



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.P.U. 17-108

August 3, 2017

Petition of Whitinsville Water Company, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §94, and G.L. c. 165, §2, for Approval of a General Rate Increase as set forth in M.D.P.U. No. 24 and M.D.P.U. No. 25.

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On July 14, 2017, Whitinsville Water Company (“WWC” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for a general rate increase of \$773,212, which represents an overall increase of 25.1 percent over the Company’s currently effective rates. WWC last received a general rate increase in 2010. See Whitinsville Water Company, D.P.U. 09-44 (2010). The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 17-108 and has suspended the effective date of the proposed rate increase until June 1, 2018, to investigate the propriety of the Company’s request.

If the Company’s petition is approved as presented, a typical residential customer in Whitinsville/Northbridge using 800 cubic feet per month would receive an increase of approximately \$9.24 per month, or 16.9 percent. Bill impacts will vary based on customer class and volume used. Individual customers may contact the Company as shown below for specific bill impact information. Additionally, the Company proposes to revise its tariffs to allow the Company to bill customers on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company’s petition. The hearing will take place on: **September 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** at Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Northbridge, Massachusetts. Any person interested in commenting on this matter may appear at the public hearing or file written comments with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **September 21, 2017**.

Reasonable accommodations at public or evidentiary hearings for people with disabilities are available upon request. Contact the Department’s ADA Coordinator at [Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us](mailto:Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us) or (617) 305-3642 to make such a request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can. Also include a way the Department can contact you if we need more information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may not be able to be accommodated.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 13, 2017**. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All comments or petitions for leave to intervene or to participate should be addressed to: Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing.

In addition to the above requirement, one (1) copy of all materials filed with the Department should be sent to each of the following: (1) Daniel Licata, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110; and (2) Eric J. Krathwohl, Esq., Rich May, P.C., 176 Federal Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (counsel of the Company).

Further, in addition to paper filings with the Department, all documents also must be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@state.ma.us](mailto:dpu.efiling@state.ma.us) and the Hearing Officer, [daniel.licata@state.ma.us](mailto:daniel.licata@state.ma.us); or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 17-108); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

A copy of the Company's filing is available for inspection during regular business hours at the following locations: (1) the Company's office, 44 Lake Street, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588; (2) Whitinsville Social Library, 17 Church Street, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588; and (3) the Department's offices, One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. These filings are also available on the Department's website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>. To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA Coordinator at [Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us](mailto:Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us) or (617) 305-3642.

Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's petition should contact the Company's counsel, Eric J. Krathwohl, Esq., Rich May, P.C., 176 Federal Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 at (617) 556-3857. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Daniel Licata, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3523.