Rullo, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Pittsburgh, County and Commonwealth aforesaid, was established in 1993 by the merging of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and Sun-Telegraph and The Pittsburgh Press and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and Sun-Telegraph was established in 1960 and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette was established in 1927 by the merging of the Pittsburgh Gazette established in 1786 and the Pittsburgh Post, established in 1842, since which date the said Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has been regularly issued in said County and that a copy of said printed notice or publication is attached hereto exactly as the same was printed and published in the _____ regular _____ editions and issues of the said Pittsburgh Post-Gazette a newspaper of general circulation on the following dates, viz:

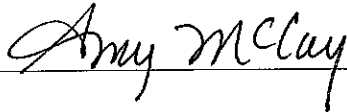
11 of May, 2023

Affiant further deposes that he/she is an agent for the PG Publishing Company, a corporation and publisher of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, that, as such agent, affiant is duly authorized to verify the foregoing statement under oath, that affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the afore said notice or publication, and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as to time, place and character of publication are true.



PG Publishing Company

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of:
May 11, 2023



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Amy McCay, Notary Public
Allegheny County
My commission expires January 24, 2026
Commission number 1323004
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISING COSTS

Pgh Water & Sewer Auth-Leg
ATTN: Accounts Payable
1200 Penn Ave. - 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

To PG Publishing Company

Total ----- \$258.30

Publisher's Receipt for Advertising Costs

PG PUBLISHING COMPANY, publisher of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation, hereby acknowledges receipt of the aforesaid advertising and publication costs and certifies that the same have been fully paid.

Office
2201 Sweeney Drive
Clinton, PA 15026
legaladvertising@post-gazette.com
Phone 412-263-1440

PG Publishing Company, a Corporation, Publisher of
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, a Newspaper of General Circulation

By _____

I hereby certify that the foregoing is the original Proof of Publication and receipt for the Advertising costs in the subject matter of said notice.

COPY OF NOTICE OR PUBLICATION

