

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: PROVIDENCE WATER SUPPLY BOARD'S PETITION TO RECOVER ELECTRONIC PAYMENT TRANSACTION FEES – DOCKET NO. 22-09-WW

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws §39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hereby gives notice that it will conduct a hearing on **Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 9:30 A.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comments on the Providence Water Supply Board Miscellaneous Petition to Recover Electronic Payment Transaction Fees. The hearing may continue thereafter as required. The hearing will be streamed live at <https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.

People interested in providing public comment at the meeting may participate in a Zoom meeting through the internet or by calling in, preferably 5-10 minutes prior to the hearing. To participate, click this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82503806761> and you will be given instructions to enter the meeting by internet. If you choose to participate by telephone, you may call 929-205-6099 and enter meeting number 825 0380 6761 followed by the # symbol when prompted. (The Zoom link will close at the expiration of the public comment period.) If you are not interested in providing public comment, please watch the live stream at the address in the first paragraph. You will be able to observe the hearing and hear others' public comment.

In this docket, Providence Water Supply Board seeks recovery for cost associated with the payment of credit card, debit card and voice transaction fees (Electronic Payment Transaction Fees). Providence Water seeks to recover by way of a transfer from its Restricted Revenue Reserve, approximately \$836,565 for Electronic Payment Transaction fees incurred from June 2020 to April 2022 and any fees incurred thereafter until the PUC renders a decision in this docket. These costs were incurred as a result of PUC emergency orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic issued in Docket No. 5022 which prevented utilities from charging these fees. Additionally, Providence Water seeks to recover by way of a monthly surcharge, \$741,241 per year on a going forward basis to cover the payment of these fees on an annual basis. The rate impact on retail and private fire service customers will result in a monthly fee surcharge of \$0.78 per bill.

The proposal is available for examinations at the PUC's office. The dockets can also be accessed at <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-22-09-WW>. Reference is also made to Chapters 42-35 and 39-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The PUC is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk's office at 780-2107, seventy-two hours in advance of hearing.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
July 16, 2022