

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLERK'S OFFICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC NIGHT HEARING

DOCKET NO. 2016-29-WS

Application of Harbor Island Utilities, Inc. for Approval of a New Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Sewer Service on Harbor Island, Beaufort County

Harbor Island Utilities, Inc. (Harbor Island or the Company) has filed an Application for adjustment of rates and charges for, and the modification of certain terms and conditions related to, the provision of water and sewer service for residential and commercial customers. According to the Application, due to increased operating expenses and major capital improvements, the Company must increase its rates and charges. Detailed cost justifications are included on page three of the Application and include, but are not limited to the following: purchasing a back-up generator to provide electric power to the system in the event of power failures; purchasing a new water valve exerciser; purchasing and installing a Mag-Meter to accurately measure the amount of treated effluent water pumped to the Fripp Island Public Service District (FIPSD); replacing valves in the water distribution system, and replacing the second of the two blowers at the wastewater treatment system.

Harbor Island states that some of the more notable reasons the operating expenses have increased are as follows (see page five for the complete list): Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJWSA) raised the wholesale rate of its water from \$2.60 per 1000 gallons to \$2.63 per 1000 gallons in 2015 and from \$2.63 per 1000 gallons to \$2.66 per 1000 gallons in 2016; FIPSD increased the transportation fee for water delivered to Harbor Island from \$0.33 per 1000 gallons to \$0.34 per 1000 gallons in 2015; and the cost to dispose of waste activated sludge has risen from approximately \$4,500 annually in 2011-2012-2013 to an average of over \$14,000 annually for 2014-2015.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a **Public Night Hearing**, pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817 and Commission Order No. 2016-721, on the above matter has been scheduled to begin on **Thursday, December 1, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.**, before the Public Service Commission at the Harbor Island Community Center, 1 North Harbor Drive, Harbor Island, South Carolina 29920.

Persons who wish to testify before the Public Service Commission regarding the application may do so at this hearing. Individuals shall be permitted a maximum of three (3) minutes for oral presentations. To testify as a public witness, you must print your name on the Sign-In Sheet available at the hearing location, and indicate whether or not you wish to testify. All testimony will be given under oath and entered into the record of the case subject to objection by the parties.

Please note that the commissioners will be present to listen to your testimony and statements regarding this Application. The Code of Judicial Conduct prohibits the commissioners from answering questions regarding this application or discussing this case with you individually.

Persons seeking further information about the Commission's procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100 or visit its website at www.psc.sc.gov.

10/19/16