

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



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December 10, 2025

Via Electronic Filing

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
v.
Pennsylvania-American Water Company
Docket Nos. R-2025-3057983 (W)
R-2025-3058051 (WW)

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Attached for electronic filing, please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Prehearing Memorandum in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies have been served on the parties as indicated on the enclosed Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Olivia M. Spergel
Olivia M. Spergel, Esq.
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 337929
E-Mail: OSpergel@paoca.org

Enclosures

cc: Administrative Law Judge Jeffrey A. Watson (Via Email Only: jeffwatson@pa.gov)
Administrative Law Judge Emily I. DeVoe (Via Email Only: edevoe@pa.gov)
Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission :
 :
 v. : Docket Nos. R-2025-3057983 (W)
 : R-2025-3058051 (WW)
 Pennsylvania-American Water Company :
 :

I hereby certify that I have this day filed electronically on the Commission’s electronic filing system and served a true copy of the following document, the Office of Consumer Advocate’s Prehearing Memorandum, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code Section 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below.

Dated this 10th day of December 2025.

SERVICE BY E-MAIL ONLY

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Dated: December 10, 2025

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	
	:	Docket Nos. R-2025-3057983 (W)
v.	:	R-2025-3058051 (WW)
	:	
Pennsylvania-American Water Company	:	

PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM
OF THE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Pursuant to the Prehearing Conference Order issued on December 5, 2025, in the above-captioned proceeding, by the Honorable Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) Jeffrey A. Watson and Emily I. DeVoe, of the Office of Administrative Law Judge (OALJ) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission), and pursuant to Section 333 of the Public Utility Code (Code), 66 Pa. C.S. Section 333, the Commission’s regulations at 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.221-5.224, the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) submits the following Prehearing Conference Memorandum.

I. INTRODUCTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On November 14, 2025, Pennsylvania-American Water Company (PAWC or the Company) filed Supplement No. 58 to Tarriff Water – PA P.U.C. No. 5 and Supplement No. 61 to Tariff Wastewater – PA P.U.C. No. 16 with the Commission. The Company proposes to increase rates to produce additional overall revenues of \$168.7 million (\$152.2 million for water and \$16.3 million for wastewater) per year, a 14.6% increase in overall distribution revenue requirement, based on a fully projected future test year (FPFTY) ending June 30, 2027. PAWC provides water

distributions services to approximately 687,000 customers located in portions of 38 counties and wastewater services to approximately 114,900 customers in portions of 18 counties throughout Pennsylvania.

Under the Company’s proposal, the total bill for a residential water customer purchasing 3,263 gallons of water per month would see increases ranging by Rate Zone between 9.8% to 41.1%. The following table, which was contained in the OCA’s Formal Complaint, shows the details by Rate Zone:

Water Bills for Residential Customers Based on 3,263 gallons per month usage					
Current Rate Zone	Service Area	Present Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ Increase	% Increase
1	All except as designated	\$81.55	\$95.27	\$13.72	16.8%
2	Valley	\$73.26	\$95.27	\$22.01	30%
3	Turbotville	\$81.55	\$95.27	\$13.72	16.8%
4	Farmington	\$67.50	\$95.27	\$27.77	41.1%
5	East Dunkard	\$77.79	\$95.27	\$17.48	22.5%
6	Audubon	\$44.92	\$58.35	\$13.43	29.9%
7	Manwalamink	\$27.85	\$30.58	\$2.73	9.8%
8	Appalachian	\$36.08	\$45.81	\$9.73	27%
9	Corner	\$42.93	\$55.11	\$12.18	28.4%

The total bill for a residential wastewater customer purchasing 3,164 gallons of water per month would see increases ranging by Rate Zone between 8% to 54%. The following table, which was contained in the OCA’s Formal Complaint, shows the details by Rate Zone:

Wastewater Bills for Residential Customers Based on 3,164 gallons per month usage					
Current Rate Zone	Service Area	Present Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ Increase	% Increase
1	All except as designated	\$109.50	\$119.50	\$10	9.1%
1a	Royersford	\$60.34	\$84.34	\$24	39.8%
1b	York	\$65	\$91.29	\$26.29	40.4%
1c	Foster Township	\$111.06	\$120	\$8.94	8%
1d	Butler	\$45.94	\$70.81	\$24.87	54%
1e	Sadsbury	\$128.33	\$128.33	-----	-----
1f	Farmington	\$53.50	\$74.88	\$21.38	40%
1g	Manwalamink	\$37.77	\$41.51	\$3.74	9.9%
2	Kane, McKeesport	\$103.62	\$124.16	\$20.54	19.8%
2a	Scranton	\$103.62	\$103.62	-----	-----
2b	Elizabeth Borough	\$60.31	\$77.44	\$17.13	28.4%

The Company proposes increasing the monthly residential water customer service charge for most residential customers from \$18.80 to \$20, or by 6.4%, and proposes to increase consumption charges between 9.9% to 76.1% depending on Rate Zone. The following table, which was contained in the OCA's Formal Complaint, shows the details by Rate Zone:

Water Residential Customers Customer Charge for Metered Usage									
Current Rate Zone	Service Area	Current		Proposed		Fixed		Consumption	
		Fixed Service Charge*	Consumption Charge (per 100 gallons)	Fixed Service Charge*	Consumption Charge (per 100 gallons)	\$ Increase	% Increase	\$ Increase	% Increase
1	All except as designated	\$18.80	\$1.8772	\$20	\$2.3069	\$1.20	6.4%	\$0.4297	22.9%
2	Valley	\$18.80	\$1.6276	\$20	\$2.3069	\$1.20	6.4%	\$0.6793	41.7%
3	Turbotville	\$18.80	\$1.8772	\$20	\$2.3069	\$1.20	6.4%	\$0.4297	22.9%
4	Farmington	\$67.50	-----	\$20	\$2.3069	-\$47.50	-\$70.4%	\$2.3069	-----
5	East Dunkard	\$35.04	\$1.3100	\$20	\$2.3069	-\$15.04	-\$42.9%	\$0.9969	76.1%
6	Audubon	\$16.80	\$0.8619	\$20	\$1.1754	\$3.20	19%	\$0.3135	36.4%
7	Manwalamink	\$8.89	\$0.5810	\$9.75	\$0.6385	\$0.86	9.7%	\$0.0575	9.9%
8	Appalachian	\$11.28	\$0.7600	\$14.70	\$0.9534	\$3.42	30.3%	\$0.1934	25.4%
9	Corner	\$16.88	-----	\$20	\$0.3493	\$3.12	18.5%	\$0.3493	-----

*For 5/8-inch meter size

The Company proposes increasing the monthly residential wastewater customer service charge for most residential customers from \$15 to \$20, or by 33.3%, and proposes to increase usage charges between 1% to 131.3% depending on Rate Zone. The following table, which was contained in the OCA’s Formal Complaint, shows the details by Rate Zone:

Wastewater Residential Customers Customer Charge for Metered Usage									
Current Rate Zone	Service Area	Present Service Charge	Proposed Service Charge	Present Usage Charge (per 100 gallons)	Proposed Usage Charge (per 100 gallons)	Service		Usage	
						\$ Increase	% Increase	\$ Increase	% Increase
1*	All except as designated	\$15	\$20	\$2.9539	\$3.1446	\$5	33.3%	\$0.1907	6.5%
1a	Royersford	\$15	\$20	\$1.4150	\$2.0334	\$5	33.3%	\$0.6164	43.7%
1b	York	\$15	\$20	\$0.7500	\$1.7345	\$5	33.3%	\$0.9845	131.3%
1c	Foster Township	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1d	Butler	-----	\$20	-----	\$1.6058	-----	-----	-----	-----
1e	Sadsbury	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1f	Farmington	-----	\$20	-----	\$1.7345	-----	-----	-----	-----
1g	Manwalamink	\$16.92	\$18.60	\$0.6590	\$0.7240	\$1.68	9.9%	\$0.0650	9.9%
2 (CSS)	McKeesport and Kane (CSS)	\$20	\$25	\$2.6117	\$3.1340	\$5	25%	\$0.5223	20%
2a**	Scranton (CSS)	\$20	\$20.19	\$2.6117	\$2.6368	\$0.19	1%	\$0.0251	1%
2b**	Elizabeth	\$35	\$35	\$0.8000	\$1.3412	-----	-----	\$0.5412	67.7%

*Present Service Charges are per EDU, proposed are per customer
**Present and proposed are per EDU

The Company proposes a return on equity of 10.95%, resulting in overall rates of return of 8.23% for water operations and 7.75% for wastewater operations, in conjunction with an equity-rich capital structure of 55.3% equity and 44.7% debt. Additionally, the filing requests approval of the following: change of the methodology of calculating base rates for wastewater metered customers from setting rates per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) to setting rates per customer plus the customer’s usage volumes; change of wastewater rate design to base rates on average winter consumption (called a deduct adjustment); addition of a Customer Assistance Program

(CAP) rider; addition of two wastewater riders for industrial (Rider DIS) and governmental (Rider DGS) customers to enable PAWC to offer negotiated wastewater rates to industrial and governmental customers; deferred accounting treatment for pension and OFEB expenses; and consolidation of Water Service Discounts.

On November 18, 2025, the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) filed a Notice of Appearance, and on November 21, 2025, the OSBA filed a Formal Complaint. On November 21, 2025, the OCA filed a Formal Complaint, Public Statement, and Notice of Appearance in this proceeding to protect the interests of consumers in the Company's service territory and to ensure that the Company is permitted to implement only a level of rates that is just and reasonable and in accordance with sound ratemaking principles. On November 24, 2025, the Commission's Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement (I&E) filed a Notice of Appearance.

On December 4, 2025, the Commission issued an Order that initiated an investigation into the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the proposed rate increase in this filing in addition to the Company's existing rates, rules, and regulations, assigned this matter to the OALJ for further proceedings as appropriate, and suspended the effective date of the tariff until August 13, 2026. On December 5, 2025, CAUSE-PA filed a Formal Complaint and Notice of Appearance.

II. ISSUES

Based upon a preliminary analysis of the Company's general rate increase filing, the OCA has compiled a list of issues and sub-issues which it anticipates will be included in its investigation of the Company's rate request. It is anticipated that other issues may arise and may be pursued once the answers to all the OCA's interrogatories have been received and analyzed. The issues and sub-issues set forth below, and others that may develop during discovery, will be analyzed and presented as appropriate by the OCA with the assistance of its expert witnesses:

A. Rate of Return

1. The OCA will perform a detailed analysis of the cost of common equity claimed by the Company as well as the overall rate of return as claimed by the Company. Also, the OCA will carefully examine the Company's methodologies and supporting data used to develop its final cost of common equity claim.

2. The OCA will examine whether the capital structure proposed by the Company is representative of the period in which rates will be in effect and is otherwise appropriate for ratemaking purposes.

3. The OCA will examine the embedded cost of debt claimed by the Company to determine whether it is reasonable and appropriate for ratemaking purposes.

4. The OCA will examine whether any company-specific adjustments proposed by the Company are justified.

5. The OCA will examine the impact of Company's proposed alternative ratemaking mechanisms on its risk profile.

B. Rate Base/ Measure of Value

1. The OCA will examine the reasonableness and accuracy of Company's projections related to the utility plant in service at the time relevant to this proceeding.

2. The OCA will review the Company's claim for plant additions during the Future Test Year (FTY) and Fully Projected Future Test Year (FPFTY).

3. The OCA will investigate whether the Company's adjustment to rate base for depreciation reserve is appropriate.

4. The OCA will examine the Company's projections of non-investor supplied funds, including but not limited to, customer deposits, customer advances for construction, and contributions in aid of construction.

5. The OCA will examine the Company's proposal to include unamortized balances in rate base.

6. The OCA will examine the Company's claim for materials and supplies.

7. The OCA will examine the Company's calculation and amount of cash working capital.

8. The OCA will examine the reasonableness and lawfulness of rate base claims for amounts paid to affiliates, in accordance with Section 2101 of the Public Utility Code. 66 Pa. C.S. § 2101 *et seq.*

9. The OCA will examine the Company's Accumulated Deferred Income Tax (ADIT) balances and excess ADIT balances.

10. The OCA will examine the reasonableness of the Company's proposed Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (AFUDC) for land held for future use.

C. Revenues and Expenses

1. The OCA will examine the Company's claimed revenues and any adjustments to the level of revenues.

2. The OCA will seek to ascertain whether the Company's claimed expenses are supported, reasonable, and appropriate.

3. The OCA will examine whether the projected number of customers in the FTY and FPFTY are reasonable and accurate.

4. The OCA will examine whether the Company's claims of sales and revenues during the FTY and FPFTY are reasonable and accurate.

5. The OCA will examine whether the Company's projections of revenues in the future periods are reasonable and accurate including, but not limited to, its billed days adjustments, metered sales and the impact of conservation measures, and miscellaneous revenue adjustments.

6. The OCA will examine whether the Company's projections of number of employees, overtime, and incentive pay are reasonable and accurate.

7. The OCA will examine the costs associated with the accrual of retirement benefits other than pensions for the Company's employees or contributions to pension funds.

8. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's employee healthcare expense.

9. The OCA will examine the appropriateness of the Company's pro forma claim for rate case expense.

10. The OCA will examine the reasonableness of the Company's proposed purchased power expense claims.

11. The OCA will examine the Company's request for depreciation expenses to determine whether it is just and reasonable.

12. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claim for insurance costs.

13. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's proposed expense amortizations.

14. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claim for regulatory commission costs.

15. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claims for other operations and maintenance expenses.

16. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claims for service company expenses, including the allocated expenses of affiliated interests.

17. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claimed rate case normalization period.

18. The OCA will examine whether any cost savings identified in the most recent Management and Operations Audit should be reflected, if relevant, which was conducted since the Company's prior general rate increase request was filed.

19. The OCA will examine the justness and reasonableness of the Company's claimed uncollectibles expense.

20. The OCA will examine the Company's claimed revenues and any adjustments to the level of revenues.

D. Taxes

1. The OCA will examine issues related to the calculation of taxes including, but not limited to, calculation of federal and state income taxes and the amount of those taxes included as expenses for ratemaking purposes and will examine whether the Company is in compliance with Act 40 of 2016. (66 Pa. C.S. § 1301.1).

2. The OCA will examine the reasonableness of the Company's proposal regarding the tax repairs deductions, and its claims for income taxes, property taxes, and general assessments.

3. The OCA will examine the effect of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on the Company's tax expense and its ADIT accounts and the amount, if any, that needs to be returned to ratepayers as a result.

4. The OCA will examine the Company's level of Public Utility Realty Tax (PURTA) and property tax expense.

E. Rate Structure/ Cost of Service / Rate Design/ Tariffs/ Alternative Ratemaking

1. The OCA will examine the reasonableness of Company's proposed distribution or allocation of the revenue increase among customer classes to determine whether the proposal meets all legal requirements and sound ratemaking principles.

2. The OCA will examine Company's cost of service studies, including the methodology used and the reasonableness of the allocations.

3. The OCA will examine the reasonableness and appropriateness of the Company's proposed tariff changes, including all proposed surcharges. This includes the Company's proposed CAP Rider, and wastewater riders for industrial (Rider DIS) and governmental (Rider DGS) customers regarding negotiated rates.

4. The OCA will review the Company's alternative ratemaking proposal, to change the methodology of calculating base rates for wastewater metered customers from setting rates per each EDU to setting rates per customer plus the customer's usage volumes. The proposed alternative ratemaking mechanism may be unjust, unreasonable, and in violation of law; may be contrary to the provisions of prior Commission orders; and otherwise, may be contrary to sound ratemaking principles and public policy.

5. The OCA will examine whether the Company's proposed wastewater rate design, where a residential customer's monthly bill would be computed based on average winter consumption rather than actual water consumption during the summer, is reasonable and non-discriminatory.

6. The OCA will examine all other cost allocation and rate design proposals.

F. Depreciation

1. The OCA will examine the Company's depreciation study, including the proposed service lives, depreciation procedure, net salvage rates, and depreciation rate calculations to determine if they are reasonable.

2. The OCA will analyze the depreciation rates based upon the actuarial analysis to determine if any modifications are necessary.

G. Low-Income Programs

1. The OCA will analyze current and proposed Company operations, practices, procedures and outreach related to serving low-income customers.

2. The OCA will assess the impact of the Company's proposed rate increase on universal service, including the overall costs of its Customer Assistance Program (CAP) as affected by the Company's rate design.

3. The OCA will examine how Company's proposed rate increase, rate structure and proposed new alternative ratemaking and new surcharges will affect low-income and/or low-usage customers.

4. The OCA will review the Company's current bill discount programs, arrearage management programs, or lack thereof, and proposed changes to the programs.

5. The OCA will review the Company's affordability analysis.

H. Quality of Service

1. The OCA will review the Company's quality of service to ensure that it is providing safe, adequate, and reliable service that is consistent with the requirements of Section 1501 of the Public Utility Code.

2. The OCA will investigate the quality of service complaints by the Company's customers.

I. Customer Service

1. The OCA will review the Company's consumer protection policies and programs in order to ensure compliance with Chapter 56 of the Commission's regulations.

2. The OCA will examine the Company's customer service, including performance trends, internal training, management oversight, policies, and programs.

3. The OCA will examine the Company's consumer education programs, particularly with regard to changes in billing and collection rights and remedies, and complaint processes.

4. The OCA will examine the Company's compliance and reporting as required in the last rate case concerning service and service quality.

5. The OCA will examine the Company's request for a higher return on equity and rate of return in light of the Company's customer service and management performance.

6. The OCA will examine the Company's response to the most recent Commission Management Audit.

J. Other Issues

1. The OCA will examine any relevant issues that arise as a result of the Company's operations.

2. The OCA will investigate to ensure that the Company is complying with all prior orders.

3. The OCA reserves the right to examine other issues affecting the Company's revenue requirements, rates, charges, and other tariff provisions as they are identified through discovery.

III. WITNESSES

The OCA intends to present the direct, rebuttal, and surrebuttal testimonies, as may be necessary, of the below witnesses. Each witness will present testimony in written form and will attach various exhibits, documents, and explanatory information, as may be necessary. In order to expedite the resolution of this proceeding, the OCA requests that copies of all interrogatories,

testimony, and answers to interrogatories be mailed and/or emailed directly to the OCA's group email formed particularly for this proceeding.

Revenue Requirement / Accounting / Regulatory Policy	Lafayette Morgan Exeter Associates, Inc. 10480 Little Patuxent Parkway Suite 300 Columbia, MD 21044
Cost of Service / Rate Structure/ Rate Design	Jerome Mierzwa Exeter Associates, Inc. 10480 Little Patuxent Parkway Suite 300 Columbia, MD 21044
Rate of Return / Cost of Capital / Capital Structure	David Garrett Resolve Utility Consulting PLLC 101 Park Avenue Suite 1125 Oklahoma City, OK 73102
Affordability of Service / Low-Income Customers Assistance Programs	Roger Colton Fisher, Sheehan and Colton 34 Warwick Road Belmont, MA 02478
Customer Service / Tariff / Quality of Service	Barbara Alexander 83 Wedgewood Drive Winthrop, ME 04364

The OCA specifically reserves the right to call additional witnesses, as necessary, and retains the flexibility to have the witnesses above address other areas of this case as the case proceeds. If the OCA determines that additional witnesses will be necessary for any portion of its case, it will notify all parties of record immediately.

IV. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

The OCA continues to work with the Company and the parties on a procedural schedule that is a reasonable compromise of the parties' competing interests within the time afforded for litigation of this matter. The OCA proposes the following schedule:

Public Input Hearings	Weeks of January 5 and January 12, 2026
Other Parties' Direct Testimony	February 5, 2026
Other Parties' Supplemental Direct Testimony Regarding Public Input Hearings	May be needed depending on timing of public input hearings and other party direct testimony
Rebuttal Testimony (all parties and all issues)	February 25, 2026 (by noon)
Surrebuttal Testimony (all parties and all issues)	March 11, 2026
Written Rejoinder Outline	March 16, 2026
Evidentiary Hearings	March 18-19, 2026
Main Briefs	April 3, 2026
Reply Briefs	April 15, 2026

The OCA requests that the dates included in any litigation schedule in this matter be considered "in-hand" dates and that electronic service on the due date will satisfy the "in-hand" requirement.

V. SERVICE ON THE OCA

The OCA respectfully requests that the Presiding Officers permit electronic service without the requirement of a follow-up hard copy. The OCA will be represented in this case by the attorneys listed below.

Harrison W. Breitman, Assistant Consumer Advocate
Ryan R. Morden, Assistant Consumer Advocate
Janna E. Williams, Assistant Consumer Advocate

Olivia M. Spergel, Assistant Consumer Advocate
Johnathan M. Longhurst, Assistant Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
Phone: (717) 783-5048
E-Mail: OCAPAWC2025@paoca.org

The OCA has created a group e-mail address provided above. This is the only email address that is required for service on the OCA. The OCA's group email address will provide the emailed materials to all members of the OCA team including the consultants listed above.

The OCA also requests that the ALJs instruct the parties on the record as to whether consumers who have filed formal rate complaints in this proceeding should be included on the official service lists if those complainants have not indicated either at the prehearing conference, or prior to the prehearing conference, that they wish to be active parties to this proceeding.

For the purposes of the Prehearing Conference, Ryan R. Morden will be the primary attorney speaking on behalf of the OCA. Mr. Morden will be dialing into the prehearing conference from 717-480-9628.

VI. SETTLEMENT

The OCA will participate in settlement discussions in this matter.

VII. DISCOVERY

In conjunction with its proposed schedule, the OCA proposes the following modifications to the Commission's procedural rules regarding discovery. The OCA requests that the Presiding Officers direct that the modifications will take effect on and after the date of January 1, 2026. The OCA also requests that any outstanding interrogatories or requests for admissions are due no later than 10 business days after January 1, 2026, to the extent such responses are due later than such date, in accordance with Paragraph A below.

- A. Answers to written interrogatories and requests for document production, entry for inspection, or other purposes shall be served in-hand within ten (10) calendar days of service.
- B. Objections to interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be communicated orally to the propounding party within three (3) business days of service of the interrogatories; unresolved objections shall be served in writing to the propounding party within five (5) business days of service of the interrogatories and/or requests for production.
- C. Motions to dismiss objections and/or direct the answering of interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be filed within five (5) business days of service of written objections.
- D. Answers to motions to dismiss objections and/or answering of interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be filed within three (3) business days of service of such motions.
- E. Requests for admissions will be deemed admitted unless answered within ten (10) calendar days or objected to within five (5) calendar days of service.
- F. Answers to on-the-record data requests shall be served in-hand within five (5) calendar days of the requests.
- G. Any discovery or discovery-related pleadings (such as objections, motions, and answers to same) served after 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday or after 1:30 p.m. on a Friday or the day before a holiday will be deemed to have been served on the next business day for purposes of calculating the due date for any responsive filing.

After rebuttal is served, the OCA proposes that the deadlines should be reduced as follows:

- A. Answers to interrogatories and responses to requests for document production, entry for inspection, or other purposes shall be served within five (5) calendar days of service of the interrogatories or requests for production.
- B. Objections to interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be communicated orally to the propounding party within two (2) business days of service; unresolved objections shall be served on the propounding party in writing within three (3) business days of service of the interrogatories and/or requests for production.
- C. Motions to dismiss objections and/or direct the answering of interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be filed within three (3) business days of service of written objections.

- D. Answers to motions to dismiss objections and/or direct the answering of interrogatories and/or requests for production shall be filed within three (3) business days of service of such motions.
- E. Requests for admission shall be deemed admitted unless answered or objected to within three (3) calendar days of service.
- F. Discovery requests and discovery related pleadings (such as objections, motions, and answers to same) served after 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday or after 1:30 p.m. on a Friday or the day preceding a holiday shall be deemed to have been served on the next business day.

VIII. PREHEARING PROCEDURES

At the Prehearing Conference, the OCA requests an on-the-record discussion regarding font size requirements and page limitations for briefing.

The OCA requests that the ALJs in the Prehearing Conference Order and Evidentiary Hearing Notice clarify that:

- A. Evidentiary hearing exhibits need not include all pre-served testimony which is circulated to the ALJs and parties in this proceeding in accordance with the above-referenced procedural schedule. However, such pre-served testimony may be identified for movement into the record at the hearing through an inventory of pre-served testimony which is provided as a hearing exhibit.
- B. Evidentiary hearing exhibits may be provided to the ALJs and parties by **10 am the day before** the start of evidentiary hearings with the exception of hearing exhibits related to rejoinder which may be provided by the end of the day that they are presented.
- C. For evidentiary hearings conducted in-person, evidentiary hearing exhibits may be sent to the court reporter electronically. This is in the interest of the environment and saving ratepayers money from the expenditure of printing voluminous hard copies.
- D. For evidentiary hearings conducted in-person, attorneys may submit requests to the ALJs:
 - i. Five days before the start of the evidentiary hearings for permission for witnesses to appear telephonically. This is in the interest of judicial

economy and saving ratepayer dollars from expenditures for witness travel, lodging and boarding; or

- ii. Two days before the start of evidentiary hearings for permission for Attorneys to appear telephonically if the only matter at hand is moving evidence into the record.

IX. PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

The OCA will be prepared to discuss public input hearings at the prehearing conference. Given the magnitude of the requested rate increase, the size of the customer base, and the requests for public input hearings and complaints received thus far in this matter, the OCA respectfully requests that ten public input hearings be held, eight in-person and two telephonic, for the Company's customer base impacted by this rate filing.

Attached as **Appendix A** is the OCA's proposed draft Notice for the Public Input Hearing (to be completed with details as determined by the presiding ALJs).

The OCA specifically requests the following for public input hearings:

A. Given the size of the customer base and service territory, a total of ten Public Input Hearings be held, eight in-person and two telephonic.

B. The in-person public input hearings include a combination of daytime and evening hearings at a location with accessible and free parking or easy access to public transportation.

C. The telephonic public input hearings include a combination of daytime and evening hearings.

D. Pre-registration be either encouraged or required for telephonic hearings only, and if required, pre-registration be required by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the telephonic Public Input Hearing at which the witness seeks to testify.

E. Hearing exhibits, such as cross examination exhibits and a list of evidence to be moved into the record (i.e., a party's list of pre-served testimony and exhibits), be required to be submitted to the ALJs by 10:00 a.m. the day before the Public Input Hearing at which the witness seeks to testify.

F. The Commission’s notice of the Public Input Hearings will include the phone numbers and access codes necessary for participants to use to fully access all telephonic Public Input Hearings.

G. The Company will be required to, at a minimum, generate a notice of the Public Input Hearings that contains relevant information as to date, time, location, and phone numbers and access codes and further be required to advertise the notice: (1) in the general readership section (not legal section) of local newspapers within the service territory; (2) on its website; and (3) in social media posts which the Company utilizes to advertise generally.

H. That the other parties involved in the proceeding, including the OCA, be permitted to review these public input announcements prior to their publication and distribution and have input into which publications the ads are placed.

I. In addition to the Company publishing the notice in a newspaper of general circulation for its service territories, the OCA respectfully requests that the Company post notice of the public input hearings on all of their social media platforms at least twice per week during each week prior to the scheduled dates of the public input hearings.

J. The Company be directed to send notice of the public input hearings via a bill insert during a billing cycle to occur shortly after this prehearing conference and prior to the scheduled dates of the public input hearings.

X. COMMON BRIEFING OUTLINE

The OCA requests that, when the ALJs issue their Instructions for Briefs, the common outline provided by the ALJs will include Roman numeral-level headers for an Overall Position on Rate Increase section following the Summary of Argument section, as well as Alternative Ratemaking, Customer Service / Quality of Service, Customer Assistance Programs, and Tariff Issues (not otherwise briefed) sections of the brief which follow Rate Structure / Rate Design and precede the Conclusion. The OCA also recommends removing any “Fair Value” heading from the Rate Base section. The OCA’s proposals for the common briefing outline are attached as Appendix B to this Prehearing Memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Olivia M. Spergel

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Dated: December 10, 2025

OCA APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

For Pennsylvania-American Water Company (PAWC) Rate Increase Requests

Docket Nos.
R-2025-3057983 (W)
R-2025-3058051 (WW)

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) will conduct ten Public Input Hearings concerning the general rate increase requests filed by PAWC on November 14, 2025, seeking to increase water and wastewater distribution rates by \$168.7 million per year. The in-person and telephonic hearings will be held at the following times and places:

Presiding Officers: Administrative Law Judges Jeffrey A. Watson and Emily I. DeVoe

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS
Pre-registration is not required.

Date: [Here]
Time: [Here]
Location: [Here]

TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS
Pre-registration is [encouraged/required]. Read below.

Date: [Here]
Time: [Here]

Pre-registration is [encouraged/required] by [same day] at 10AM.

Date: [Here]
Time: [Here]

Pre-registration is [encouraged/required] by [same day] at 10AM.

Toll-free Conference Number: xxx.xxx.xxxx

PIN Number: xxxxxxxx

- You must dial the toll-free Conference number above
- You must enter the PIN number above when instructed
- You must speak your name when prompted, and press #
 - Then, the telephone system will connect you to the hearing

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR TELEPHONIC PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS: To testify at the telephonic Public Input Hearings, pre-registration is [encouraged/required] by [day of the hearing] at 10AM. Failure to pre-register could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC judge. To pre-register to testify by telephone, please contact the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, [name], by email at [email address] or by phone at [xxx.xxx.xxxx] and provide the requested information.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH PRE-REGISTRATION? If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide the PUC Judge all the information listed above. Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant with the above-listed information for each individual.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETERS: If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible. If you register too close to the hearing date, we may not have enough time to arrange for an interpreter. If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. AT&T Relay Service number for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired: 1-800-654-5988.

HEARING EXHIBITS: If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the PUC Judge's Legal Assistant, [name], at [email address]. The PUC Judge will forward your exhibits to all the parties. Exhibits for the public input hearing must be received by the PUC Judge by [the day before the hearing] at 10AM.

QUESTIONS? The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC. If you have questions about the public input hearings or the Company's requested rate increase, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org. Additionally, the OCA can help customers pre-register for the Public Input Hearings.

OTHER WAYS TO BE HEARD: If you want to be heard about the proposed rate increase but do not want or cannot testify at the Public Input Hearings, you may file a formal complaint or comment to the proposed rate increase. Please visit the PUC's website to use the applicable form available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/complaints/formal-complaints/>

OCA APPENDIX B

OCA's Proposed Common Briefing Outline For General Rate Increase Proceeding

- I. Introduction
- II. Summary of Argument
- III. Overall Position on Rate Increase
- IV. Rate Base
 - A. Plant in Service
 - B. Depreciation Reserve
 - C. Additions to Rate Base
 - D. Deductions from Rate Base
- V. Revenues
- VI. Expenses
- VII. Taxes
- VIII. Rate of Return
- IX. Rate Structure and Rate Design
 - A. Cost of Service Study
 - B. Revenue Allocation
 - C. Rate Design/ Tariff Structure
 - D. Summary and Alternatives
- X. Alternative Ratemaking
- XI. Customer Service / Quality of Service
- XII. Customer Assistance Programs
- XIII. Tariff Issues (Not Briefed Above)
- XIV. Miscellaneous Issues
- XV. Conclusion

Note: Appropriate modifications may be made. For instance, a party might add "Affiliated Interest Expenses" as a major topic heading or might brief only rate structure and not use other topic headings. A summary and alternatives should be provided under "Rate Structure" but the "Rate Base" and "Rate Structure" formats shown may be modified, as appropriate. Additional subheadings should be used, as appropriate.