

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PINELANDS WASTEWATER COMPANY

NOTICE OF FILING OF A PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN
INCREASE IN RATES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICE
AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES

BPU Docket No. WR2209_____
OAL Docket No. PUC ____-2022_

(Serving Customers in a portion of Southampton Township, Burlington County, New Jersey)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 7, 2022, Pinelands Wastewater Company (the “Company”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, filed a Petition with the Board of Public Utilities (the “Board”) of the State of New Jersey for approval of revised tariff sheets which provide for an increase in its charges for wastewater service. The Company believes that this increase is necessary in order for it to be able to continue to provide safe, adequate and proper service to its customers and to prevent the impairment of its financial integrity.

The Company provides retail service to the communities known as Hampton Lakes and Leisuretowne and service pursuant to contract to the Village of Vincentown, all in Southampton Township, New Jersey.

The Company is requesting an overall increase in wastewater revenues of \$417,160 or approximately 26.76% above the adjusted annual pro forma revenues for the twelve months ending December 31, 2022 and to make other revisions of the Company’s tariff.

The proposed rates provide for increases to all classes of customers including General Service and Service Under Contract. The proposed rates for all customers are contained in the tariff sheets and petition filed with the Board. The present and proposed rates are as follows:

COMPARISON OF PRESENT AND PROPOSED RATES

Quarterly General Metered Service:

In addition to the fixed Quarterly Service Charge below, a charge will be made for all wastewater discharged to the sewer system (based on metered water consumption).

	<u>Present Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>	<u>Dollar Increase</u>
Volumetric Charge:	\$7.0613	\$8.9513	\$1.8900
	Thous. Gal.	Thous. Gal.	Thous. Gal.
Service Charge:	\$92.92	\$117.79	\$24.87
	Per Quarter	Per Quarter	Per Quarter

Billing shall be based on the service charge (fixed charge) plus consumption (volumetric) charges for each quarter.

A RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER SENDING 11,900 GALLONS OF WASTEWATER PER QUARTER WILL SEE HIS/HER BILL INCREASE FROM \$176.95 TO \$224.31 PER QUARTER.

SERVICE UNDER CONTRACT

<u>Present Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Dollar Increase</u>
\$11.61	\$14.72	\$3.11
Thous. Gal.	Thous. Gal	Thous. Gal

Any relief determined by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers of the Company in such manner and, in such amounts or percentages, as the Board may deem appropriate. The Board may choose to impose a greater portion of the increase on any present or future class or classes, group or groups of customers, may exclude from any increase any of the foregoing, or may vary the amount of percentage increase applicable to any of the foregoing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Pinelands Wastewater Company intends to implement, on June 7, 2023, subject to any refund that may be ordered by the Board, the proposed tariff for service, on an interim basis, pursuant to law, if the Board has suspended the effective date of the new rates pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, but has not made a final determination as to new just and reasonable tariff prior to that date.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a virtual public hearing on the Company's Petition has been scheduled for _____, 2022 beginning at _:_ pm and _:_ pm on the following Zoom platform: _____ . An Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Law will preside over the public hearing. Members of the public are invited to attend and express their views on the proposed rate increase. Such comments will be made a part of the final record in the proceeding. Whether or not you attend the public hearing, written comments may be submitted to Hon. _____, ALJ, Office of Administrative Law, P.O. Box 049, Trenton, NJ 08625-0049 and/or Hon. Carmen Diaz, Acting Secretary, Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350. Please include BPU Docket No. WR2209 ____ and OAL Docket No. PUC ____ -2022_ and in your comment letter.

The complete schedules for the proposed rates are part of the Petition filed with the Board, which was served upon the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel. The Petition was also served on the Clerks of Municipalities in the service area of the Company. Further information and copies of the Petition may be obtained at the Board's Offices located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314, PO Box 350, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 or at the Company's offices located at 485C Route One South, Suite 400, Iselin, New Jersey 08830. The Petition, testimony and all attachments are also available for public inspection on the Company's website at <http://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/regulatory>.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, including interpreters or mobility assistance, at least 48 hours prior to this hearing to the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel, 140 East Front Street – 4th Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625, phone (609) 984-1460.

PINELANDS WASTEWATER COMPANY
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