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March 31, 2020

## Via Electronic Mail Only

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

Re: I/M/O the Petition of Aqua New Jersey, Inc. for Approval of an

Increase in Rates for Water Service and Other Tariff Changes

BPU Docket No. WR18121351 OAL Docket No. PUC 00305-2019S

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

The undersigned represents Aqua New Jersey, Inc. ("Aqua" or the "Company"), the Petitioner in the above referenced matter. Consistent with Paragraph 13(a) of the Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation") approved by the Board of Public Utilities (the "Board") on May 28, 2019, the Company hereby provides notice to the Staff of the Board and the Division of Rate Counsel of Aqua's present intention to make the Tax Repair Election described in further detail in the Stipulation. The Company would note, however, that its internal analysis regarding the Tax Repair Election is not yet final due to the later than anticipated closing of the acquisition of the Peoples Natural Gas Company by Essential Utilities, Inc., as well as the COVID-19 crisis. Aqua anticipates that its analysis will be finalized in 30 to 60 days. Should the Company determine at that time that proceeding with the Tax Repair Election is no longer appropriate, the Company will immediately so notify Board Staff and the Division of Rate Counsel. The Company appreciates the understanding and forbearance of Staff and Rate Counsel as Aqua works to complete its analysis in these challenging times.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen A. Foley

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Aqua America, Inc. was renamed Essential Utilities, Inc. in February 2020.

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cc: Attached Service List (via email only)