STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF GORDON'S CORNER WATER COMPANY FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES AND

CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE

PETITION

: BPU Docket No. WR2107____

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Petitioner, Gordon's Corner Water Company (hereinafter "GCWC," "Gordon's Corner" or "Petitioner"), respectfully represents as follows:

- 1. Petitioner is a public utility of the State of New Jersey, subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") and franchised to provide water service in portions of Marlboro and Manalapan Townships, Monmouth County, New Jersey. The principal business office of Petitioner is 27 Vanderburg Road, Marlboro, New Jersey, 07746.
- 2. Communications and correspondence relating to this Petition should be forwarded to: (1) Stephen B. Genzer, Esq., Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP, 1037 Raymond Boulevard, Suite 1520, Newark, New Jersey, 07102-5426, (2) Shane P. Simon, Esq., Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP, 600 College Road East, Suite 4000, Princeton, New Jersey, 08540-6603, and (3) David G. Ern, President, Gordon's Corner Water Company, 27 Vanderburg Road, Marlboro, New Jersey, 07746.
- 3. Petitioner hereby petitions this Honorable Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 and N.J.A.C. 14:9-7.1, et seq., to increase and revise its rates and charges for water service effective August 15, 2021, that date being more than 30

days after the filing of this Petition with the Office of the Secretary of the Board. Petitioner also notifies the Board that it intends to implement the proposed rates on April 15, 2022, on an interim basis pursuant to law, applicable Board regulations, and only if the Board has suspended the effective date of the new rates pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21 but not finally determined a new just and reasonable rate prior to that date.

- 4. The existing rates and charges which are proposed to be increased or revised are set forth in Petitioner's existing tariff, now on file with the Board.
- 5. The proposed tariff sheets reflecting the increased and revised rates and charges for water service are attached hereto, and made part hereof, as Exhibit 1. Also annexed hereto as Schedule V is a Comparison of Present and Proposed Rates which reflects the proposed changes to the existing tariff.
- 6. Petitioner's gross revenues for the calendar year 2020 amounted to \$12,806,355. Petitioner will be using a test year ending December 31, 2021, supplying with this Petition, 5 months actual data (through May 31, 2021) with 7 months of projected data (through year end 2021). With this Petition, Gordon's Corner is requesting an overall percentage increase of 18.4% over estimated calendar 2021 test year revenues of \$12,481,735, or a revenue requirement increase of \$2,292,237.
- 7. Petitioner's existing tariff has become unjust and unreasonable because the revenues derived therefrom are insufficient to permit the Petitioner to meet the cost of operating the facilities used and useful in the service of the public; to obtain a just and reasonable return on the investment in said facilities; to maintain its financial integrity, attract capital, and to compensate investors for the risks assumed on a basis comparable to that in other business undertakings attended by corresponding risks; to encourage good management and furnish incentive for efficiency; to continue to furnish safe, adequate and proper service, and to maintain its facilities in such condition as to discharge its public duties.

- 8. The need for this Petition is driven, in part, by the increase in rates to SUEZ Water Matchaponix, Inc., granted by the Board's May 19, 2021 Order in <u>I/M/O</u> The Petition of SUEZ Water New Jersey, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Water/Sewer Service and other Tariff Changes, Docket No. WR20110729, as well as the pending Petition by Middlesex Water Company in <u>I/M/O Middlesex Water Company for Approval of an Increase in its Rates for Water Service and other Tariff Changes</u>, Docket No. WR21050813. The Company has also added \$3.5 million in rate base since its last base rate case due in large part to the installation of a new well to replace an existing well that has reached the end of its useful life and major upgrades to the Company's oldest groundwater treatment plant.
- 9. Notice of this filing and of the nature and extent of the Petitioner's proposal to increase or revise its rates and charges will be given to those affected as follows:
 - (a) Notice of this filing together with all testimonies, schedules, exhibits, and attachments will be sent to the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel, Stefanie A. Brand, as well as to Deputy Attorney General, Pamela Owen, by electronic mail. Electronic copies of the Petition, along with all attachments, shall also be sent to the persons identified on the Service List attached hereto. This is consistent with the Order issued by the Board in connection with In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations, BPU Docket No. EO20030254 (March 19, 2020). Additionally, hard copies of all the above documents will be available upon request, and will also

- be available on the Company's website at www.gordonscornerwater.com,
- (b) Petitioner, in accordance with the provisions of the Board's Rules of Practice N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 intends to combine other notices required to be served or published by that Rule and to serve or publish such combined notices after the time and place of hearing have been designated by the Board.
- 10. Proof of Service of the notices referred to in Paragraph 9 of this Petition will be filed with the Board and served upon the parties hereto as required by law.
- 11. The additional information and data required by the Board's Rule of Practice N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.12 and other data not specifically included within this Petition are attached hereto, made part hereof and designated as follows:

SCHEDULE A	Comparative Balance Sheets for the Years Ended December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018
SCHEDULE B	Comparative Income Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018
SCHEDULE C	Comparative Schedule of Operating Revenues for the Years Ended December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018
SCHEDULE D	Schedules of Operation and Maintenance Expense Accounts for the Years Ended December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018
SCHEDULE E	Comparative Schedule of Taxes Other than Income Taxes for the Years Ended December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018
SCHEDULE F	Pro Forma Statement of Revenue and Expenses Under Present and Proposed Rates
SCHEDULE G	Explanation of Test Year ending December 31, 2021
SCHEDULE H	Test Year Operation and Maintenance Expenses
SCHEDULE I	Breakdown of Test Year Revenues
SCHEDULE J	Statement of Taxes - Other than Income Taxes

SCHEDULE K	Projected Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021
SCHEDULE L	Summary of Adjustments to Test Year
SCHEDULE L1	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Operating Revenue
SCHEDULE L2	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Purchased Water Cost
SCHEDULE L3	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Rate Case Expenses
SCHEDULE L4	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Operation and Maintenance Expenses
SCHEDULE L5	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Depreciation
SCHEDULE L6	Explanation and Adjustment to Test Year Taxes Other Than Income Taxes
SCHEDULE L7	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Income Taxes
SCHEDULE L8	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Interest Expense
SCHEDULE M	Test Year Revenues Under Present Rates
SCHEDULE N	Plant & Depreciation
SCHEDULE O	Purchased Water
SCHEDULE P	Explanation of Adjustment to Test Year Rate Base
SCHEDULE Q	Computation of Rate Base and Required Return
SCHEDULE R	Computation of Required Revenue and Required Revenue Increase
SCHEDULE S	Computation of Income Taxes
SCHEDULE T	Capital Structure and Rate of Return
SCHEDULE U	Revenues Under Proposed Tariff Rates
SCHEDULE V	Comparison of Present and Proposed Rates

Also included with this Petition as Exhibit 2 is the pre-filed Joint Testimony of David G. Ern, President, and Eric C. Olsen, P.E., Chief Operating Officer; Exhibit 3 is a Cost of Service Study and the Testimony of John Guastella; and Exhibit 4 is a Proposed Form of Notice.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner prays that this Honorable Board find and determine

that: (a) Petitioner's rates presently in effect are unjust and unreasonable; (b) the

proposed rates, set forth in Exhibit 1 attached hereto, are just and reasonable and may

become effective on the date proposed; and (c) for such other and further relief as may be

just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen B. Genzer

Shane P. Simon

Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP

Attorneys for Petitioner

Gordon's Corner Water Company

DATED: July 9, 2021

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VERIFICATION

David G. Ern hereby certifies as follows:

- 1. I am President, Gordon's Corner Water Company, and am authorized to execute this Verification on its behalf. I have reviewed the Petition and supporting schedules filed in this matter.
- 2. I hereby certify that the information contained therein is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

David G. Ern, President

Gordon's Corner Water Company

DATED: July 9, 2021