

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

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11096/11-W-0351

PSC Seeks Public Input on United Water Rates

Albany, NY—11/15/11—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today announced public statement hearings will be held concerning a proposal by United Water Owego-Nichols Inc. (company) to increase water rates.

The date, hearing times and location are as follows:

Thursday, November 17, 2011
Tioga County Municipal Building
Edward D. Hubbard Auditorium
56 Main Street
Owego, NY 13827

Afternoon Session: 4:00 p.m.
Evening Session: 7:00 p.m.

The public statement hearing is designed to allow members of the public to comment on the company's request to increase rates for water service. The company originally proposed, in a February 25, 2011 filing, to increase revenues by \$624,000 or 43 percent, after the elimination of a surcharge to become effective March 28, 2011. The company's proposed increase was subsequently further suspended by the Commission until January 25, 2011. On September 30, 2011, the company and staff of the Department of Public Service filed a Joint Proposal that resolves the issues presented by the company's February 25 filing.

The Joint Proposal, if adopted by the Commission, would increase the company's base rate revenues by approximately \$469,133, or approximately 33.2 percent, over the proposed three-

year rate plan beginning in 2012. The Commission may grant, deny, or modify any portion of the Joint Proposal.

Public Statement Hearing

The public will have an opportunity to present their comments at the hearing before an Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Commission to this case. A verbatim transcript of the hearing will be made for inclusion in the record of this proceeding.

It is not necessary to be present at the start of the hearing, to make an appointment in advance, or to present written material in order to speak at a public statement hearing. Speakers will be called after completing a card requesting time to speak.

Each session of the public statement hearing will be held open for a minimum of one hour, and will remain open and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements are made.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711 to reach the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Office at the previously mentioned number.

Other Ways to Comment

Internet or Mail: Those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing may comment electronically to Hon. Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, at CASE 11-W-0082, secretary@dps.state.ny.us or mailed or delivered to Secretary Brillling at Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Your comments should refer to "Case 11-W-0082 United Water Owego-Nichols Inc. - Water Rates."

Toll-Free Opinion Line: You may call the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day. Callers should select English or Spanish and press "1" to leave comments.

All comments by these alternative methods should be submitted, or mailed and postmarked, no later than November 23, 2011. All such statements and comments will become part of the record and be reported to the Commission for its consideration.

All submitted comments may be accessed on the Commission's Web site at (www.dps.state.ny.us), by searching Case 11-W-0082. Many libraries offer free Internet access.

The November 17 public statement hearings were originally scheduled for September 15, 2011, but, due to extensive flooding in the Owego-Nichols region from Tropical Storm Lee, the hearings were postponed.