



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** James P. Leonard, Commissioner of Records  
**FROM:** Irwin "Sonny" Popowsky, Chair, Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board  
*Irwin Popowsky*  
**DATE:** July 23, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** 2025 General Rate Proceeding – Determination of Water Department's Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rates and Related Charges Beginning 9/1/2025 and 9/1/2026

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Pursuant to Section 13-101 of the Philadelphia Code and the Regulations of the Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board (Rate Board), and at the direction of the Rate Board in its public meeting of July 23, 2025, I am forwarding herewith for filing the Rate Determination on the 2025 General Rate Proceeding for Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027, which constitutes the Rate Report and Rate Determination of the Rate Board; along with a memorandum of approval from the Law Department. The Rate Board hereby authorizes changes in Water Department rates and charges to take effect on September 1, 2025, and on September 1, 2026.

On March 31, 2025, following Advance Notice filed with City Council and the Rate Board on February 18, 2025, the Water Department filed a "Formal Notice of Proposed Changes in Water, Sewer and Stormwater Rates and Related Charges (FY 2026 and FY 2027)," commencing a General Rate Proceeding as defined in Section I(i) of the Rate Board's Regulations.

In accordance with the Charter, Code, and Regulations noted above, the Rate Board's Hearing Officer held procedural conferences and supervised discovery among the four entities and three individuals registered as participants in the rate proceeding. Four public input hearings were held on this matter on April 22 and 23, 2025, and technical hearings were held on May 21 and 22, 2025.

The Water Department and Public Advocate filed a Joint Petition for Partial Settlement of the General Rate Proceeding on May 30, 2025. Two participants objected to the proposed settlement, and the Public Advocate filed a Statement supporting it. The Water Department, Public Advocate, and Philadelphia Large Users Group filed a Second Joint Petition for Partial Settlement of the General Rate Proceeding on June 20, 2025. One participant objected to it.

On July 1, 2025, the Hearing Officer filed her Report, summarizing the record and making recommendations for the resolution of the proceeding. Two participants filed exceptions and one filed a letter in lieu of exceptions. The record of this proceeding is posted on the Rate Board's website on the 2025 General Rate Proceeding page, <https://www.phila.gov/departments/water-sewer-storm-water-rate-board/rate-proceedings/2025-general-proceeding/>. The Rate Board then deliberated the issues in a public meeting on July 16, 2025, and adopted the attached Rate Determination at a public meeting on July 23, 2025, by a majority vote of Board Members. 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. A date-stamped copy of this Rate Determination will be posted on the above site when received from the Department of Records.

Attachments:       Law Department Approval Memo  
                          Rate Determination, 2025 General Rate Proceeding