

1. \$100,000/\$300,000 bodily injury; and
2. \$50,000 property damage, and naming the New Jersey Water Supply Authority as an "Additional insured".

(b) Certificates of such coverage shall be delivered to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority with evidence of payment of premiums thereof upon delivery to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority of the water use agreement executed by the user pursuant to this subchapter.

#### **7:11-3.25 Water quality**

(a) The water supplied from the Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Spruce Run/Round Valley Reservoir System is raw water subject to all quality variations and hazard inherent in natural streams and that the New Jersey Water Supply Authority does not guarantee the quality of the water supplied under this subchapter and no claims regarding quality variations shall be made against the New Jersey Water Supply Authority and, therefore, no claims regarding quality variations will be recognized by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

(b) Water withdrawn for potable use shall be treated by the purchaser, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 58:22-9 and N.J.S.A. 13:13-12.9, in a manner satisfactory to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **7:11-3.26 Discharge into Delaware and Raritan Canal**

(a) The return of water to the Delaware and Raritan Canal may be allowed only if the quality of the Delaware and Raritan Canal waters is not impaired as determined by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

(b) Water shall not be discharged into the Delaware and Raritan Canal except upon prior application and only in accordance with the terms and conditions of a formal written approval granted by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

(c) The application for discharge into the Delaware and Raritan Canal shall include all information required by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority for determination of conditions governing discharge.

#### **7:11-3.27 Discharge structures**

(a) Structures for the discharge of water into the Delaware and Raritan Canal shall be installed and maintained by the user thereof at its own sole cost and expense.

(b) Prior to the installation of discharge structures or facilities, the user shall furnish to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority a plan showing in such detail as may be required by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority the proposed discharge system, and shall not install or construct the same until said system shall have been approved in writing by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

(c) The user shall, within ten days after receipt of written demand from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority, make such repair to the user's discharge system as may be required to eliminate leakage of water from, or potential damage to the Delaware and Raritan Canal, or on his failure to do so, the New Jersey Water Supply Authority may make such repairs at the cost and expense of the user, which cost and expense the user shall pay on demand.

(d) The user shall make such changes in the user's discharge system as may from time to time be required by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority but shall not alter the approved installation of the system without the prior written approval of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

#### **7:11-3.28 Disposition of facilities: Delaware and Raritan Canal**

(a) Within 90 days after an agreement expires, any user of Delaware and Raritan Canal water shall remove from the property under the jurisdiction of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority all facilities installed by the user, and restore the property to its former condition in a manner satisfactory to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority, the Department and the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission. On the user's failure to remove the facilities, the New Jersey Water Supply Authority may make such removal and restoration at the cost and expense of the user, which cost and expense the user shall pay on demand. The New Jersey Water Supply Authority may in its discretion, sell any facilities to help defray the cost of removal and restoration.

(b) Within 30 days after an agreement expires, the user may formally offer any or all withdrawal and related water supply facilities on the Delaware and Raritan Canal property to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority and the New Jersey Water Supply Authority may, at the Authority's discretion, accept the offered facilities in writing within 60 days. An offer of the facilities shall stay the 90 day period for removal of the facilities pending the New Jersey Water Supply Authority's acceptance or rejection of the offer.

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### **SUBCHAPTER 4. SCHEDULE OF RATES, CHARGES AND DEBT SERVICE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE SALE OF WATER FROM THE MANASQUAN RESERVOIR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM**

#### **7:11-4.1 General provisions**

(a) The schedule of rates, charges and debt service assessments for the sale of water from the Manasquan Reservoir System established in this subchapter shall constitute the rate schedule for the Manasquan Reservoir System (rate schedule).

(b) The rates, charges and debt service costs contained in this subchapter shall be paid for raw water, withdrawn or allocated from the Manasquan Reservoir System. The rates, charges and debt service costs set forth herein shall be incorporated in all water purchase contracts.

(c) The rates, charges and debt service costs established in this subchapter provide revenue to cover the annual requirements of the Manasquan Reservoir System. These annual requirements consist of the aggregate amount required during each annual payment period to pay all operation and maintenance expenses, debt service costs and special or reserve fund requirements of the Manasquan Reservoir System.

(d) The total rate charged under this rate schedule shall include the operations and maintenance expenses component under N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.3, and the debt service costs under N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.4.

(e) This rate schedule complements N.J.A.C. 7:11-5 which establishes rules for the use of water from the Manasquan Reservoir System.

#### 7:11-4.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Authority” means the New Jersey Water Supply Authority established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 58:1B-1 et seq.

“Delayed water purchase contract” means a water purchase contract entered into for uninterruptible service, commencing subsequent to the initial operation date of the Manasquan Reservoir System.

“Delayed water purchase surcharge” means any amount by which the debt service cost component of payments to be made under any delayed water purchase contract for uninterruptible service exceeds the debt service cost component payable by initial water purchasers.

“Force Majeure” means acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbances, orders of the Government of the United States or the State or any agency or instrumentality thereof or of any civil or military authority, acts of terrorism, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightning, earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, explosions, breakage or accidents to machinery, pipelines, dams or canals, partial or entire failure of water supply, arrests, civil disturbances, acts of any public enemy, and any other causes not reasonably within the control of the party claiming inability to timely comply with its obligations.

“Initial water purchase contract” means a water purchase contract providing for uninterruptible service commencing on the initial operation date of the Manasquan Reservoir System.

“Manasquan Reservoir Intake Facility” means the location on the Manasquan River at Hospital Road in the Township of Wall, County of Monmouth, where water is diverted by the Authority from the Manasquan River to supply purchasers or for pumping to the Manasquan Reservoir System for storage.

“Manasquan Reservoir System” means the water supply system constructed by the Authority in Monmouth County, the major components of which are a 740 acre, four-billion gallon reservoir facility in Howell Township, a raw water intake facility and pump station located adjacent to the Manasquan River in Wall Township, and a five mile transmission pipeline connecting the reservoir and the intake facility, together with all component plants, structures and other real or personal property, and additions and improvements thereto.

“Point of delivery” means the location where the Manasquan Reservoir System’s delivery equipment interconnects with the purchaser’s interconnection system.

“Purchaser” means the party who contracts with the Authority to purchase water from the Manasquan Reservoir System.

“Purchaser interconnection system” means the buildings, structures, piping, valves, meters and other control apparatus and equipment, located on properties or facilities owned by the Authority, installed by or on behalf of, and owned by, the purchaser to connect purchasers’ water supply system with the Manasquan Reservoir System.

“Short-term service” means the supply of Manasquan Reservoir System water for interim or short-term uses, such as growing agricultural or horticultural products or meeting extraordinary requirements in consumer demand for potable water, provided on a non-guaranteed or interruptible basis.

“Standby service” means the supply of Manasquan Reservoir System water for certain occasional uses, such as fire protection or other emergencies, natural or otherwise.

“Uninterruptible service” means the supply of Manasquan Reservoir System water which the purchaser is authorized to continuously withdraw without interruption, for public water supply purposes.

#### 7:11-4.3 Operations and maintenance expense component

(a) The operations and maintenance expense component per million gallons set forth in (c) below is based on estimated annual operations and maintenance expenses consisting of all current costs, obligations and expenses of, or arising in connection with, the operation, maintenance and administration of the Manasquan Reservoir System, and minor additions or improvements thereof or thereto.

(b) The operation and maintenance expense component of all rates is based upon the point of delivery being located at the Authority's Manasquan River intake facility, and any purchaser taking delivery of Manasquan Reservoir System water at a different point of delivery will be assessed an additional charge to cover additional operation and maintenance expense associated with establishment of and making delivery at such point of delivery. Such charges may include, but are not limited to, in the case of any purchaser establishing a point of delivery on the transmission line between the Manasquan River intake facility and the reservoir, an additional charge to cover the cost of pumping water to the reservoir to replace water delivered from the reservoir to such purchaser.

(c) Operations and maintenance expense component:

Effective Date	Rate/Million Gallons (based upon a 16.097 mg per day sales base)
July 1, 1998	\$263.56

Amended by R.1991 d.271, effective May 20, 1991 (operative July 1, 1991).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3678(a), 23 N.J.R. 1664(a).

Added "Effective Date" and "Rate/Million Gallons"; changed "July 1, 1990" to "July 1, 1991"; changed "(based upon a 14.905 mg per day sales base) \$345.09" to "(based upon a 16.097 mg per day sales base) \$314.75" in (c).

Amended by R.1992 d.237, effective June 1, 1992 (operative July 1, 1992).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3688(a), 24 N.J.R. 2056(a).

Fiscal Year 1993 rate adjustment.

Amended by R.1993 d.241, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4474(a), 25 N.J.R. 2269(a).

Fiscal Year 1994 rate adjustment.

Administrative Correction.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5956(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.307, effective June 20, 1994 (operative July 1, 1994).

See: 25 N.J.R. 5744(a), 26 N.J.R. 2598(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.292, effective June 5, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4910(a), 27 N.J.R. 2207(a).

Fiscal Year 1996 rate adjustments.

Amended by R.1996 d.257, effective June 3, 1996 (operative July 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4955(a), 28 N.J.R. 2906(a).

In (c) decreased the rate.

Amended by R.1997 d.229, effective June 2, 1997 (operative July 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 5133(a), 29 N.J.R. 2553(a).

In (c), changed "July 1, 1996" to "July 1, 1997", and "\$316.58" to "\$284.09".

Amended by R.1998 d.271, effective June 1, 1998 (operative July 1, 1998).

See: 29 N.J.R. 5153(a), 30 N.J.R. 1989(a).

In (c), changed effective date from 1997 to 1998 and the Rate/Million Gallons from \$284.09 to \$263.56.

#### 7:11-4.4 Debt service cost component

(a) The debt service costs component is based upon the amount to be included for debt service costs with respect to each annual payment period or portion thereof, and will be that amount accruing in the bond year (starting on August 1 of each calendar year and ending on the next following July 31) or corresponding portion thereof, commencing during the fiscal year (starting on July 1 of each calendar year and ending on the next following June 30) within which such annual payment period or portion thereof falls. The debt service costs include the aggregate amounts payable during the specified period for:

1. Interest accruing during such period on the bonds, but not including any interest accruing on the State loan bonds which is to be deferred and added to principal, until payment in respect of such deferred interest is to commence;

2. That portion of each required principal payment or mandatory redemption or sinking fund payment on the Authority bonds (together, "principal installment") which would accrue during such period;

3. Such additional amounts as are required to provide a debt service coverage in accordance with the following schedule:

Twelve Month Period Beginning on	Coverage Percent of Gross Debt Service
2/1/91-1/31/92	105 percent
2/1/92-1/31/93	110 percent
2/1/93-1/31/94	115 percent
2/1/94-1/31/95 and thereafter	120 percent

4. Any amounts payable into any debt service reserve fund established for any authority bonds.

(b) The following debt service rates, based on a sales base of 16.097 million gallons per day, apply to all water purchasers who entered into a water purchase contract before July 1, 1990, the date upon which the Authority commenced operation of the Manasquan Reservoir System (Initial Water Purchase Contract) and began to make uninterruptible service available to the purchasers ("System Operation Date").

Period	Rate/Million Gallons (Coverage 120 percent)
7/1/98 to 6/30/99	\$569.36

(c) A delayed water purchase surcharge will be assessed to all water purchasers who enter into a water purchase contract for an uninterruptible service commencing subsequent to the system operation date (delayed water purchase contract). This includes a purchaser under an initial water purchase contract which provides for an increase in the amount of uninterruptible service effective subsequent to the system operation date.

(d) In place of the imposition upon any delayed water purchaser of delayed water purchaser surcharges with respect to any one or more items, a delayed water purchaser may, at the time of entry into a delayed water purchase contract, make a single lump sum payment in respect of such items in a manner to be agreed upon between the Authority and the delayed water purchaser.

Amended by R.1991 d.271, effective May 20, 1991 (operative July 1, 1991).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3678(a), 23 N.J.R. 1664(a).

Substantial revision of (b) with the following changes: "14.905" to "16.095"; "will be applied" to "apply"; "persons" to "water purchasers"; "enter" to "entered"; "commences" to "commenced"; "begins" to "began". Added "July 1, 1990"; "Period" and "Rate/Million Gallons". Time frame under "Period" was changed from "2/1/91" to "7/1/91". All debt service rates were revised. Changed "persons" to "water purchasers" in (c).

Amended by R.1992 d.237, effective June 1, 1992 (operative July 1, 1992).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3688(a), 24 N.J.R. 2056(a).

Fiscal Year 1993 rate adjustment.

Amended by R.1993 d.241, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4474(a), 25 N.J.R. 2269(a).

Fiscal Year 1994 rate adjustment.

Administrative Correction.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5956(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.307, effective June 20, 1994 (operative July 1, 1994).

See: 25 N.J.R. 5744(a), 26 N.J.R. 2598(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.292, effective June 5, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4910(a), 27 N.J.R. 2207(a).

Fiscal Year 1996 rate adjustments.

Amended by R.1996 d.257, effective June 3, 1996 (operative July 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4955(a), 28 N.J.R. 2906(a).

In (b) decreased the rate.

Amended by R.1997 d.229, effective June 2, 1997 (operative July 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 5133(a), 29 N.J.R. 2553(a).

In (b), changed "7/1/96 to 6/30/97" to "7/1/97 to 6/30/98", and "\$748.57" to "\$654.83".

Amended by R.1998 d.271, effective June 1, 1998 (operative July 1, 1998).

See: 29 N.J.R. 5153(a), 30 N.J.R. 1989(a).

In (a)3, rewrote the schedule; and in (b), changed the Period from "7/1/97 to 6/30/98" to "7/1/98 to 6/30/99" and the Rate/Million Gallons from \$654.83 to \$569.36.

#### 7:11-4.5 Payments

(a) The annual payment consists of the aggregate amount projected by the Authority to be payable to the Authority by the purchaser during each annual payment period for uninterruptible service. This is derived by multiplying the applicable rates and charges in the rate schedule in effect for the relevant annual payment period by the number of gallons available to purchaser on an annual uninterruptible service basis (subject to the provisions of the water purchase contract) and subject to adjustment to reflect:

1. Any delayed water purchaser surcharges applicable to the purchaser;
2. Any credits to allocate benefits of any delayed water purchaser surcharges to the purchaser; and
3. Other charges, credits or adjustments provided for in the water purchase contracts.

(b) The annual payment period shall commence on July 1 and end on the next ensuing June 30.

(c) The purchaser shall make quarterly water payments for uninterruptible service not later than the 10th day of January, April, July and October in each year for uninterruptible service with respect to the calendar quarter ending on the last day of the immediately preceding month. The amount of the quarterly water payments shall be derived by dividing the amount of the purchaser's annual payment or adjusted annual payment for any fiscal year by four or in such other or different required quarterly payments of which the Authority gives notice to the purchaser pursuant to the water purchase contract.

(d) The Authority will notify the purchaser not later than 30 days prior to the beginning of each annual payment period of the amount of the purchaser's annual payment for uninterruptible service and, if the Authority determines that the quarterly water payments under the water purchase contracts should be made on a basis other than in equal installments, in order to permit the Authority to meet its obligations as they become due, it will, concurrently with such notice, provide the purchaser with a schedule of the amounts of each of the quarterly water payments to be made by the purchaser.

#### 7:11-4.6 Uninterruptible service

(a) The rates, charges and debt service assessments per mg of water set forth for the rate schedule for uninterruptible service under initial water purchase contracts for the fiscal year are based upon:

1. The projected annual requirements for the fiscal year, after deducting therefrom projected net revenues in connection with the ownership or operation of the Manasquan Reservoir System from sources other than payment for uninterruptible service except to the extent that such other revenues are to be applied to obligations not included in such projected annual requirements. Such other obligations include payments, credits or rebates to purchasers for:

- i. Delayed water purchase surcharges collected;
- ii. Compensation for any amounts charged to system water purchasers in prior fiscal years by reason of default in payment of any obligation under any water purchase contract which obligation is subsequently collected by the Authority; and
- iii. Distribution of the proceeds of surplus water sold.

(b) The rate is obtained by dividing the adjusted projected annual requirements set forth in (a)1 above by the number of mg per day of Manasquan Reservoir System water which are required by the terms of all water supply contracts for uninterruptible service during the fiscal year, multiplied by 365.

(c) The Authority may exclude for any period, for purposes of the computation in (a) and (b) above, the uninterruptible service provided in any water purchase contract if an event of default has occurred. This will not affect the Authority's right to enforce the provisions of the water purchase contract against the defaulting party; however, any payment received from a defaulting water purveyor for such uninterruptible service with respect to such period shall be rebated or credited to the non-defaulting purchasers.

(d) The purchaser will not be required to make payment to the extent that the Authority does not make water available under the terms of the contract for uninterruptible service.

**7:11-4.7 Short term service**

(a) The rates for short-term service shall be an amount per mg of water equal to the sum of the debt service component established in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.4, and the operations and maintenance component established in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.3.

(b) The monthly payment for water provided to the purchaser pursuant to short-term service shall be based upon the Manasquan Reservoir System water actually consumed at the rate per mg stated in (a) above.

(c) Payment for water provided to the purchaser pursuant to short-term service shall be made within 30 days following receipt of the Authority's invoice.

(d) Payments received in any fiscal year with respect to short-term service during such year shall not be included in actual or projected revenues for such year for purposes of determining the rates applicable to that year but shall be included in revenues for the fiscal year succeeding the year in which payment is received for purposes of determining the rates for uninterruptible service in such succeeding fiscal year.

**7:11-4.8 Standby service**

(a) The rates for standby service shall consist of:

1. A standby charge established in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.9 for each month during which standby service is available equal to the capacity, in mgd per day, of the purchaser's withdrawal facilities to be served by such standby service multiplied by the rate per mg for uninterruptible service set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.3 and 4.4; and

2. A charge for water actually consumed in any month at the rate per mg of water established by the rates for short-term service as set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.7 at the time of such consumption, minus the standby charge for such month.

(b) Payment for water provided to the purchaser pursuant to standby service shall be made within 30 days following receipt of the Authority's invoice.

(c) Payments received in any fiscal year pursuant to (a)1 and 2 above shall not be included in actual or projected revenues for that year for purposes of determining the rates applicable to such year but shall be included in revenues for the fiscal year succeeding that in which payment is received for the purpose of determining the rates for uninterruptible service in the succeeding fiscal year.

**7:11-4.9 Standby charge**

A purchaser classified under standby service shall pay a monthly minimum charge based on the capacity of the purchaser's withdrawal system as specified below. Said purchaser shall also pay for all water withdrawn during the

month in excess of such monthly standby charge based on charges as set forth under N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.3 and 4.4.

<u>Maximum withdrawal capacity</u>	<u>Charge per month</u>
Each 1 MGD (700 GPM) or fraction thereof	\$263.56 plus annual debt service assessment rate established in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.4

Amended by R.1991 d.271, effective May 20, 1991 (operative July 1, 1991).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3678(a), 23 N.J.R. 1664(a).

Added "Maximum withdrawal capacity" and "Charge per month"; changed "345.09" to "314.75".

Amended by R.1992 d.237, effective June 1, 1992 (operative July 1, 1992).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3688(a), 24 N.J.R. 2056(a).

Fiscal Year 1993 rate adjustment.

Amended by R.1993 d.241, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4474(a), 25 N.J.R. 2269(a).

Fiscal Year 1994 rate adjustment.

Amended by R.1994 d.307, effective June 20, 1994 (operative July 1, 1994).

See: 25 N.J.R. 5744(a), 26 N.J.R. 2598(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.292, effective June 5, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4910(a), 27 N.J.R. 2207(a).

Fiscal Year 1996 rate adjustments.

Amended by R.1996 d.257, effective June 3, 1996 (operative July 1, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 4955(a), 28 N.J.R. 2906(a).

Decreased the charge per month.

Amended by R.1997 d.229, effective June 2, 1997 (operative July 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 5133(a), 29 N.J.R. 2553(a).

Changed "\$316.58" to "\$284.09".

Amended by R.1998 d.271, effective June 1, 1998 (operative July 1, 1998).

See: 29 N.J.R. 5153(a), 30 N.J.R. 1989(a).

Changed the Charge per month from \$284.09 to \$263.56.

**7:11-4.10 Payments for other services**

Payment for any other charges payable by reason of excessive withdrawals or otherwise, shall be made within 30 days following receipt of the Authority's invoice and shall be based upon Manasquan Reservoir System water actually consumed. The rate for excessive withdrawal shall be the rate set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:11-4.7.

**7:11-4.11 Late payment interest charge**

All amounts not paid when due shall be subject to a late payment charge at two percent above the prime rate of the First Fidelity Bank, N.A., prevailing on the due date, but not to exceed 18 percent per annum, from the date when due until paid.

**7:11-4.12 Rate adjustments**

(a) The Authority reserves the right from time to time to adopt adjustments to the rate schedule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and this subchapter.

(b) A purchaser shall be notified of such proposed changes not less than six months in advance of the effective date of such new rates.



**7:11-4.13 Procedures for rate adjustments**

(a) Prior to amending the schedule of rates, charges and debt service assessments established by this subchapter, the Authority shall:

1. Provide notice and an explanation outlining the need for the proposed rate adjustment to all purchasers; the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate; the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons at least six months prior to the proposed effective date. This notice and explanation shall be deemed to be part of the record of the proceedings.

2. Provide supporting documents and financial records of the Authority, at the Authority's cost, in support of the proposed adjustment to all purchasers; the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate; the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons upon request, and make such documents and records available for review at the Authority's offices in Clinton, New Jersey at the time notice of the proposed amendment to the rates is given. These supporting documents and financial records shall be deemed to be part of the record of the proceedings for purposes of preparing the hearing officer's report required under (a)9 below;

3. Afford purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate and the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons the opportunity to submit written questions and requests for additional data prior to the time of the meeting required under (a)4 below. The Authority staff shall provide written answers to the questions and supply the additional data requested prior to the meeting;

4. Schedule a meeting with the purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate and the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons within 45 days after sending them notice of the proposed amendments to the rate schedule regarding the proposed amendments:

i. At the meeting the purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate, and the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons will be invited to submit written questions which will be put into the hearing record and which will be answered by Authority at the public hearing;

ii. In order to be answered at the public hearing, questions must be received by the Authority no later than 15 days prior to the public hearing. The Authority will make every reasonable effort to answer those questions received less than 15 days prior to the public hearing at the time of the hearing. All questions will be answered as part of the record and the comments and responses will be included in the hearing report prepared pursuant to (a)9 below;

5. Hold a public hearing on the proposed rate adjustment. One or more members of the Authority will serve as the hearing officer. The public hearing agenda shall include, but not be limited to:

i. An opening statement by the hearing officer;

ii. The Authority's answers to the questions raised prior to the hearing by the purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate, the Board of Public Utilities and other interested persons;

iii. Oral statements, written statements and any supporting evidence presented by interested persons; and

iv. Questions of the Authority by the purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate, the Board of Public Utilities and any interested persons on any aspect of the need for, the basis of, or any provision of the proposed rate adjustment. Follow up questions relative to the answers of the Authority may also be directed to the Authority during the public hearing;

6. Attempt to answer all questions raised at the public hearing. In the event that a response cannot be immediately given at the public hearing, then a written response shall be prepared within 10 working days after the public hearing, and a copy of that written response will be provided to all contractual water purchasers, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate, Board of Public Utilities and attendees at the hearing and made a part of the hearing record;

7. Permit, within 10 working days after receipt of the answer, contractual water purchaser, the Department of the Treasury, Division of the Ratepayer Advocate, the Board of Public Utilities and attendees will be permitted to respond in writing to the answers of the staff for the record;

8. Hold the public comment period open for at least 25 working days after the public hearing in order to allow additional written comments to be submitted; and

9. After the public comment period is closed, require a hearing officer's report, which shall include findings of fact and specific responses to all issues and questions raised during the public hearing proceedings, to be prepared and submitted to the Authority prior to the Authority taking final action on the proposal.

(b) In addition to the above requirements, the Authority will follow all the requirements for rulemaking established pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.

Amended by R.1992 d.237, effective June 1, 1992 (operative July 1, 1992).

See: 23 N.J.R. 3688(a), 24 N.J.R. 2056(a).

Change title of Board of Public Utilities to Board of Regulatory Commissioners.

Amended by R.1995 d.292, effective June 5, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4910(a), 27 N.J.R. 2207(a).

Substituted "Division" for "Office" and "Ratepayer" for "Rate payer" throughout.

Water Supply Authority (Authority) on an "Application for Water Supply" form, copies of which will be furnished by the Authority upon request. Any application for water from the Manasquan Reservoir System shall be accompanied by a water allocation permit approval from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, stating the specific amount which is to be allocated to the applicant.

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SUBCHAPTER 5. RULES FOR THE USE OF  
WATER FROM THE MANASQUAN  
RESERVOIR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

**7:11-5.1 Application for water supply**

Application for withdrawal of water from the Manasquan Reservoir System shall be submitted to the New Jersey