

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY, INC.) PSC DOCKET NO. 23-0601
FOR AN INCREASE IN WATER BASE RATES)
(FILED APRIL 28, 2023))

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

TO: ALL WATER CUSTOMERS OF ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY INC.

A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Delaware Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) will conduct a hybrid format public comment session concerning the above-captioned case (as further explained below) at the following time and location:

DATE & TIME: TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 6:00 p.m.		
IN PERSON LOCATION	VIDEOCONFERENCE ACCESS	TELECONFERENCE DIAL-IN ACCESS
Public Service Commission Hearing Room 861 Silver Lake Blvd. Cannon Building, Suite 100 Dover, DE 19904	Zoom VideoConference Link https://artesianwater.zoom.us/j/85190839956?pwd=bWZRemZDWisrdkt5bHk2WHVYajF2QT09 Meeting ID: 851 9083 9956 Passcode: 286175	Dial-In: 301-715-8592 Passcode: 286175#

On April 28, 2023, Artesian Water Company, Inc. (“Artesian” or the “Company”) filed with the Commission an application (“Application”) seeking approval of an increase in its water service rates and various changes to its water service tariff.

In its Application, Artesian seeks an increase in annual water service revenues of \$17,541,260, or an increase of 23.84% over existing rates.

The following is a breakdown by service classification of Artesian's proposed increases:

Residential (per 1,000 gallons)			
Rate Tiers	Current Rate	Proposed Rate Tiers	Proposed Rate
First 2,000 Gallons	\$6.86	First 2,000 Gallons	\$8.70
Next 5,000 Gallons	\$7.41	Next 5,000 Gallons	\$9.40
Over 7,000 Gallons	\$8.64	Over 7,000 Gallons	\$10.97

All Other (per 1,000 gallons)			
Rate Tiers	Current Rate	Proposed Rate Tiers	Proposed Rate
First 500,000 Gallons	\$6.15	First 500,000 Gallons	\$8.18
Over 500,000 Gallons	\$7.08	Over 500,000 Gallons	\$9.44

CCH	
Current Rate per T.G. \$4.05	Proposed Rate per T.G. \$4.66

Customer Charge (per month)		
Meter Size	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
5/8"	\$13.74	\$15.51
3/4"	\$16.49	\$18.61
1"	\$21.99	\$24.81
1-1/2"	\$43.97	\$49.62
2"	\$57.72	\$65.12
3"	\$87.95	\$99.23
4"	\$126.42	\$142.65
6"	\$219.87	\$248.08
8"	\$329.80	\$372.13
10"	\$522.18	\$589.20
Public Fire Protection Charge (per month)		
Meter Size	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
5/8"	\$4.15	\$5.02
3/4"	\$6.15	\$7.53
1"	\$10.30	\$12.55
1-1/2"	\$20.73	\$25.10
2"	\$33.17	\$40.16
3"	\$62.23	\$75.29
4"	\$103.74	\$125.49
6"	\$207.91	\$251.48
8"	\$331.59	\$401.06

10"	\$530.40	\$641.49
Private Fire Protection Charge (per month)		
Detector Check	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
1-1/2"	\$18.64	\$22.36
2"	\$39.24	\$51.44
4"	\$100.96	\$134.67
6"	\$219.21	\$293.39
8"	\$366.37	\$489.54
10"	\$552.95	\$738.60
12"	\$650.65	\$851.07
Private Hydrant	\$219.21	\$293.39

Wholesale Rates and Charges		
Description	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Middletown	\$2.26 per T.G.	\$3.31
Delaware Correctional Ctr.	\$2.26 per T.G.	\$3.31
New Castle	\$3.31 per T.G.	No Change
AWC to AWMD	\$3.78 per T.G.	\$3.26
Chesapeake	\$4.13 per T.G.	\$4.63
Dagsboro	\$3.50 per T.G.	\$3.31
Selbyville	\$3.50 per T.G.	\$3.31
Sussex County	\$6.15 per T.G.	\$8.18

On June 7, 2023, in Order No. 10255, the Commission, pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* § 306(a)(1), suspended the effect of the proposed new rates, tariff revisions and other requested relief pending further investigation and evidentiary hearings, which will be held later after further public notice.

On November 8, 2023, in Order No. 10326, the Commission authorized Artesian to place a portion of its proposed increases into effect subject to refund, pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* § 306(b), on November 28, 2023.

The Commission will make its decision on this matter on the basis of the record evidence taken at the public evidentiary hearings. The Commission may approve or reject, in whole or in part, the proposed increase and tariff revisions, and may approve a different method for allocating any increase should one be found to be appropriate.

Written comments may be filed **on or before January 23, 2024** on the Commission's

docketing and file management system DelaFile (<http://delafile.delaware.gov>), by mail to Delaware Public Service Commission, 861 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904, or by email to psc@delaware.gov ATTN: Docket 23-0601.

You may review Artesian's Application and supporting documents by going to DelaFile (<http://delafile.delaware.gov>), the Commission's docketing and file management system, and by searching for Docket No. 23-0601. If you would like to review documents at the Commission's offices, please contact Crystal Beenick at (302) 736-7500 or by sending an email addressed to Crystal.Beenick@dalware.gov. You may also review copies of Artesian's Application and supporting documents at the office of the Division of the Public Advocate located at 820 North French Street, 4th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801 and at 29 South State Street, Dover, Delaware 19901. Please call either (302) 577-5077 (Wilmington) or (302) 241-2555 (Dover) to arrange for a time to review the documents at either of those locations.

If you wish to request copies of documents in this matter, you may submit a Freedom of Information Act Request Form. The link to this form can be found on the Commission's website, <http://depssc.delaware.gov>, or by visiting this web address: <https://delafile.delaware.gov/Complaints/FOIA.aspx>. The Commission will respond to your request in accordance with the Delaware Freedom of Information Act, 29 *Del. C. ch.* 100.

If you have a disability and wish to participate or to review the materials in this matter, please contact the Commission to discuss any auxiliary aids or services you might need to help you. You may contact the Commission in person, by writing, by telephone (including text telephone), by Internet e-mail, or other means.

If you have questions about this matter, you may call the Commission at 1-800-282-8574 (toll-free in Delaware) or (302) 736-7500 (voice and text telephone). You may also send

questions regarding this matter by Internet e-mail addressed to psc@delaware.gov with “Docket No. 23-0601” in the subject line.