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CASE MANAGEMENT

MAR 26 2019

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ



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MAIL ROOM

MAR 26 2019

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRENTON, NJ

The Township of Hamilton
March 15, 2019

Hon. Tricia Caliguire
Office of Administrative Law
P.O. Box 49
Trenton, NJ 08624-0049

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Hon. Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Street
3rd Floor, Suite 314
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

WR19010047

RE: Aqua New Jersey, Inc. Water Rate Increase

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in opposition to the recent proposal by Aqua New Jersey, Inc. to increase rates for its general metered service and for its fixed monthly rate charges.

According to Aqua New Jersey, Inc.'s filing, the company's plan is to increase rates by approximately 19 percent. This plan would impact an estimated 11,000 Hamiltonians currently serviced by the water provider, as well as fire services in our town.

Aqua New Jersey is petitioning to increase their general metered service from \$5.409/per thousand gallons to \$6.492/per thousand gallons. Additionally, the company is proposing to increase fixed monthly charges based upon meter size.

For the typical Hamilton residence with a 5/8" meter, using 5,000 gallons of water per month, this increased rate would increase bills by \$8.30 per month, or almost \$100.00 per year. These figures do not include the Distribution System Improvement Charge.

As Mayor of Hamilton I have and will continue to fight for safe drinking water for all. However, I find such a significant increase to be both unconscionable and unacceptable, especially when considering the immediate spike that residents would experience in their water bills.

Therefore, I must respectfully oppose Aqua New Jersey, Inc. proposed rate increase as it currently stands; and would urge both Aqua New Jersey and state regulators to make every effort to reduce the amount of increase that the company is seeking.

CMS
S. Patraude, Esq
C. Vachier, Esq
M. Kammer

Sincerely yours,

Kelly A. Yaede
Mayor