

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
UNITED WATER OF DELAWARE INC. (UWDE)) PSC DOCKET NO. 14-0526
FOR A REVISION TO ITS RESIDENTIAL)
VOLUMETRIC RATE RESULTING FROM A)
CHANGE TO MONTHLY BILLING)
(FILED NOVEMBER 13, 2014))

ORDER NO. 8690

AND NOW, this 16th day of December 2014:

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2014, United Water of Delaware ("UWDE") filed with the Delaware Public Service Commission (the "Commission") an application (the "Application") seeking approval for a revision to its residential volumetric rate resulting from converting its residential customers from quarterly to monthly billing beginning January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, UWDE currently bills its customers on a quarterly basis, per 1,000 gallons for residential customers, but is permitted by its existing tariff to bill on a monthly basis, and now proposes effective January 1, 2015 to re-state the consumption blocks to equivalent monthly amounts and make minor adjustments to the rate per 1,000 gallons for the second and third blocks; and

WHEREAS, on November 25, 2014 UWDE also filed a request with the Commission for a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement for tariff changes under 26 *Del. C.* § 304 so that the Commission may act expeditiously with regard to this proposed billing and rate change since the conversion to monthly billing will result in a slight

revenue decrease in UWDE rates overall and that will benefit its residential customers;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF NOT FEWER THAN THREE COMMISSIONERS:

1. That the change in rates and revised tariff sheets filed by UWDE on November 13, 2014, permitting the conversion from quarterly to monthly billing, shall be permitted to go into on effect on or after January 1, 2015.

2. That the Commission finds the conversion to monthly billing will benefit UWDE's ratepayers by reducing, slightly, rates charged to its residential customers and that good cause exists to waive the 60-day notice requirement of 26 *Del. C.* § 304.

3. That Staff shall review and determine whether the converted rates comply with the existing tariff, are properly calculated, and create just and reasonable rates. Upon completion of its review, Staff shall report its findings to the Commission and this docket shall remain open until the Commission receives Staff's report approving the proposed monthly rates.

4. That pursuant to the requirements of 26 *Del. C.* § 304, UWDE shall provide notice of its Application seeking conversion of its residential rates from quarterly to monthly billing, including the proposed tariff revisions to the rate per 1,000 gallons for the second and third blocks, by sending by first class mail a copy of its Application to all its residential customers and filing proof of such notice with the Commission as soon hereafter as is reasonably practicable, but in any event prior January 1, 2015.

5. That the Commission Staff shall further review the Application to ensure that the residential blocks are converted from quarterly to monthly in a manner consistent with the tariff and the additional information that that UWDE has provided.

6. UWDE is hereby placed on notice that the costs of the proceeding will be charged to it under the provisions of 26 Del. C. §114(b) (1).

7. That the Commission reserves the jurisdiction and authority to enter such further Orders in this matter as may be deemed necessary or proper.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/ Dallas Winslow
Chair

/s/ Joann T. Conaway
Commissioner

/s/ Jaymes B. Lester
Commissioner

/s/ Jeffrey J. Clark
Commissioner

/s/ Harold B. Gray
Commissioner

ATTEST:

/s/ Alisa Carrow Bentley
Secretary