

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
TIDEWATER UTILITIES, INC. FOR A)
GENERAL INCREASE RATES) Docket No. 24-0991
(FILED AUGUST 30, 2024))**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF TIDEWATER UTILITIES, INC. FOR AN
INCREASE IN WATER BASE RATES**

TO: WATER CUSTOMERS OF TIDEWATER UTILITIES, INC.:

On August 30, 2024, Tidewater Utilities, Inc. (“Tidewater”) filed an application (the “Application”) with the Delaware Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) seeking approval for an increase in its water base rates and certain changes to its water tariff.

In its Application, Tidewater seeks an increase in annual operating revenues of \$10,330,878, or an increase of 25.66% over existing base rates.

The following is a comparison of Tidewater’s present rates and proposed new rates for metered water on a quarterly and monthly basis:

Monthly Metered Consumption	Quarterly Metered Consumption	Rate per Thousand Gallons – Present	Rate per Thousand Gallons – Proposed
0 – 2,000 gallons	0 – 5,000 gallons	\$7.2619	\$10.0633
2,001 – 7,000 gallons	5,001 – 20,000 gallons	\$7.3555	\$10.1930
Over 7,000 gallons	Over 20,000 gallons	\$7.4503	\$10.3244

The following is a comparison of Tidewater’s present rates and proposed new rates for facility charges per month and quarter:

Meter Size	Monthly Present Rates	Quarterly Present Rates	Monthly Proposed Rates	Quarterly Proposed Rates

5/8" - 3/4"	\$17.11	\$51.33	\$19.36	\$58.08
1"	\$28.51	\$85.53	\$32.25	\$96.75
1 - 1/2"	\$51.34	\$154.02	\$58.08	\$174.24
2"	\$79.86	\$239.58	\$90.34	\$271.02
3"	\$154.01	\$462.03	\$174.22	\$522.66
4"	\$239.58	\$718.74	\$271.02	\$813.06
6"	\$467.74	\$1,403.22	\$529.12	\$1,587.36
8"	\$730.13	\$2,190.39	\$825.95	\$2,477.85
10"	\$970.89	\$2,912.67	\$1,098.30	\$3,294.90

The following is a comparison of Tidewater's present rates and proposed new rates for public fire hydrant charges month and quarter:

	Monthly Present Rates	Quarterly Present Rates	Monthly Proposed Rates	Quarterly Proposed Rates
Fire Hydrant District Charge	\$4.46	\$13.38	\$4.46	\$13.38

The following is a comparison of Tidewater's present rates and proposed new rates for private fire protection charges month and quarter:

Meter Size	Monthly Present Rates	Quarterly Present Rates	Monthly Proposed Rates	Quarterly Proposed Rates
1"	\$8.43	\$25.29	\$8.43	\$25.29
2"	\$29.57	\$88.71	\$29.57	\$88.71
4"	\$125.43	\$376.29	\$125.43	\$376.29
6"	\$280.47	\$841.41	\$280.47	\$841.41
8"	\$498.95	\$1,496.85	\$498.95	\$1,496.85

The following is a comparison of Tidewater's present rates and proposed new rates for per month and quarter charges for Broadkilm and Wilkerson:

BROADKILN AND WILKERSON

Meter Size	Annual Present Rates	Monthly Present Rates	Quarterly Present Rates
Broadkiln	\$325.00	\$43.29	\$129.87
Wilkerson 5/8"-3/4"	\$275.00	\$36.63	\$109.89
Wilkerson 1"	\$425.00	\$56.62	\$169.83

Monthly Metered Consumption	Rate per Thousand Gallons - Present	Rate per Thousand Gallons - Proposed
0 - 2,000 gallons	\$0.0000	\$1.4058
2,001 - 7,000 gallons	\$0.0000	\$1.4229
Over 7,000 gallons	\$0.0000	\$1.4400

On October 9, 2024, in Order No. 10555, the Commission, pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* § 306(a)(1), suspended the effect of the proposed changes pending further investigation, a public comment session, and public evidentiary hearings, which will be held later after further public notice. Furthermore, the Commission authorized Tidewater to place \$2.5 million of its proposed increases into effect subject to refund, pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* §306(c), sixty (60) days after the initial August 30, 2024 filing date.

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 that it approves.

You are invited to review Tidewater’s application and supporting documents to determine how your interests may be affected by going to the Commission’s electronic file management

system, DelaFile, located at <https://delafile.delaware.gov/> , and by searching for Docket No. 24-0991.

If you wish to formally participate as a party in this matter, with the right to present evidence and be represented by counsel, you must file with the Commission a petition asking for leave to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* (26 Del. Admin. C. §1001-2.9) **on or before Friday, November 15, 2024**. All such petitions should be filed in DelaFile according to the Commission's rules (26 Del. Admin. C. §1001-1.6.4). Petitions filed after the deadline of November 15, 2024, will not be considered except for good cause shown.

If you would like to review documents at the Commission's office, please do so by contacting Crystal Beenick at (302) 736-7500 or by sending an email addressed to Crystal.Beenick@delaware.gov. If you wish to request copies of documents in this matter, please submit a Freedom of Information Act Request Form. The link to this form can be found on the Commission's website, <https://dep.sc.delaware.gov>, or by visiting this web address: <https://sos.delaware.gov/foia-requests/>. 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 require to assist 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. 24-0991” in the subject line.