## NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MULLICA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES OF MUNICIPAL CONSENT HEARING

## IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL CONSENT GRANTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MULLICA, ATLANTIC COUNTY

## **BPU DOCKET NO. WE21091146**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on September 30, 2021, New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. ("NJAWC") filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-14, N.J.S.A. 48:3-11 to 15, N.J.S.A. 48:19-17, N.J.S.A. 48:19-20 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.5, and such other applicable regulations and statutes, to approve a municipal consent ordinance ("Ordinance 14-2021") granted to NJAWC by the Township of Mullica ("Township").

Ordinance 14-2021 was originally adopted by the Township on August 31, 2021, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-14, and N.J.S.A. 48:3-11 to 48:3-15, granting municipal consent to NJAWC to construct, lay, maintain and operate the necessary wastewater treatment facilities, water and wastewater mains, pipes and appurtenances throughout certain areas of the Township along Hamburg Avenue from U.S. Route 30 to West Moss Mill Road, and to provide water and wastewater services to those areas of the Township. On December 28, 2021, the Township affirmed, approved and ratified Ordinance No. 14-2021.

**NO INCREASE IN RATES WILL RESULT FROM THE PETITION.** If the petition is approved, and if the Board also approves a separate NJAWC petition to acquire the water and sewer systems now owned by Egg Harbor City and providing service in portions of Mullica Township, NJAWC will adopt and implement the City's water and wastewater service rates and hold those rates for a minimum of two years from the closing date of the acquisition of the City's System by NJAWC. Any future rate increases in portions of Mullica Township now served by Egg Harbor City following the two-year post-closing period will be included in NJAWC general rate proceedings filed with the Board.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that due to the COVID-19 pandemic a virtual hearing on the petition has been scheduled for June 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m., which will be presided over by a hearing officer designated by the Board. Representatives of NJAWC, Board Staff and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to listen to the hearing and express their views on the petition by dialing 1-862-294-2638 and entering the conference ID: 443 018 733# or joining via video conference by going to https://bit.ly/3G49wM8 via the internet at the designated time. Such comments will be made a part of the final record in the proceeding.

The Board will also accept written and/or electronic comments. While all comments will be given equal consideration and will be made part of the final record of this proceeding, the preferred method of transmittal is via the Board's <u>Public Document Search</u> tool. Search for the docket

number listed above, and post by utilizing the "Post Comments" button. Emailed comments may also be filed with the Secretary of the Board, in pdf or Word format, to <u>board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov</u>. Written comments may also be submitted to the attention of the Honorable Carmen Diaz, Acting Secretary at the Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, P.O. Box 350, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350, or via email to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov. Persons submitting written comments should include Docket No. WE21091146 in their submissions.

All comments are considered "public documents" for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Commenters may identify information that they seek to keep confidential by submitting them in accordance with the confidentiality procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.

Copies of the petition are available for inspection at the offices of NJAWC located at 1 Water Street, Camden, New Jersey 08102, or on NJAWC's website at www.newjerseyamwater.com. Copies may also be obtained by calling NJAWC at 856-955-4001. Further information and copies of the petition may also be obtained at the Board's Offices located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625. Any members of the public who wish to inspect the petition at the Board should contact the Board's Division of Case Management at 609-292-0806 or board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov.

A copy of this Notice is being served upon the Clerk of the Township of Mullica.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for special accommodation at least 72 hours prior to the hearing to Denise Free of NJAWC at 856-955-4001.

NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. 1 Water Street Camden, NJ 08102

By: Mark McDonough, President