

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF	:	PETITION
GORDON’S CORNER WATER COMPANY	:	
FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND	:	
CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE	:	BPU Docket No. WR2311 <u>0853</u>
	:	

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Petitioner, Gordon’s Corner Water Company (hereinafter “GCWC,” “Gordon’s Corner” or “Petitioner”), respectfully represents as follows:

1. Petitioner is a public utility of the State of New Jersey, subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “BPU”) and franchised to provide water service in portions of Marlboro and Manalapan Townships, Monmouth County, New Jersey. The principal business office of Petitioner is 27 Vanderburg Road, Marlboro, New Jersey, 07746.
2. Communications and correspondence relating to this Petition should be forwarded to: (1) Stephen B. Genzer, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP, 1037 Raymond Boulevard, Suite 1520, Newark, New Jersey, 07102-5426, (2) Shane P. Simon, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP, 600 College Road East, Suite 4000, Princeton, New Jersey, 08540-6603, and (3) David G. Ern, President, Gordon’s Corner Water Company, 27 Vanderburg Road, Marlboro, New Jersey, 07746.
3. Petitioner hereby petitions this Honorable Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 and N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1, et seq., to increase and revise its rates and charges for water service effective January 1, 2024, that date being more than 30 days after

the filing of this Petition, at the Office of the Secretary of the Board. Petitioner also notifies the Board that it intends to implement the proposed rates on September 1, 2024, on an interim basis pursuant to law, applicable Board regulations, and only if the Board has suspended the effective date of the new rates pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 but not finally determined a new just and reasonable rate prior to that date.

4. The existing rates and charges which are proposed to be increased or revised are set forth in Petitioner's existing tariff, now on file with the Board.

5. The proposed tariff sheets reflecting the increased and revised rates and charges for water service are attached hereto, and made part hereof, as **Exhibit 1**. Also annexed hereto as Schedule V is a Comparison of Present and Proposed Rates which reflects the proposed changes to the existing tariff.

6. Petitioner's gross revenues for the calendar year 2022 amounted to \$14,632,294. Petitioner will be using a test year ending December 31, 2023, supplying with this petition, 9 months actual data (through September 30, 2023) with 3 months of projected data (through year end 2023).

7. Petitioner's existing tariff has become unjust and unreasonable because the revenues derived therefrom are insufficient to permit the Petitioner to meet the cost of operating the facilities used and useful in the service of the public; to obtain a just and reasonable return on the investment in said facilities; to maintain its financial integrity, attract capital, and to compensate investors for the risks assumed on a basis comparable to that in other business undertakings attended by corresponding risks; to encourage good management and furnish incentive for efficiency; to continue to furnish safe, adequate and proper service, and to maintain its facilities in such condition as to discharge its public duties.

8. The need for this Petition is driven, in large part, by the pending petition by Middlesex Water Company in I/M/O Middlesex Water Company for Approval of an

Increase in its Rates for Water Service and other Tariff Changes, Docket No. WR23050292 and the petition by Veolia Water in I/M/O Veolia Water for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Water Service and Other Tariff Changes, Docket No. WR23110790. Water purchased by Petitioner under existing contracts with both Marlboro Township (which is served by Middlesex Water Company) and Veolia is 57% of its source of supply and largest O&M expense.

9. Notice of this filing and of the nature and extent of the Petitioner's proposal to increase or revise its rates and charges will be given to those affected as follows:

- (a) Notice of this filing along with all testimony, schedules, exhibits, and attachments will be sent to the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel, Brian O. Lipman, as well as to Deputy Attorney General, Meliha Arnautovic, by electronic mail. Electronic copies of the Petition, along with all testimony, schedules, Exhibits, and attachments shall also be sent to the persons identified in the Service List attached hereto. This is consistent with the Order issued by the Board in connection with In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations, BPU Docket No. EO20030254 (March 19, 2020). Additionally, hard copies of all the above documents will be available upon request, and will also be available on the Company's website at www.gordonscornerwater.com
- (b) Petitioner, in accordance with the provisions of the Board's Rules of Practice 14:1-5.12 intends to combine other notices required to be served or published by that Rule and to serve or publish such

combined notices after the time and place of hearing have been designated by the Board.

10. Proof of Service of the notices referred to in Paragraph 9 of this Petition will be filed with the Board and served upon the parties hereto as required by law.

11. The additional information and data required by the Board's Rule of Practice N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 and other data not specifically included within this Petition are attached hereto, made part hereof and designated as follows:

SCHEDULE A	Comparative Balance Sheets for the Years Ended December 31, 2022, 2021, and 2020
SCHEDULE B	Comparative Income Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2022, 2021, and 2020
SCHEDULE C	Comparative Schedule of Operating Revenues for the Years Ended December 31, 2022, 2021, and 2020
SCHEDULE D	Schedules of Operation and Maintenance Expense Accounts for the Years Ended December 31, 2022, 2021, and 2020
SCHEDULE E	Comparative Schedule of Taxes Other than Income Taxes for the Years Ended December 31, 2022, 2021, and 2020
SCHEDULE F	Pro Forma Statement of Revenue and Expenses Under Present and Proposed Rates
SCHEDULE G	Explanation of Test Year ending December 31, 2023
SCHEDULE H	Test Year Operation and Maintenance Expenses
SCHEDULE I	Breakdown of Test Year Revenues
SCHEDULE J	Statement of Taxes - Other than Income Taxes
SCHEDULE K	Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023
SCHEDULE L	Summary of Adjustments to Test Year
SCHEDULE L1	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Operating Revenue
SCHEDULE L2	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Purchased Water Cost
SCHEDULE L3	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Rate Case Expenses

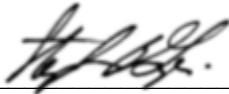
SCHEDULE L4	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Operation and Maintenance Expenses
SCHEDULE L5	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Depreciation
SCHEDULE L6	Explanation and Adjustment to Test Year Taxes Other Than Income Taxes
SCHEDULE L7	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Income Taxes
SCHEDULE L8	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Interest Expense
SCHEDULE M	Test Year Revenues Under Present Rates
SCHEDULE N	Plant & Depreciation
SCHEDULE O	Purchased Water
SCHEDULE P	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Rate Base
SCHEDULE Q	Computation of Rate Base and Required Return
SCHEDULE R	Computation of Required Revenue and Required Revenue Increase
SCHEDULE S	Computation of Income Taxes
SCHEDULE T	Capital Structure and Rate of Return
SCHEDULE U	Revenues Under Proposed Tariff Rates
SCHEDULE V	Comparison of Present and Proposed Rates

Also included with this Petition as **Exhibit 2** is the pre-filed Joint Testimony of David G. Ern, President, and Eric C. Olsen, P.E., Chief Operating Officer; and **Exhibit 3** is a Proposed Form of Notice.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner prays that this Honorable Board find and determine that: (a) Petitioner's rates presently in effect are unjust and unreasonable; (b) the proposed rates, set forth in Exhibit 1 attached hereto, are just and reasonable and may become effective on the date proposed; and (c) for such other and further relief as may be just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen B. Genzer
Shane P. Simon
Saul Ewing LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
Gordon's Corner Water Company

By: 

Stephen B. Genzer

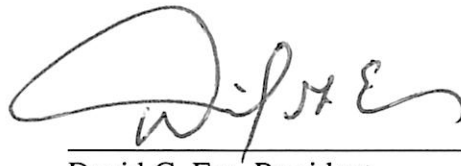
DATED: November 17, 2023

VERIFICATION

David G. Ern hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am President, Gordon's Corner Water Company, and am authorized to execute this Verification on its behalf. I have reviewed the Petition and supporting schedules filed in this matter.

2. I hereby certify that the information contained therein is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. G. Ern', written over a horizontal line.

David G. Ern, President
Gordon's Corner Water Company

DATED: November 17, 2023