

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	R-2025-3055010 (water)
Office of Small Business Advocate	:	C-2025-3056056
Office of Consumer Advocate	:	C-2025-3055943

v.

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	R-2025-3055011(wastewater)
Office of Small Business Advocate	:	C-2025-3056054
Office of Consumer Advocate	:	C-2025-3055944

v.

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	R-2025-3055012 (stormwater)
Office of Small Business Advocate	:	C-2025-3056058
Office of Consumer Advocate	:	C-2025-3055942

v.

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority

Petition of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority for Authorization to Increase Water and Wastewater DSIC Charge Caps to 7.5%	:	P-2025-3055650 (water)
	:	P-2025-3055652 (wastewater)

Petition of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority for Waiver of Statutory Definition of Fully Projected Future Test Year	:	P-2025-3055587 (water)
	:	P-2025-3055588 (wastewater)
	:	P-2025-3055589 (stormwater)

INTERIM ORDER
PROVIDING INFORMATION TO *PRO SE* COMPLAINANTS

NOTE: Please read this document in its entirety as it provides important information about this case.

On June 4, 2025, Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority d/b/a Pittsburgh Water (Pittsburgh Water, PWSA, or the Authority) filed Tariff Water – PA P.U.C. No. 1, Supplement No. 16, Tariff Wastewater PA P.U.C. No. 1, Supplement No. 15 and Tariff Storm Water PA P.U.C. No. 1, Supplement No. 7 (collectively, Rate Filing) with the Commission. The Authority proposes a multi-year rate increases to produce additional overall revenues by approximately \$84 million over two years – an initial rate increase of \$63.7 million (an increase of 25.9%) in 2026 and another rate increase of \$20.7 million (6.7%) in 2027. Pittsburgh Water’s request for approval of multi-year rates increases is a request for approval of “alternative ratemaking” under Section 1330 of the Public Utility Code.

PWSA serves approximately 81,000 water customers, 29,000 wastewater customers, and 4,300 stormwater customers, primarily in the City of Pittsburgh, the Boroughs of Millvale, McKees Rocks, Sharpsburg, Swissvale, Wilkinsburg and Blawnox, and portions of Reserve, O’Hara, Ross, Penn Hills and Shaler Townships in Allegheny County. It provides wastewater service and stormwater service in the City of Pittsburgh. The Authority’s wastewater system is a collection and conveyance system only. It does not include treatment; wastewater is conveyed to the regional Allegheny County Sanitary Sewer Authority for treatment.

Also on June 4, 2025, the Authority filed four Petitions in conjunction with its base rate filing: (1) a Petition for Authorization to Increase Water and Wastewater Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC) Caps to 7.5% (DSIC Petition), docketed at P-2025-3055650 (water) and P-2025-3055652 (wastewater); (2) a Petition for Consolidation of Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Proceedings and for Authorization to Use Combined Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Revenue Requirements (Consolidation Petition); (3) a Petition for Waiver of Statutory Definition of Fully Projected Future Test Year (FPFTY Petition) docketed at P-2025-3055587

(water), P-2025-30555878 (wastewater), and P-2025-3055589 (stormwater); and (4) a Petition to Consolidate the DSIC Petition with Base Rate Filings for Water, Wastewater and Stormwater (DSIC Consolidation Petition).

On June 12, 2025, the Commission's Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement (I&E) filed a Notice of Appearance.

On June 12, 2025, the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) filed its Notice of Appearance, and on June 25, 2025, OSBA filed its Formal Complaints, Notice of Intervention, and Public Statement. The Formal Complaints filed by OSBA are docketed as follows: C-2025-3056056 (water), C-2025-3056054 (wastewater), and C-2025-3056058 (stormwater).

Also on June 25, 2025, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed Formal Complaints, Public Statement, and Notice of Appearance, and Pittsburgh United Out Water Table (Our Water Table or OWT) filed a Petition to Intervene and Answer. The Formal Complaints filed by OCSA are docketed as follows: C-2025-3055943 (water), C-2025-3055944 (wastewater), and C-2025-3055942 (stormwater).

On July 10, 2025, the Commission entered an Order pursuant to Section 1308(d) of the Public Utility Code in each of the three Rate Filing docket numbers, suspending each of PWSA's proposed Tariffs by operation of law until March 8, 2026; instituting an investigation to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the proposed and existing rates, rules, and regulations; and assigning the Rate Filing to the Office of Administrative Law Judge (OALJ) for the prompt scheduling of hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a recommended decision.

On July 10, 2025, the Commission issued a Telephonic Prehearing Conference Notice in the Rate Filing, scheduling a Prehearing Conference for July 14, 2025, and the matter was assigned to us, Administrative Law Judges Emily I. DeVoe and Ann Quimby (Presiding ALJs or the undersigned). Also on July 10, 2025, a Prehearing Conference Order was issued, which directed, *inter alia*, that parties file a Prehearing Memorandum by July 11, 2025.

On July 11, 2025, in accordance with the Prehearing Conference Order, Prehearing Memoranda were filed by PWSA, I&E, OCA, OSBA, and OWT.

On July 14, 2025, a Prehearing Conference was held as scheduled. The following parties were represented by counsel: PWSA, I&E, OCA, OSBA, and OWT. The parties discussed a variety of matters, including PWSA's FPPTY Petition, PWSA's DSIC Petition, and its Petitions to consolidate the FPPTY Petition and DSIC Petition with the Rate Filing. As of the date of the Prehearing Conference, the FPPTY Petition and DSIC Petition were assigned to other bureaus of the Commission, not OALJ. No party objected to consolidating the FPPTY Petition or DSIC Petition with the Rate Filing.

Therefore, after the Prehearing Conference, OALJ requested the FPPTY Petition and DSIC Petition be reassigned to OALJ, and they were reassigned on July 16, 2025.

On July 16, 2025, a Protective Order was issued.

On July 23, 2025, the Commission issued a Notice scheduling in-person and telephonic public input hearings to be held on August 12, 2025, and August 13, 2025.

On July 24, 2025, the Presiding ALJs issued an Interim Order granting PWSA's FPPTY Petition, as well as a Prehearing Order.

The Prehearing Order memorialized the matters discussed at the Prehearing Conference; granted the Authority's Consolidation Petition, consolidating the three R- dockets under Docket No. R-2025-3055010; granted the Authority's DSIC Consolidation Petition, consolidating Docket Nos. P-2025-3055650 (water) and P-2025-3055652 (wastewater) under R-2025-3055010; and consolidated the FPPTY Petition under R-2025-3055010. The Prehearing Order detailed the litigation schedule, and provided information related to, *inter alia*, evidentiary hearings, service, discovery rule modifications, settlement, and stipulations.

On July 25, 2025, the Commission issued an Evidentiary Hearing Notice, scheduling in-person evidentiary hearings for October 21, 2025 through October 23, 2025, to be held at the OALJ offices in Pittsburgh.

On July 25, 2025, counsel for the Authority emailed the Presiding ALJs advising that a Formal Complaint had been filed in the Rate Filing by a *pro se* PWSA customer.

The instant Order provides information to *pro se* individuals who have filed or may file a Formal Complaint in this proceeding on or after July 25, 2025.

If you file a *pro se* Formal Complaint with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau in this matter, you may:

a. **Attend a public input hearing.** Public input hearings are held for the purpose of giving citizens an opportunity to express concerns regarding the PWSA's proposal. Any individual, not just individuals who have filed Formal Complaints, may attend a public input hearing. Any individual, not just individuals who have filed Formal Complaints, may testify at a public input hearing. An individual who chooses to attend a public input hearing is not required to testify. In order to testify at an in-person public input hearing, all an individual has to do is show up; no pre-registration is required. In order to testify at a telephonic public input hearing, pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Information on how to pre-register can be found in the Public Input Hearing Notice. If you testify at a public input hearing, and do so under oath, your testimony, is subject to objection and cross-examination by a party, and will be considered by the Presiding ALJs in the preparation of the Recommended Decision.

b. **Become a party of record.** As a party of record, you will be served with all of the pleadings, filings, discovery requests, written testimony and orders and decisions served and issued in this proceeding. These documents will be voluminous. Your *rights* as a party of record include the ability to present your own testimony and admissible evidence and to cross-examine other witnesses at an evidentiary hearing, if one is held, and to file exceptions to the Presiding ALJs' Recommended Decision. Your *duties* as a party of record are that you must answer all discovery

requests served upon you in accordance with the Commission's rules. If you file any documents, you must serve a copy upon the Presiding ALJs and each party appearing on the service list, as modified after the Prehearing Conference. If you intend to present evidence at the formal evidentiary hearing, you will be required to submit your testimony (and any associated exhibits) in writing in advance, in accordance with the schedule set at the Prehearing Conference, and to provide a copy of your written testimony to each party on the service list. You will be expected to participate in accordance with the rules of Commission practice appearing in Title 52 of the Pennsylvania Code Chapters 1, 3 and 5 and follow the Commission's rules of evidence. The Pennsylvania Code is available on-line at <http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/>. If you become a party of record, you must register for e-service through the Commission's website.

Please note, if an individual chooses to participate as an active party in this matter, he or she will not be permitted to testify at both a public input hearing and the evidentiary hearing, if one is held; if the individual wants to provide testimony, the individual must choose either the public input hearing or the evidentiary hearing.

If you have filed a *pro se* Formal Complaint in this matter and do not intend to participate in the proceeding as a party of record, you are **not required** to file or serve testimony or attend the public input hearings or evidentiary hearings. Inactive parties will be served with any settlement petition filed in this matter and will be given an opportunity to provide written comments. Further, the inactive parties will be served with a copy of the Recommended Decision issued by the Presiding ALJs.

If any individual who files a *pro se* Formal Complaint and wishes to participate as a party of record, he or she must file correspondence with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau indicating his or her intent to do so. Unless the individual files such correspondence, the party will be treated as an inactive party.

Individuals may eFile with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau at:
<http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx>.

Individuals may file by mail at:

Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North 2nd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120.

c. **Represent yourself in an individual capacity.** An individual may represent him- or herself in an individual capacity or as a sole proprietor. If you intend to represent some other entity, such as a corporation, partnership, municipality, church, non-profit, etc., the Commission's rules at 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22 require that you be represented by an attorney. A non-attorney cannot represent any entity or individual other than him- or herself.

If you email the Presiding ALJs any documents or correspondence, you must simultaneously copy all individuals listed in the parties' list attached to this Order.

Finally, motions or other requests for relief must be filed with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau and then served upon the Presiding ALJs and all individuals listed in the parties' list attached to this Order. If a motion or other request for relief is not filed with the Commission's Secretary's Bureau, but is nevertheless emailed to the Presiding ALJs, it will be disregarded.

Date: July 30, 2025

_____/s/
Emily I. DeVoe
Administrative Law Judge

_____/s/
Ann Quimby
Administrative Law Judge

R-2025-3055010, C-2025-3056056, C-2025-3055943 – PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION, OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE, OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE v. THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY (WATER); R-2025-3055011, C-2025-3056054, C-2025-3055944 - PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION, OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE, OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE v. THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY (WASTEWATER); R-2025-3055012, C-2025-3056058, C-2025-3055942 - PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION, OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE, OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE v. THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY (STORMWATER); P-2025-305650 (WATER), P-2025-3055652 (WASTEWATER) PETITION OF THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY FOR AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE WATER AND WASTEWATER DSIC CHARGE CAPS TO 7.5%; P-2025-3055587 (WATER), P-2025-3055588 (WASTEWATER), P-2025-3055589 (STORMWATER) – PETITION OF THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY FOR WAIVER OF STATUTORY DEFINITION OF FULLY PROJECTED FUTURE TEST YEAR

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