

VERMONT WATER UTILITIES, INC.

August 2, 2022

Holly R. Anderson, Clerk  
Vermont Public Utility Commission  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Re: Vermont Water Utilities, Inc. Petition of Proposed Rate Increase

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Please find enclosed Vermont Water Utilities, Inc.'s (VWU) petition for a 5.88% rate increase of the Georgia Station water system, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 225. This rate petition reflects VWU's efforts to keep the water utility on a sustainable rate path with regular adjustments so as not to create any abrupt increases to the customers in the service area. The rates are proposed to become effective with service rendered October 1, 2022. In support of this application VWU encloses the following exhibits:

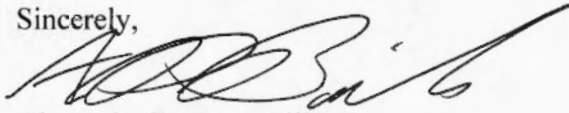
1. Exhibit A VWU's Financial Report and Book Depreciation for FY 2021
2. Exhibit B Cost of Service
3. Exhibit C Explanation of Cost of Service Adjustments
4. Exhibit D Rate Base
5. Exhibit E Present and Proposed Rates
6. Exhibit F Proposed Tariff
7. Exhibit G Proposed Notice to Customers

In light of the new condensed Annual Reports, Exhibit A is intended to provide general background financial information to the Board for ready reference. Exhibits B through D provide the detailed justification for changes in rates as required by Rule 2.402. Exhibit E reflects the Present and Proposed rates. Exhibit F represents the proposed tariff affected by this petition. Exhibit G is the proposed notice which will be sent to the customers upon approval.

Additionally, VWU requests the approval of an electronic payment surcharge of 1.9% + \$0.10. In recent years, several customers within the service area have inquired about the availability of electronic payment, rather than payment by cash, money order, or check. VWU has opened a merchant account with Venmo to process electronic payments, and that company charges a 1.9% + \$0.10 processing fee. VWU believes that the entirety of the customer base is better served if the processing fee is covered by a surcharge levied only against those customers that opt to use the electronic payment option, rather than having the processing fee become part of the overall operating expenses paid by all rate payers.

VWU believes the revenue increase of 5.88% and an electronic payment surcharge of 1.9% + \$0.10 are in the public good and will help to maintain the water system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. D. Bonneville', written in a cursive style.

Alexandre D. Bonneville  
President

VERMONT WATER UTILITIES, INC.  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

EXHIBIT A

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE      | 153,448.88              |
| LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION | <u>(72,896.79)</u>      |
| NET PLANT                     | <u>80,552.09</u>        |
| CASH                          | 3,447.00                |
| ACCOUNT RECEIVABLE            | 9,052.00                |
| NET OFFICE EQUIPMENT          | 1,889.55                |
| PREPAID INSURANCE             | <u>1,500.58</u>         |
|                               | <u>15,889.13</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>           | <u><b>96,441.22</b></u> |

LIABILITIES

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| CAPITAL          | 61,973.84        |
| LONG TERM DEBT   | 33,822.38        |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | <u>645.00</u>    |
|                  | <u>96,441.22</u> |

CONDENSED INCOME STATEMENT

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| OPERATION REVENUE | <u>36,670.41</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|

OPERATING EXPENSES

PLANT OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| SALARIES             | 4,000.00         |
| PAYROLL TAXES        | 354.00           |
| POWER FOR PUMPING    | 2,910.92         |
| REPAIRS/SUPPLIES     | 4,835.17         |
| DEPRECIATION EXPENSE | 5,733.68         |
| REGULATORY FEES      | 170.80           |
| WATER TESTING        | 1,749.50         |
| SUBCONTRACT LABOR    | <u>3,575.00</u>  |
|                      | <u>23,329.07</u> |

GENERAL EXPENSE

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| OFFICE EXPENSES  | 1,340.57        |
| INSURANCE        | 1,671.42        |
| LEGAL/ACCOUNTING | 2,760.50        |
| INTEREST EXPENSE | <u>1,319.46</u> |
|                  | <u>7,091.95</u> |

TAXES

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| FEDERAL/STATE TAXES | 250.00           |
| PROPERTY            | 2,640.26         |
| GROSS REVENUE       | <u>36.99</u>     |
|                     | <u>2,927.25</u>  |
| TOTAL EXPENSES      | <u>33,348.27</u> |
| TOTAL NET INCOME    | <u>3,322.14</u>  |

**Book Asset Detail 1/01/21 - 12/31/21**

| Asset                            | d<br>t | Property Description      | Date In<br>Service | Book<br>Cost      | Book Sec<br>179 Exp c | Book Sal<br>Value | Book Prior<br>Depreciation | Book Current<br>Depreciation | Book<br>End Depr | Book Net<br>Book Value | Book<br>Method | Book<br>Period |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Group: EQUIPMENT</b>          |        |                           |                    |                   |                       |                   |                            |                              |                  |                        |                |                |
| 14                               |        | TOOLS                     | 4/15/92            | 3,226.00          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 3,226.00                   | 0.00                         | 3,226.00         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 3.00           |
| 49                               |        | DESK AND CHAIR            | 2/26/99            | 325.35            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 325.35                     | 0.00                         | 325.35           | 0.00                   | S/L            | 7.00           |
| 53                               |        | CHLORINE PUMP             | 7/22/03            | 365.67            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 365.67                     | 0.00                         | 365.67           | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 89                               |        | CYBERPOWER PC             | 3/09/21            | 2,061.33          | 0.00c                 | 0.00              | 0.00                       | 171.78                       | 171.78           | 1,889.55               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| <b>EQUIPMENT</b>                 |        |                           |                    | <u>5,978.35</u>   | <u>0.00c</u>          | <u>0.00</u>       | <u>3,917.02</u>            | <u>171.78</u>                | <u>4,088.80</u>  | <u>1,889.55</u>        |                |                |
| <b>Group: GEORGIA SYSTEM</b>     |        |                           |                    |                   |                       |                   |                            |                              |                  |                        |                |                |
| 37                               |        | ELECTRICPLUMBING          | 6/15/90            | 3,460.00          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 3,460.00                   | 0.00                         | 3,460.00         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 3.00           |
| 38                               |        | WATER MAIN EXTENSION      | 12/31/92           | 20,608.00         | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 0.00                       | 0.00                         | 0.00             | 20,608.00              | Memo           | 20.00          |
| 40                               |        | PUMPS                     | 6/01/93            | 2,000.00          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 2,000.00                   | 0.00                         | 2,000.00         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 42                               |        | RENOVATE BUILDING         | 7/03/94            | 4,922.00          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 3,343.62                   | 126.21                       | 3,469.83         | 1,452.17               | S/L            | 39.00          |
| 59                               |        | PUMPS                     | 11/01/04           | 4,603.94          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 4,603.94                   | 0.00                         | 4,603.94         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 60                               |        | PUMP STATION RENOVATION   | 11/01/04           | 3,902.00          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 3,902.00                   | 0.00                         | 3,902.00         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 67                               |        | CHLORINATOR CONTROLS      | 7/23/07            | 454.38            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 454.38                     | 0.00                         | 454.38           | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 68                               |        | AIR COMPRESSOR            | 8/16/07            | 765.00            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 765.00                     | 0.00                         | 765.00           | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 70                               |        | PUMP                      | 10/23/12           | 818.44            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 668.36                     | 81.84                        | 750.20           | 68.24                  | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 74                               |        | LARGE VISE                | 1/09/13            | 801.97            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 641.60                     | 80.20                        | 721.80           | 80.17                  | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 76                               |        | MAGNETIC LOCATER          | 8/24/13            | 430.00            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 315.33                     | 43.00                        | 358.33           | 71.67                  | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 79                               |        | SECURITY CAMERA           | 11/24/15           | 664.90            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 337.99                     | 66.49                        | 404.48           | 260.42                 | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 80                               |        | METERS - 50 (1 REMOVED)   | 5/05/15            | 7,792.69          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 4,415.84                   | 779.27                       | 5,195.11         | 2,597.58               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 81                               |        | METER LABELS              | 5/05/15            | 621.69            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 352.30                     | 62.17                        | 414.47           | 207.22                 | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 82                               |        | HEARING PROTECTOR         | 11/13/15           | 699.99            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 361.67                     | 70.00                        | 431.67           | 268.32                 | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 86                               |        | GENERATOR HOOKUP AND PR   | 9/07/17            | 2,948.84          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 982.93                     | 294.88                       | 1,277.81         | 1,671.03               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 87                               |        | BACKUP GENERATOR          | 12/05/19           | 9,239.66          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 1,000.97                   | 923.97                       | 1,924.94         | 7,314.72               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 88                               |        | WELL #2 REPLACEMENT       | 6/01/20            | 6,094.61          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 355.52                     | 609.46                       | 964.98           | 5,129.63               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| <b>GEORGIA SYSTEM</b>            |        |                           |                    | <u>70,828.11</u>  | <u>0.00c</u>          | <u>0.00</u>       | <u>27,961.45</u>           | <u>3,137.49</u>              | <u>31,098.94</u> | <u>39,729.17</u>       |                |                |
| <b>Group: SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT</b> |        |                           |                    |                   |                       |                   |                            |                              |                  |                        |                |                |
| 33                               |        | SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS       | 11/01/96           | 22,588.00         | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 22,588.00                  | 0.00                         | 22,588.00        | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 65                               |        | PUMP STATION RENOVATION   | 10/01/05           | 5,109.89          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 5,109.89                   | 0.00                         | 5,109.89         | 0.00                   | S/L            | 10.00          |
| 77                               |        | CONSTRUCTION LOAN FEE     | 7/02/14            | 249.00            | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 249.00                     | 0.00                         | 249.00           | 0.00                   | Amort          | 15.00          |
| 83                               |        | RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENTS    | 11/01/15           | 29,722.50         | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 6,142.65                   | 1,188.90                     | 7,331.55         | 22,390.95              | S/L            | 25.00          |
| 84                               |        | CONTROL PANEL AND INSTAL  | 10/15/16           | 20,993.75         | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 3,568.94                   | 839.75                       | 4,408.69         | 16,585.06              | S/L            | 25.00          |
| 85                               |        | GENERATOR, LINK, COLD WEA | 9/15/16            | 3,957.63          | 0.00                  | 0.00              | 1,714.96                   | 395.76                       | 2,110.72         | 1,846.91               | S/L            | 10.00          |
| <b>SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT</b>        |        |                           |                    | <u>82,620.77</u>  | <u>0.00c</u>          | <u>0.00</u>       | <u>39,373.44</u>           | <u>2,424.41</u>              | <u>41,797.85</u> | <u>40,822.92</u>       |                |                |
| <b>Grand Total</b>               |        |                           |                    | <u>159,427.23</u> | <u>0.00c</u>          | <u>0.00</u>       | <u>71,251.91</u>           | <u>5,733.68</u>              | <u>76,985.59</u> | <u>82,441.64</u>       |                |                |

**VERMONT WATER UTILITIES INC.**

**EXHIBIT B**

| Cost of Service                    | 2021         | Adjustment  | Rate Year          | Adjustment explanation                                 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                    |              |             | 10/1/22 to 9/30/23 |                                                        |
| <b><u>Operating Expenses</u></b>   |              |             |                    |                                                        |
| Salaries                           | \$ 4,000.00  | \$ -        | \$ 4,000.00        | No expected change                                     |
| Power for Pumping                  | \$ 2,910.92  | \$ 245.08   | \$ 3,156.00        | \$263 / month                                          |
| Repairs/Supplies                   | \$ 4,835.17  | \$ 73.42    | \$ 4,908.59        | Three-year average                                     |
| Water Testing Fees / Meter Reading | \$ 1,749.50  | \$ (631.33) | \$ 1,118.17        | Three-year average                                     |
| Payroll Taxes                      | \$ 354.00    | \$ -        | \$ 354.00          | No expected change                                     |
| Subcontract Labor                  | \$ 3,575.00  | \$ 154.83   | \$ 3,729.83        | Three-year average                                     |
|                                    |              | \$ -        |                    |                                                        |
| <b><u>General Expenses</u></b>     |              |             |                    |                                                        |
|                                    |              | \$ -        |                    |                                                        |
| Office Expenses                    | \$ 1,340.57  | \$ 446.05   | \$ 1,786.62        | Three-year average                                     |
| Insurance                          | \$ 1,671.42  | \$ 312.50   | \$ 1,983.92        | 1 month @ 2022 rate + 11 months at estimated 2023 rate |
| Legal / Accounting                 | \$ 2,760.50  | \$ (877.85) | \$ 1,882.65        | Three-year average                                     |
| Interest                           | \$ 1,319.46  | \$ (373.00) | \$ 946.46          | Scheduled interest in rate year                        |
|                                    |              | \$ -        |                    |                                                        |
| Depreciation                       | \$ 5,733.68  | \$ 20.72    | \$ 5,754.40        | 2022 Estimate                                          |
| Federal / State Taxes              | \$ 250.00    | \$ 1,522.92 | \$ 1,772.92        | See Exhibit D                                          |
| Property Tax                       | \$ 2,640.26  | \$ 87.13    | \$ 2,727.39        | 3.3% increase                                          |
| Regulatory Fees                    | \$ 170.80    | \$ (113.87) | \$ 56.93           | Three-year average                                     |
| Gross Revenue Tax                  | \$ 36.99     | \$ (0.31)   | \$ 36.68           | Based on 2021 revenue                                  |
|                                    |              | \$ -        |                    |                                                        |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>              | \$ 33,348.27 | \$ 866.29   | \$ 34,214.56       |                                                        |
| Return on Rate Base                |              |             | \$ 4,004.74        | See Exhibit D                                          |
| Cost to Finance Working Capital    |              |             | \$ 621.13          | See Exhibit D                                          |
| Total Cost of Service              |              |             | \$ 38,840.43       |                                                        |
| Revenue from Customers             |              |             | \$ 36,682.69       | See Exhibit F                                          |
| Revenue Deficiency                 |              |             | \$ 2,157.74        |                                                        |
| Percent of Increase Required       |              |             | 5.88%              |                                                        |

# VERMONT WATER UTILITIES, INC.

## Exhibit C

### **Cost of Service Adjustments**

The 2021 operating and general expenses are provided as the comparison year.

#### **Salaries \$4,000.00 (No change):**

There are no current plans for any change to the salaries of the President and Vice President, the only VWU employees.

#### **Power for Pumping \$3,156.00 (+\$245.08):**

The current monthly cost of electricity is \$263. Absent any significant changes in electricity uses, this will result in an annual increase of \$245.08 over the 2021 fiscal year.

#### **Repairs \$4,908.59 (+\$73.42):**

No significant changes in maintenance, repairs, and supplies are expected over the previous three-year average. This results in a slight increase over the 2021 fiscal year.

#### **Water Testing Fees / Meter Reading \$1,118.17 (-\$631.33):**

No changes are expected for the costs of water testing or meter reading over the previous three-year average. This results in a moderate decrease over the 2021 fiscal year.

#### **Payroll Taxes \$354.00 (No change):**

As there are no anticipated changes to the payroll, absent any changes to the payroll tax schedules there will be no changes to the payroll tax expense.

#### **Subcontractor Labor \$3,729.83 (+\$154.83):**

No changes are expected for the cost of subcontractor labor over the previous three-year average. This results in a slight increase over the 2021 fiscal year.

#### **Office Expenses \$1,786.62 (+\$446.05):**

No significant changes in office expenses are expected over the previous three-year average. This results in a moderate increase over the 2021 fiscal year.

#### **Insurance \$1,983.92 (+\$312.50):**

The insurance policy's year is from November to October. Contact with VWU's insurance agent indicated that the estimated cost for the November 2022 to October 2023 policy will be approximately \$2,000. The above-noted insurance cost is the cost of one month at the 2022 rate (\$1,807 annual cost) plus the cost of eleven months at the 2023 rate (\$2,000 estimated annual cost).

**Legal / Accounting \$1,882.65 (-\$877.85):**

No changes are expected for the costs of professional services over the previous three-year average. This results in a significant decrease over the 2021 fiscal year.

**Interest \$946.46 (-\$373.00):**

The scheduled interest that will be paid in rate year; October 2022 through September 2023. Interest costs continue to decline as the loan balance is paid off.

**Depreciation \$5,754.40 (+\$20.72):**

The above-noted depreciation cost is the amount estimated for 2022.

**Federal / State Taxes \$1772.92 (+\$1,522.92):**

Please see [Exhibit D](#) for the estimated tax calculations.

**Property Tax \$2,727.39 (+\$87.13):**

The increase reflects an estimated 3.3% increase, the amount of the increase in property tax between the prior fiscal years; 2020 and 2021.

**Regulatory Fees \$56.93 (-\$113.87):**

No changes are expected for the costs of regulatory fees over the previous three-year average. This results in a slight decrease over the 2021 fiscal year.

**Gross Revenue Tax \$36.68 (-\$0.31):**

The amount of gross revenue tax based on the estimated revenue of \$36,682.69. Absent a rate increase, revenues are expected to remain flat with only minor year-to-year variations based on customer water usage.

# VERMONT WATER UTILITIES INC.

# EXHIBIT D

## CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

|                                   |           |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Total Plant in Service            | \$        | 153,448.88       |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation    | \$        | 72,896.79        |
| <b>Total Net Plant in Service</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>80,552.09</b> |
| Shareholder's Equity              | \$        | 46,729.71        |
| Long Term Debt:                   | \$        | 33,822.38        |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>\$</b> | <b>80,552.09</b> |

## Working Capital Allowance

|                                         |           |                  |       |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| Operating Expenses                      | \$        | 34,214.56        |       |
| Less:                                   |           |                  |       |
| Depreciation                            | \$        | 5,754.40         |       |
| Taxes                                   | \$        | 1,772.92         |       |
| Property & GRT                          | \$        | 2,764.07         |       |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>\$</b> | <b>23,923.17</b> |       |
| Divided by 12 * 5 billing : Working Cap | \$        | 9,967.99         |       |
| Cost to Finance WC                      | \$        | 621.13           | 6.23% |

|                       | Amount              | Ratio          | Cost  | Weighted     |  |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|--|
| Shareholder's Equity  | \$ 46,729.71        | 58.01%         | 8.57% | 4.97%        |  |
| Long Term Debt:       | \$ 33,822.38        | 41.99%         | 3.00% | 1.26%        |  |
| Total Short Term Debt | \$ -                | 0.00%          | 3.00% | 0.00%        |  |
|                       | <b>\$ 80,552.09</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |       | <b>6.23%</b> |  |

|                         |    |          |
|-------------------------|----|----------|
| <b>Interest Expense</b> | \$ | 1,014.67 |
| <b>ROE</b>              | \$ | 4,004.74 |

## Income Tax Calculations

|                        |    |          |        |
|------------------------|----|----------|--------|
| Net Income             | \$ | 4,625.87 |        |
| Gross Up for Taxes     | \$ | 6,398.78 |        |
| State Taxes            | \$ | 543.26   | 8.49%  |
| Federal Taxable Income | \$ | 5,855.53 |        |
| Federal Income Tax     | \$ | 1,229.66 | 21.00% |
| Net Income             | \$ | 4,625.87 |        |
| Total Income Taxes     | \$ | 1,772.92 |        |



# VERMONT WATER UTILITIES INC.

# EXHIBIT E

## Present and Proposed Rates

|                          | <b>Present Rate</b> | <b>Proposed Rate</b> | <b>% Increase</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Residential Metered Rate |                     |                      |                   |
| Annual Rate*             | \$ 583.68           | \$ 618.00            | 5.88%             |
| Cost per 1,000 Gallons   | \$ 3.302            | \$ 3.496             | 5.88%             |

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Active Utility Connections        | 51                  |
| Average Gallons Per Day (client)  | 114.75 2021 average |
| Average Gallons Per Day (system)  | 5,737.50            |
| Average Gallons Per Year (system) | 2,094,187.50        |

|                              | <b>Present Rate</b> | <b>Proposed Rate</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Annual Rate Revenue (yearly) | \$ 29,767.68        | \$ 31,518.02         | \$ 1,750.34       |
| Gallons Revenue (yearly)     | \$ 6,915.01         | \$ 7,321.61          | \$ 406.60         |
| Total Projected Revenue      | \$ 36,682.69        | \$ 38,839.63         | \$ 2,156.94       |

\*Bills are calculated using the annual rate / 365, times the number of days in the billing cycle.

**GENERAL RATE TARIFF**

**WATER SERVICE: RESIDENTIAL**

AVAILABLE: Throughout Company's service territory of Georgia Station Water System in Georgia, Vermont.

ANNUAL RATE: Metered Rate \$618.00 PLUS \$3.496 per 1000 gallons

TERMS: Customers are billed quarterly in arrears (January, April, July, and October)  
Payments are due and payable by customer upon presentation or receipt of the quarterly bill.

DELINQUENCY: Bills will become delinquent 30 days after postmark of bills in accordance with VPUC Rule 3.300 for residential customers. In addition, a 1.5% per month late fee will be added to the bill.

DISCONNECTION: A flat fee of \$75 will be charged.

RECONNECTION: A flat fee of \$75, plus payment in full of any account delinquent unless otherwise specifically provided by a payment plan.  
After 5:00PM an additional fee of \$20.00 will be charged.

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: N/A

ELECTRONIC PAYMENT SURCHARGE: 1.9% + \$0.10

Date Effective: October 1, 2022

VERMONT WATER UTILITIES, INC.  
GEORGIA STATION WATER SYSTEM

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alexandre D. Bonneville, President

VERMONT WATER UTILITIES, INC.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

On [DATE], 2022, Vermont Water Utilities, Inc. (VWU), filed a revised tariff for the Georgia Station water system with the Vermont Public Utilities Commission requesting a rate increase which would result in an overall increase in rates of 5.88%. Additionally, VWU plans to allow for the option of electronic payment via Venmo and has requested the approval of a 1.9% + \$0.10 surcharge be applied to all such payments. The proposed rate change is to become effective for service rendered beginning on October 1, 2022. If the tariff change becomes effective as proposed, the rate increase will appear on the January 2023 quarterly bill. The proposed rates are as follows:

| <u>Present Rate</u>            | <u>Proposed Rate</u>           |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$583.68 per year              | \$618.00 per year              |
| Plus \$3.302 per 1,000 Gallons | Plus \$3.496 per 1,000 Gallons |

Proposed Electronic Payment Surcharge: 1.9% + \$0.10

Anyone who wants to comment on the proposed rate should write to the Vermont Public Utility Commission by mail at 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2701, or provide feedback using the Commission's electronic filing system. To access the webform, go to <https://epuc.vermont.gov/> and click on the "Public Comment" link for case (CASE #).

If it appears to the Public Utility Commission that the proposed rate changes may be unjust or unreasonable the Commission may, on or before September 26, 2022 suspend the rates as filed and order an investigation. In the absence of such action by the Public Utility Commission, the proposed rates will become effective on service rendered on and after October 1, 2022. Any person may examine the tariff filing on the Vermont Water Utilities, Inc. website ([www.vwui.com](http://www.vwui.com)) or on ePUC by searching for case (CASE #).