



Agenda Date: 3/30/11
Agenda Item: VA

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center, Suite 801
Newark, NJ 07102
www.nj.gov/bpu

WATER

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT PETITION OF)
UNITED WATER GREAT GORGE, INC. AND UNITED)
WATER VERNON SEWAGE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF)
AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR WASTEWATER)
SERVICES AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES; AND)
FOR APPROVAL TO MERGE THE JOINT)
PETITIONERS WITH AND INTO A NEW COMPANY)

) ORDER FURTHER SUSPENDING
) INCREASES, CHANGES OR
) ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR
) SERVICE
)
) BPU Docket No. WR10100785
) OAL Docket No. PUC 13984-2010N

Stephen B Genzer, Esq., Saul Ewing, One Riverfront Plaza, Suite 1520, Newark, NJ 07102 for
Petitioners

BY THE BOARD:

On October 29, 2010, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, 48:2-51.1, 48:3-7, 48:3-10, N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.10, 14:1-5.12, 14:1-5.14 and 14:9-7.1 et seq., Petitioners, United Water Great Gorge Inc. and United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. ("Petitioners," or "Companies,"), public utilities of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") and serving approximately 3,000 sewer customers within their service territories which include the Township of Vernon and Great Gorge Condominiums, Black Creek Sanctuary, and Mountain Hotel/Spa in Vernon, New Jersey and sewage transmission service to Mountain Creek Ski Resort and Water Park in Vernon, New Jersey, filed a petition for a revision of their rates for sewer service and other tariff changes and for approval to merge the joint petitioners with and into a new company. The requested increase amounted to an overall increase of approximately \$213,303 or 23% in combined annual revenues. The increase in rates was proposed to become effective on December 8, 2010. Additionally the Companies are seeking an approval to merge them with and into a new company. The Companies further propose to implement a Purchased Sewerage Treatment Adjustment Clause ("PSTAC").

On December 14, 2010, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for hearings and on December 6, 2010, the Board issued its Initial Suspension Order suspending the Companies' proposed rates until April 1, 2011.

According to the petition, the rate increases are required to enable the Companies to recover their investment in utility plant assets, their increased operating expenses, to meet service quality and reliability goals, and to permit the Companies the opportunity to earn a fair and adequate rate of return on their net investments in utility property, so as to enable the Companies to continue to provide safe, adequate and proper utility services to customers.

In light of the fact that this matter is still pending before the OAL, and that the proposed revisions will increase existing rates and charges or alter existing classifications in Petitioners' tariffs, it is HEREBY ORDERED that:


- 1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, the proposed revisions be, and are further suspended until August 1, 2011, unless the Board prior to that date, makes a determination disposing of the petition;
- 2) Petitioner shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for hearing on the petition by the Office of Administrative Law, file with this Board and with the Office of Administrative Law (33 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102) proof of compliance with the Notice provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:2-32.2 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 (b) and (c), which Notice shall include a statement that any relief found by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers on any rate or schedule as the Board may determine; and
- 3) Petitioners shall serve copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, the Division of Rate Counsel (31 Clinton Street, P. O. Box 46005, Newark, NJ 07102), the clerk of each affected municipality, the clerk of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of each affected county, and where appropriate, the executive officer of each affected county within its service area. Service of the petition, notice of hearings and this Order may be made simultaneously. Proof of service of this Order shall be filed with the Board within fifteen (15) days of the date of this Order.

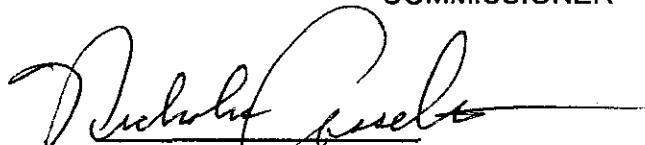
DATED: 3/30/11

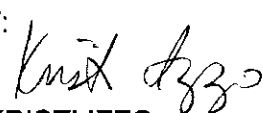
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


LEE A. SOLOMON
PRESIDENT

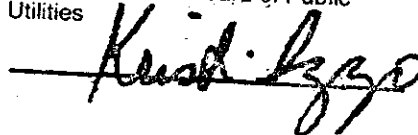

JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER


JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


NICHOLAS ASSELTA
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities



I/M/O THE PETITION OF UNITED
WATER GREAT GORGE INC., AND UNITED WATER VERNON SEWAGE INC.,
FOR APPROVAL OF INCREASES IN RATES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICES
AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES; AND FOR APPROVAL TO MERGE THE
JOINT PETITIONERS WITH AND INTO A NEW COMPANY.
BPU DOCKET NO. WR10100785
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