Agenda Date: 9/9/20 Agenda Item: VB



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

## <u>WATER</u>

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF LAKE LENAPE WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES FOR SERVICE	) ) )	ORDER SUSPENDING INCREASES, CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS IN RATES FOR WATER SERVICE
	)	DOCKET NO. WR20070490

### Parties of Record:

**Jeffery Fuller, President, pro se,** Lake Lenape Water Company **Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director**, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

## BY THE BOARD:

On July 23, 2020<sup>1</sup>, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-6.16, Lake Lenape Water Company ("Lake Lenape," "Company" or "Petitioner"), a public utility of the State of New Jersey subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") with its principal office at 83 Eagle Chase, Woodbury, County of Nassau, State of New York, filed a petition seeking to increase its rates for water service by 14,967 or 10.8%. The increase in rates is proposed to become effective on October 1, 2020. The Company provides water service to approximately 349 customers in the Township of Andover in Sussex County, New Jersey.

According to the petition, the rates which Petitioner proposes to revise or increase, have become unjust and unreasonable and the proposed rate increase is necessary for the following reasons:

- (1) To eliminate operating losses;
- (2) To enable the Petitioner to meet increased operating expenses and decreased revenue;
- (3) To establish its financial integrity; and
- (4) To enable the Petitioner to continue to furnish safe, adequate and proper service to its customers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On August 17, 2020, the Company electronically filed a verification that was inadvertently omitted from the petition.

This matter will be transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearings as a contested case. It appearing that the proposed revisions will increase existing rates and change or alter existing classifications in Petitioner's tariff, it is **HEREBY ORDERED** that:

- (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, the proposed revisions be, and are suspended until February 1, 2021, unless the Board prior to that date makes a determination disposing of the petition or enters an Order further suspending the proposed revisions;
- (2) Petitioner shall, at least 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 (9 Quakerbridge Plaza, Mercerville, New Jersey 08619) 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) Petitioner shall serve copies of this Order upon the Office of Administrative Law, the Division of Rate Counsel (140 East Front Street, 4th Floor, Post Office Box 003, Trenton, New Jersey 08625), the clerk of each affected municipality, the clerk of the Boards of County Commissioners 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 15 days of the date of this Order.

This Order shall be effective on September 19, 2020.

DATED: September 9, 2020

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

PRESIDENT

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

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ATTEST:

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**SECRETARY** 

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# IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF LAKE LENAPE WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN RATES AND SERVICE

#### **DOCKET NO. WR20070490**

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## NJ Department of Law and Public Safety

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