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June 20, 2018

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JUN 18 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ

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Assistant General Counsel
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June 15, 2018

David McMillin

Via Electronic Mail and Lawyers' Service Overnight Delivery

Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

RECEIVED
CASE MANAGEMENT

JUN 18 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ


Re: **I/M/O the Petition of New Jersey American Water Company, Inc. for Approval of Increased Tariff Rates and Charges for Water and Wastewater Service, Change in Depreciation Rates and Other Tariff Provisions
BPU Docket No. WR17090985
OAL Docket No. PUC 14251-2017 S**

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

Enclosed please find an original and ten copies of a Motion of Legal Services of New Jersey ("LSNJ") to Intervene in the above-referenced matter for the Limited Purpose of Supporting Rate Counsel's Motion to Issue an Order Rejecting New Jersey American Water's Proposed Provisional Rate Increase, LSNJ's Proposed Letter Brief in Support of Rate Counsel's Motion, and a Proposed Form of Order in the referenced matter.

We are enclosing one additional copy of the materials transmitted. Kindly stamp and date this copy as "filed" and return it the enclosed, stamped, self-addressed envelope . Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

By: 
David McMillin

Encl.

cc: Honorable Jacob Gerstman, ALJ (via Lawyers' Service Overnight Mail)
Service List (via Electronic Mail) ✓

Case Mgmt

In the Matter of the Petition of New
Jersey American Water Co. Inc. for
Approval of Increased Tariff Rates and
Charges for Water and Wastewater
Service, Change in Depreciation Rates and
Other Tariff Modifications
BPU Docket No. WR17090985
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JUN 18 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

JUN 18 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ

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In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey
American Water Company, Inc. for Approval
Of Increased Tariff Rates & Charges for
Water & Wastewater Service, Change in
Depreciation Rates & Other Tariff Provisions

BPU Docket No. WR17090985
OAL Docket No. PUC 14251-2017 S
MOTION TO INTERVENE OR TO
PARTICIPATE FOR A LIMITED PURPOSE

**MOTION OF LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY TO INTERVENE OR TO PARTICIPATE
FOR A LIMITED PURPOSE**

On behalf of its low-income clients, Legal Services of New Jersey (“LSNJ”), hereby moves to intervene, or in the alternative, to participate, in the above-captioned proceeding, for the limited purpose of supporting Rate Counsel’s pending Motion to Issue and Order Rejecting New Jersey America Water’s (“NJAW’s”) Proposed Provisional Rate Increase by filing the accompanying proposed letter brief. In support of its motion, LSNJ states as follows:

1. LSNJ coordinates New Jersey’s Legal Services system, a network of six independent non-profit corporations providing free essential legal services in civil matters to low-income people through offices in all 21 counties. When appropriate, LSNJ makes available information and perspectives on matters of broad public importance in the lives of people in poverty based on its experience in representing tens of thousands of low-income people each year.

2. LSNJ and its clients have an interest in the outcome of this case because low-income households across the state will face increased economic hardship and potential loss of basic water service if NJAW’s unapproved 12% rate increase goes forward. Based on LSNJ’s research and experience representing low-income people in New Jersey, it is foreseeable that if an increase of this magnitude does go forward, hundreds of thousands of low-income New Jerseyans will have to divert

funds from other pressing needs to cover the increase, and many will lose their water service. Retroactive refunds will not undo the irreparable harm that results.

3. Low-income customers are especially vulnerable to high water charges, in part because they spend a greater proportion of their income on water service than higher-income households.

4. LSNJ's and its clients' interests are different from those of any other party because no other party expressly focuses on the interests and concerns of NJAW's low-income customers. Rate Counsel's statutory mandate is to represent the interests of all ratepayers (including, for instance, large commercial users); proposed intervenor AARP represents the interests of all of its members aged 50+ regardless of income level.

5. LSNJ will add measurably and constructively to the scope of this case because of its policy expertise and experience in matters raising issues of particular importance to low-income utility customers. Legal Services programs across New Jersey have represented many thousands of low-income clients in utility matters over the past 50 years. LSNJ played an active role in the establishment of New Jersey's Universal Service Fund in 2003 (BPU Docket No. EX0002019), was a party to the case arising from Bell Atlantic (Verizon) New Jersey's petition to deregulate its rates for basic telephone service (BPU Docket No. TO99120934), and was a member of the Board's Universal Service Working Group throughout its existence.

6. Granting leave to file LSNJ's proposed letter brief will not cause confusion or undue delay in the proceeding.

7. For all of the foregoing reasons, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:1-16.1, *et seq.*, LSNJ respectfully requests that it be permitted to intervene, or in the alternative, to participate, in the above-captioned proceeding, for the limited purpose of supporting Rate Counsel's pending Motion to Issue an Order

Rejecting NJAW's Proposed Provisional Rate Increase, and to file the accompanying proposed letter brief.


Respectfully submitted,
LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

By:  _____
David McMillin

Dated: June 15, 2018

CERTIFICATION

1. I am an attorney at Legal Services of New Jersey, Inc.
2. I have read the contents of the foregoing Motion and hereby certify that the statements contained therein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



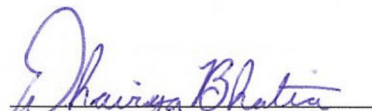
David McMillin

Dated: June 15, 2018

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I, Dhairya Bhatia, hereby certify that I have served Legal Services of New Jersey's Motion to Intervene for the Limited Purpose of Supporting Rate Counsel's Motion to Issue an Order Rejecting New Jersey American Water's Proposed Provisional Rate Increase, LSNJ's Proposed Letter Brief in Support of Rate Counsel's Motion, and Proposed Form of Order, on the Honorable Jacob Gertsman, ALJ, by Lawyers Service Overnight Delivery, and on all parties on the attached service list by Electronic Mail.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



Dhairya Bhatia
Administrative Assistant

Dated: June 15, 2018