

Deanne M. O'Dell  
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May 25, 2021

**Via Electronic Filing**

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

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
Docket Nos. R-2021-3024773 (water); R-2021-3024774 (wastewater); and  
R-2021-3024779 (stormwater)

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for electronic filing please find Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority's Verified Statement of Julie Quigley in the above-referenced matter. Copies to be served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,



Deanne M. O'Dell, Esq.

DMO/lww

Enclosure

cc: Certificate of Service w/enc.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

### Via Email Only

Christine Maloni Hoover, Esq.  
Erin L. Gannon, Esq.  
Lauren E. Guerra, Esq.  
Luis M. Melendez, Esq.  
Office of Consumer Advocate  
555 Walnut St., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl., Forum Place  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923  
[choover@paoca.org](mailto:choover@paoca.org)  
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Gina L. Miller, Esq.  
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor West  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
[ginmiller@pa.gov](mailto:ginmiller@pa.gov)

Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq.  
John W. Sweet, Esq.  
Ria M. Pereira, Esq.  
Elizabeth R. Marx, Esq.  
John W. Sweet, Esq.  
Lauren N. Berman, Esq.  
The Pennsylvania Utility Law Project  
118 Locust St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[pulp@palegalaid.net](mailto:pulp@palegalaid.net)

Erin K. Fure, Esq.  
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Forum Place Building  
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Deanne M. O'Dell, Esq.

May 25, 2021

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

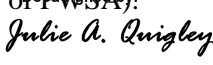
Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Rate Filing : Docket Nos. R-2021-3024773 (water);  
: R-2021-3024774 (wastewater)  
: R-2021-3024779 (stormwater)

**VERIFIED STATEMENT OF JULIE A. QUIGLEY**

I, Julie A. Quigley, 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. 7; Tariff Wastewater – Pa. P.U.C. No. 1, Supp. No. 6; and, Tariff Storm Water – Pa. P.U.C. No. 1 on April 13, 2021 with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), which filing constitutes a general rate increase.
3. The required notice of the Tariffs will be posted in a conspicuous place in the PWSA office where payments are accepted when PWSA’s offices are re-opened (PWSA’s on-site billing counter has been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic) 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 1200 public organizations and individuals who have signed up to receive PWSA press releases on April 13, 2021 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 April 13, 2021, 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 those customer bills called attention to the fact that rate increase information was contained in the mailings. Sample envelopes (one for existing customers and the other for future stormwater only customers) are 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. The Pittsburgh Tribune also ran two articles about the filing on April 12, 2021 at <https://triblive.com/local/pwsa-seeks-regulatory-approval-for-rate-increases-in-2022-2023/> and April 14, 2021 at <https://triblive.com/local/increased-water-rates-would-help-pwsa-fund-system-improvements/>
10. On April 13, 2021, PWSA also mailed a copy of Attachment B along with the cover letter provided in Attachment E to approximately 6,500 parcels that PWSA identified as potential future stormwater only customers (but are not now existing customers of PWSA);

Dated: 05/25/2021 | 11:11 AM PDT

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

## List of Attachments

A	April 13, 2021 Press Release
B	Notice of Proposed Rate Changes Included With Customer Bills
C	Sample Envelopes for Customers and Future Stormwater Only Customers With Rate Request Notice
D	Proofs of Publication of Notice of Rate Increase
E	Sample Cover Letter to Potential Future Stormwater-Only Customers

**From:** The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority <communications@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:15 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** [External] PWSA Files Rate Request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2021

**Media Contact:**  
412-430-3898

### **PWSA Files Rate Request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission**

#### **Prioritizes water safety and reliability, stormwater solutions, and customer protections**

**Pittsburgh, PA** – 2020 was the most productive year on record for the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA). With an investment of \$122 million in capital improvements, the Authority is renewing critical water infrastructure, replacing lead service lines and aging water mains, constructing stormwater infrastructure, and rehabilitating sewer pipes that are a century old.

With this level of investment continuing for the next several years, PWSA filed a rate request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today that, if approved, would provide the necessary additional funding to continue the investment that is needed to improve the safety and reliability of our water systems, advance stormwater solutions, and provide enhanced protections for our most vulnerable customers.

The PUC will evaluate the request, which includes a revenue increase totaling \$32.2 million or 17.2% that will be phased in over two years. This proposed amount includes the addition of a new stormwater fee and new enhancements to customer assistance programs. The PUC review process can take up to nine months with the Commission considering the request in early 2022. More information about the rate filing is available at [www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture](http://www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture).

“As a publicly owned and controlled utility, every dollar we receive from our customers is invested back into your water systems,” stated Will Pickering, PWSA’s Chief Executive Officer. “Our water infrastructure was built at the turn of the 20th century and has served

us well. It is now time to rebuild our system for the next one hundred years so we can provide the quality water services that Pittsburgh expects and deserves.”

In consideration of the financial hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, PWSA is proposing the most minimal rate request to implement its capital improvement plan, expand operations, and maintain customer service levels. The increase will be phased in over two-years to reduce the impact on ratepayers and includes additional enhancements to our customer assistance programs. PWSA is doing everything possible to keep rates as low as possible while meeting our obligations to deliver high quality water services.

**Will there be a stormwater fee?**

PWSA has focused on improved stormwater management for several years and a stormwater fee, if approved, would begin to address many of the wet weather challenges experienced in Pittsburgh. It would provide a dedicated funding source to improve stormwater management, build innovative stormwater infrastructure, reduce sewer overflows, and lessen the amount of pollution entering our rivers and streams.

The proposed stormwater fee is based on the amount of impervious surface on a property. In Pittsburgh, the average amount of impervious surface on a residential property is approximately 1,650 square feet. For the purposes of calculating the stormwater rate for all properties in Pittsburgh, we determined that 1,650 square feet of impervious surface will be equivalent to one residential unit (ERU). ERUs are accepted as the industry standard for determining a stormwater fee. If approved, the stormwater fee will be applied to all residential and non-residential properties in Pittsburgh in the following way:

Stormwater Customer Categories	ERUs	Monthly Rate 2022	Monthly Rate 2023
Residential Tier 1 (>=400 to <1,015 sf)	.5	\$2.99	\$3.98
Residential Tier 2 (>=1,015 to <2,710 sf)	1	\$5.96	\$7.95
Residential Tier 3 (>=2,710 sf)	2	\$11.93	\$15.90
Non-Residential	Per ERU	\$5.96	\$7.95

*For more information about our plans for managing stormwater and the fee please visit [www.pqh2ostormwater.com](http://www.pqh2ostormwater.com)*

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

In 2022, rates are proposed to increase by \$22.0 million or 11.7% and in 2023, would increase by \$10.2 million or by 5.4% for water and wastewater conveyance operations and stormwater management. If approved, this request continues the investment PWSA is making in needed infrastructure improvements.

PWSA’s typical residential customer uses approximately 3,000 gallons of water per month with a 5/8-inch meter and generates stormwater runoff from one ERU. That customer’s total bill would increase from \$79.34 per month to \$87.19 per month or by 9.89% in 2022, and from \$87.19 to \$91.05 per month or by 4.43% in 2023.

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 \$41.77 to \$45.34 per month or by 8.54% in 2022, and from \$45.34 to \$47.90 per month or by 5.64% in 2023.

The current rate filing includes proposed enhancements to our customer assistance programs that make these valuable programs available to more customers. They include expanding the Winter Shutoff Moratorium to include adults 65 and older regardless of income, increasing the volumetric discount to 50% for very low-income customers enrolled in the Bill Discount Program, providing a 75% discount on the stormwater fee for all customers enrolled in the Bill Discount Program, and increasing eligibility for the Hardship Grant Program from 150% of the federal poverty level to 300%. Additional assistance opportunities for all PWSA customers, regardless of income, are also included in the rate proposal. For more information about our customer assistance programs, please visit [www.pgh2o.com/cap](http://www.pgh2o.com/cap).

“PWSA recognizes the importance of balancing the needs of our customers with the improvements we must make to our water, sewer, and stormwater systems,” says Will Pickering, PWSA’s CEO. “Our proposal builds off the customer protections put in place earlier this year and continues to help make bills as affordable as possible for those who need it most,” Pickering stated. “During these challenging times, the affordability of our rates cannot be ignored. No one should have to choose between paying their water bill and other essential expenses.”

### **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 and wastewater 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](http://www.pgh2o.com/customer-rights).

As a publicly owned authority, every dollar we collect in rate revenue is invested back into the organization to improve drinking water, sewer, and stormwater services. We never lose sight that this is your water. We are proud to serve Pittsburgh and are dedicated to providing the water services you expect and deserve.

For more information about the rate filing, please visit [www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture](http://www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture). Between April 13th and May 12th, customers will receive a detailed explanation of the rate proposal in their bill.

### **About PWSA**

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) is the largest combined water, sewer and stormwater authority in Pennsylvania, serving 300,000 consumers throughout the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding areas.



The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority | 1200 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
(412) 255-2423 | [www.pgh2o.com](http://www.pgh2o.com)

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Sent by [communications@pgh2o.com](mailto:communications@pgh2o.com)





*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 April 13, 2021 to increase your water and wastewater conveyance rates and establish a new stormwater fee. This notice provides more information about the stormwater fee and describes the Authority’s rate request, the PUC’s role, and what actions you can take.

If the Authority’s entire request is approved as filed, the total bill for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater service for a typical Residential customer using 3,000 gallons per month and charged the base rate for stormwater services would increase from \$79.34 to \$87.19 per month or by 9.89% in 2022 and increase from \$87.19 to \$91.05 or by 4.43% in 2023.

**STORMWATER FEE**

The stormwater fee is included in the totals above and is based on the amount of impervious surface on a property. Impervious surface is the hard surface on a property such as roofs, sidewalks, and parking areas that does not absorb stormwater. These hard surfaces generate stormwater runoff that collect trash and send polluted water into local waterways. It can also overwhelm our sewer system causing streets to flood, basements to backup, and sewage to overflow into rivers and streams.

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. If approved, the stormwater fee will be applied to all residential and non-residential properties in Pittsburgh in the following way:

<b>Stormwater Monthly Fees</b>	<b>ERUs</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Residential Tier 1 (>=400 to <1,015 sf)	.5	\$2.99	\$3.98
Residential Tier 2 (>=1,015 to <2,710 sf)	1	\$5.96	\$7.95
Residential Tier 3 (>=2,710 sf)	2	\$11.93	\$15.90
Non-Residential	Per ERU	\$5.96	\$7.95

**RATE REQUEST**

PWSA has requested a total rate increase of 17.1% to be recovered through an 11.7% rate increase, or \$22.0 million, beginning in 2022 and a 5.4% rate increase or \$10.2 million in 2023 for its water and wastewater conveyance operations and stormwater management.

For a typical Residential customer using 3,000 gallons per month with a 5/8-inch meter and generating stormwater from one ERU, the total bill would increase from \$79.34 to \$87.19 per month or by 9.89% in 2022, and from \$87.19 to \$91.05 per month or by 4.43% in 2023, as shown in the table below:

<b>Residential</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>2022 Rates</b>	<b>2023 Rates</b>
Water	54.36	58.09	61.79
Wastewater	24.98	23.14	21.30
Stormwater	N/A	5.96	7.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.34</b>	<b>87.19</b>	<b>91.05</b>

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 \$41.77 to \$45.34 per month or by 8.54% in 2022, and from \$45.34 to \$47.90 per month or by 5.64% in 2023, as shown in the table below:

<b>Residential Bill Discount</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>2022 Rates</b>	<b>2023 Rates</b>
Water	25.73	29.17	32.59
Wastewater	16.04	14.68	13.31
Stormwater	N/A	1.49	1.99
Total	41.77	45.34	47.90

For a 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 \$294.27 to \$351.21 per month or by 19.35% in 2022, and from \$351.21 to \$376.31 per month or by 7.15% in 2023, as shown in the table below:

<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>2022 Rates</b>	<b>2023 Rates</b>
Water	194.69	216.48	238.18
Wastewater	99.58	87.06	74.53
Stormwater	N/A	47.68	63.60
Total	294.27	351.21	376.31

For an 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 \$12,267.35 to \$13,079.05 per month or by 6.62% in 2022, and from \$13,079.05 to \$13,758.83 per month or by 5.20% in 2023, as shown in the table below:

<b>Industrial</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>2022 Rates</b>	<b>2023 Rates</b>
Water	7,742.05	8,768.38	9,788.30
Wastewater	4,525.30	4,131.87	3,732.03
Stormwater	N/A	178.80	238.50
Total	12,267.35	13,079.05	13,758.83

For a 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 \$1,276.07 to \$1,459.07 per month or by 14.34% in 2022, and from \$1,459.07 to \$1,514.67 per month or by 3.81% in 2023, as shown in the table below:

<b>Health/Education</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>2022 Rates</b>	<b>2023 Rates</b>
Water	833.40	900.76	968.13
Wastewater	442.67	367.58	292.14
Stormwater	N/A	190.72	254.40
Total	1,276.07	1,459.07	1,514.67

PWSA's rate request is scheduled to go into effect on June 12, 2021; however, in most cases, the PUC suspends the increase for up to an additional seven (7) months.

Since 2017, PWSA has invested approximately \$328 million in capital improvements including necessary upgrades to water and sewer facilities, storage tanks, and pumping stations. In 2021, a total of approximately \$233 million is budgeted for much needed upgrades to critical water and sewer infrastructure. This investment will improve drinking water quality, improve system reliability, and meet all regulatory standards.

PWSA has been focusing on improved stormwater management for several years. Currently, several initiatives are underway that will establish a comprehensive approach to managing stormwater. This includes developing a stormwater master plan, updating city codes and ordinances, and constructing innovative stormwater solutions across the city.

After deliberate analysis and input from stakeholders, the stormwater fee, if approved, would begin to address the wet weather challenges experienced in Pittsburgh. It would provide a dedicated funding source to improve stormwater management, build innovative stormwater infrastructure, reduce sewer overflows, and lessen the amount of pollution entering our rivers and streams.

A stormwater fee based on impervious surface is a more equitable way to charge for stormwater. Our rates are currently based on water usage, which does not consider the amount of runoff generated by a property. Using impervious surface as the standard unit of measure, will ensure that each parcel within the city of Pittsburgh is contributing a proportional share to help address our most pressing wet weather challenges.

To find out your customer class or how the requested increase may affect your water and wastewater conveyance 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. 7, Tariff Wastewater – PA. P.U.C. No.1 Supp. No. 6, and Tariff Stormwater – PA. P.U.C. No. 1. 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 June 12, 2021. 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).

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



Make a payment online via [www.pgh2o.com](http://www.pgh2o.com) or by telephone to 412-255-2423, Option #2.



Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority

Penn Liberty Plaza 1  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Forwarding Service Requested

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED  
RATE INCREASE ENCLOSED**

**PRESORTED  
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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
KDT  
08901**



31245-E-0004



277178-1

PROOF DATE: 03/26/21	FORM NUMBER: 31245-E-0004	CLIENT: KUBRA	QTY:	CSR: L. KLINE
ENV. SIZE/STYLE: 4-1/8" x 9-1/2" OSSS	TOOLING/DIE: 072.01/72	PAPER: 24#WW	INK/COLORS: BLACK 1/0	
WINDOW #1: 1-5/8" x 4-3/8" L: 7/16" B: 15/16"	WINDOW #2: N/A	WINDOW #3: N/A		
APPROVED: AS IS <input type="checkbox"/>	WITH CHANGES <input type="checkbox"/>	CORRECT & RE-PROOF <input type="checkbox"/>	BY: _____	DATE: _____
<b>NOTES: FLEXO THE FACE, BACK &amp; FLAP; FULL GUM</b>				
<b>ATTENTION:</b> THIS PROOF IS FOR COLOR SEPARATION, COPY AND PLACEMENT ONLY. YOUR APPROVAL INSTRUCTS US TO PROCEED WITH THIS PROJECT AS-IS PER YOUR SIGNED REQUEST; OR AS SPECIFICALLY INDICATED BY THE "APPROVED WITH CHANGES" INFORMATION FURNISHED BY YOU ABOVE.				



**Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority**

1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

PWSA Verification of Publication Attachment C

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PGH PA  
Permit No 5363

**Notice of Proposed Fee Enclosed**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Term, \_\_\_\_\_

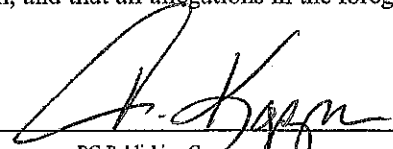
### Proof of Publication of Notice in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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

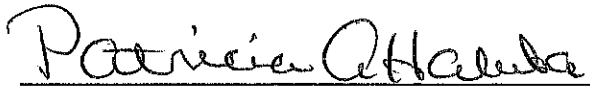
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Allegheny, ss T. Kopyar, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Pittsburgh, County and Commonwealth aforesaid, was established in 1993 by the merging of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 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:

**15 of April, 2021**

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:  
April 15, 2021



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal  
Patricia A. Haluka, Notary Public  
Allegheny County  
My commission expires December 4, 2024  
Commission number 1387348  
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISING COSTS**  
PGH WATER & SEWER AUTH-LEGAL  
ATTN: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
1200 PENN AVE. - 2ND FLOOR  
PITTSBURGH PA 15222

To PG Publishing Company

Total ----- \$249.90

### 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  
Phone 412-263-1338

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.

Attorney For

### COPY OF NOTICE OR PUBLICATION

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 April 13, 2021 to increase your water and wastewater conveyance rates and establish a new stormwater fee. This notice describes our request, the PUC's role, and the actions you can take.  
PWSA has requested an overall rate request totaling \$32.2 million or 17.2% that will be phased in over two years. If the Authority's entire request is approved as filed, the total bill for water, wastewater conveyance, and stormwater service for a typical residential customer using 3,000 gallons per month and charged the base rate for stormwater services would increase from \$79.34 to \$87.19 per month or by 9.89% in 2022 and increase from \$87.19 to \$91.05 or by 4.42% in 2023.  
The proposed stormwater fee is a public utility rate. 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 right to provide input. The PUC will also hold public hearings on the proposed rate changes. The PUC will also hold public hearings on the proposed rate changes. The PUC will also hold public hearings on the proposed rate changes.  
Choice Energy Corp. is a public utility company that provides natural gas services to residential customers in the Pittsburgh area. Choice Energy Corp. is a public utility company that provides natural gas services to residential customers in the Pittsburgh area. Choice Energy Corp. is a public utility company that provides natural gas services to residential customers in the Pittsburgh area.







April 13, 2021



\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*5-DIGIT 15212  
 Central Northside Neighborhood Coun  
 PO Box 6255  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212-0255

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RE: Introduction to the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority’s Proposed Stormwater Fee

Dear Future Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Stormwater Customer:

On Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) filed a request with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to establish a stormwater fee that would be applied to all properties located within the city of Pittsburgh.

Our records indicate that you own one or more property(ies) within Pittsburgh and would be subject to the stormwater fee if approved by the PUC. Our proposal for the stormwater fee is currently under review by the PUC and if it should be approved, would go into effect in January 2022.

The fee is based on the amount of impervious surface on a property. Impervious surface is the hard surface on a property such as roofs, sidewalks, and parking areas that does not absorb stormwater. These hard surfaces generate stormwater runoff that collect trash and send polluted water into local waterways. It can also overwhelm our sewer system causing streets to flood, basements to backup, and sewage to overflow into rivers and streams.

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. If approved, the stormwater fee will be applied to all residential and non-residential properties located within the city.

The fee will be applied to non-residential properties using the following formula:

$$\text{Total ERU's/Property} \times \text{Monthly Stormwater Rate} = \text{Property's Total Stormwater Fee}$$

After deliberate analysis and input from stakeholders, the stormwater fee, if approved, would begin to address the wet weather challenges experienced in Pittsburgh. It would provide a dedicated funding source to improve stormwater management, build innovative stormwater infrastructure, reduce sewer overflows, and lessen the amount of pollution entering our rivers and streams.

A stormwater fee based on impervious surface is a more equitable way to charge for stormwater. Our rates are currently based on water usage, which does not consider the amount



of runoff generated by a property. Using impervious surface as the standard unit of measure will ensure that each parcel within the city of Pittsburgh is contributing a proportional share to help address our most pressing wet weather challenges.

Our next outreach to you will take place in the coming months to provide information about the affected property(ies) under your ownership, the proposed rate for these properties, and the proposed credit and incentive program that is part of our proposal to the PUC.

More information about the proposed rate filing, including ways to support or challenge the proposal, is available in the enclosed Public Notice. You can learn more about the stormwater fee and our stormwater program by visiting [www.pgh2ostormwater.com](http://www.pgh2ostormwater.com) or register for a virtual informational meeting through the website.

Thank you for taking the time to review this information. If you have any questions about the stormwater fee, please contact Customer Service by calling (412) 255-2423 and press 5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William J. Pickering'.

William J. Pickering  
Chief Executive Officer