

MEMORANDUM

TO: James Leonard, Records Commissioner
FROM: Sonny Popowsky, Chair, Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board *SP*
DATE: June 21, 2023
RE: 2023 TAP-R Reconciliation Proceeding – Determination of Water Department Tiered Assistance Program Rate Rider Surcharge Rates Beginning 9/1/2023

Pursuant to Section 5-801 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, Section 13-101 of the Philadelphia Code, and the Regulations of the Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board, and at the direction of the Rate Board in its public meeting of June 21, 2023, I am forwarding herewith for filing the Rate Determination of the Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board on the 2023 TAP-R Reconciliation Proceeding, which constitutes the Rate Report and Rate Determination of the Rate Board, along with a memorandum of approval from the Law Department. The changes in rates and charges are to take effect on September 1, 2023.

On February 23, 2023, following Advance Notice filed with City Council and the Rate Board on January 24, 2023, the Water Department filed a “Formal Notice of Proposed Changes in Rates and Charges - Annual Adjustment of Tiered Assistance Program Rate Rider Surcharge Rates (TAP-R) - Final Proposed TAP-R Reconciliation Statement,” commencing a TAP-R Reconciliation Proceeding as defined in Section I(v) of the Rate Board’s Regulations.

In accordance with the Charter, Code, and Regulations noted above, the Rate Board’s Hearing Officer held a procedural conference and supervised discovery among the four entities and two individuals registered as participants in the rate proceeding. A public hearing was held on this matter on April 11, 2023, and a technical hearing was held on the same day. The Water Department and Public Advocate filed a Joint Petition for Settlement of TAP-R Proceeding on April 18, 2023. One participant objected to the settlement, and its parties filed a brief and a letter supporting it.

On or about May 8, 2022, the Hearing Officer filed her Report, summarizing the record and making recommendations for the resolution of the proceeding. No participant filed exceptions. The Rate Board then deliberated the issues in its monthly public meeting on June 14, 2023, and adopted the attached Rate Determination at a special public meeting on June 21, 2023 by vote of 4-0. All meetings and hearings were duly noticed.

We expect that the Water Department will timely file Rates and Charges in conformance with the Rate Determination.

Attachments: Law Department Approval Memo
Rate Determination, 2023 TAP-R Reconciliation Proceeding