

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
AQUA OHIO, INC. TO INCREASE ITS
RATES AND CHARGES FOR ITS
WATERWORKS SERVICE.

CASE NO. 21-595-WW-AIR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
AQUA OHIO WASTEWATER, INC. TO
INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR
ITS WASTEWATER SERVICE.

CASE NO. 21-596-ST-AIR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 12, 2022

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} This Entry accepts for filing as of June 28, 2021, the applications for an increase in rates filed by Aqua Ohio, Inc. and Aqua Ohio Wastewater, Inc., respectively, and directs the companies to publish legal notice of the applications in the non-legal notice section of the applicable newspapers.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Aqua Ohio, Inc. (Aqua) and Aqua Ohio Wastewater, Inc. (AWI)¹ are a waterworks and sewage disposal system company as defined by R.C. 4905.03(G) and(M), respectively, and public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, are subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. Chapter 4909 prescribes the fixation of rates for public utilities. Pertinent to this Entry, R.C. 4909.15 controls the establishment of reasonable rates, and an application for an increase in rates is governed by and must satisfy the requirements of R.C. 4909.17 to 4909.19 and R.C. 4909.42.

{¶ 4} In order for Staff to evaluate an application for an increase in rates, applicants must provide specific standard information, as required by Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01,

¹ Collectively, Aqua and AWI will be referred to hereafter as “the Companies.”

Appendix A. These standard filing requirements (SFRs) contain the minimum information public utilities are required to submit with their applications.

{¶ 5} On May 21, 2021, the Companies filed, in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01, Appendix A, Chapter I(B), separate notices of intent to file to applications for an increase in rates. In Case No. 21-595-WW-AIR, Aqua filed notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates and charges for the sale of water to customers in its Lake Erie service division, Masury service division, and all areas formerly served by Mohawk Utilities, Inc., Tomahawk Utilities, Inc., Mohawk Utilities, Inc., Ohio American Water Company, Firestone Trace, and Southwood Estates. In Case No. 21-596-ST-AIR, AWI filed notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates and charges for its sewer service to customers in its Franklin areas formerly served by Ohio American Water Company, Firestone Trace, and Southwood Estates. The parties subsequently noticed errors in the Exhibit 2B attached to each notice of intent and on May 28, 2021, filed an amended Exhibit 2B for each notice of intent.

{¶ 6} Contemporaneous with the notices of intent, the Companies also filed in each case on May 21, 2021, separate motions for approval of test period and date certain and for waivers from certain SFRs, pursuant to which the Companies request waivers from filing various financial and informational data required by the Commission's SFRs.

{¶ 7} On June 28, 2021, the Companies filed separate applications to increase rates in each respective case.

{¶ 8} By Entry issued July 14, 2021, the Commission set the test period for each applicant to beginning on January 1, 2021, and end December 31, 2021, and set the date certain as December 31, 2021. In addition, this Entry granted some of the requested SFR waivers requested by the Companies.

{¶ 9} The Commission now finds that the Companies' applications meet the requirements of R.C. 4909.17 to 4909.19 and this Commission's SFRs. As such, each application will be accepted as of the filing date of June 28, 2021.

{¶ 10} The proposed notices of publication, set forth in Schedule S-3 in each respective application, complies with the requirements of R.C. 4909.19 and should be approved. The Companies shall begin publication of the newspaper notice, pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, within 30 days of the date of this Entry and such notice shall not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper.

III. ORDER

{¶ 11} It is, therefore,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That the applications of the Companies be accepted for filing as of June 28, 2021. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That the proposed newspaper notices submitted by the Companies be approved for publication. It is, further,

{¶ 14} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

DMH/MLW/hac

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in

Case No(s). 21-0595-WW-AIR, 21-0596-ST-AIR

Summary: Entry accepting for filing as of June 28, 2021, the applications for an increase in rates filed by Aqua Ohio, Inc. and Aqua Ohio Wastewater, Inc., respectively, and directing the companies to publish legal notice of the applications in the non-legal notice section of the applicable newspapers. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio