

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF TIDEWATER UTILITES, INC. FOR A) PSC DOCKET NO. 24-0991
FOR A GENERAL INCREASE RATES)
(FILED AUGUST 30, 2024))

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

TO: ALL WATER CUSTOMERS OF TIDEWATER UTILITES, INC.

A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Delaware Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) will conduct a hybrid format public comment on **Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** You can participate in the public comment session through any of the following channels:

IN-PERSON	REMOTE ACCESS
Delaware Public Service Commission Hearing Room 861 Silver Lake Boulevard Cannon Building, Suite 100 Dover, DE 19904	Teleconference: 1-305-224-1968 Zoom Video Conference Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88467685115?pwd=xRtiD10KRj3jdD2tNDvaWlwgSEDFGJ.1 Meeting ID: 884 6768 5115 Access code: 898591

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 Broadkiln and Wilkerson:

BROADKILN AND WILKERSON

Meter Size	Annual Present Rates	Monthly Proposed Rates	Quarterly Proposed 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.

Written comments may be filed **on or before February 20, 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 24-0991.

You may review Tidewater'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. 24-0991. 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 Tidewater'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 the Thomas Collins Building 540 S. Dupont Highway Suite 3B, 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://depsec.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. 24-0991” in the subject line.