



## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS**  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888  
(401) 941-4500  
(401) 941-9207 - Fax

To: Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk

From: John Bell, Chief Accountant

Date: June 20, 2022

Subject: Docket 5254 – Miscellaneous Petition to Recover Electronic Payment Fees

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) submitted comments concerning the City of Newport, Utilities Department, Water Division (“Newport Water”) filing in the above docket on June 1, 2022. In our comments we reserved our right to comment and/or amend our position based on responses to discovery that was outstanding at the time. We have since received responses to the discovery, participated in the scheduled hearings on June 14, 2022, and reviewed Newport Water’s responses to record requests issued at the hearing. Based on our review of this additional information, the Division does not have any changes or amendments to our previously filed position.

In summary, the Division continues to recommend that Newport Water be allowed to use the restricted revenue reserve to cover the electronic payment fees it incurred and will continue to incur until June 30, 2022, and we recommend a rate allowance of \$74,400 beginning July 1, 2022 to cover the cost of electronic payment fees on an ongoing basis. As stated at the hearing, the Division and Newport are in agreement on a true-up mechanism related to any differences between the actual ongoing electronic payment fees and the amounts recovered through rates and from the City of Newport Water Pollution Control Division. This agreement is documented in Newport Water’s response to record request 5, which the Division has reviewed and concurs.