

**IN THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

IN RE:)	
)	
JOINT PETITION OF SUPERIOR)	DOCKET NO. 22-00087
WASTEWATER SYSTEMS, LLC,)	
AND TPUC STAFF (AS A PARTY) TO)	
INCREASE RATES AND CHARGES)	

JOINT PETITION

Superior Wastewater Systems, LLC (“Superior Wastewater” or “Company”) and TPUC Staff (As a Party) (“Party Staff”) (collectively, the “Parties”), pursuant to T.C.A. § 65-5-103, jointly petition the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) for an increase to Superior Wastewater’s rates and charges for the purpose of recovering the Company’s costs of providing wastewater services to its customers and for authority to place such rates and charges into effect through a revised tariff.

In support of the Joint Petition, the Parties submit the following:

1. Superior Wastewater is a public utility as defined in T.C.A. § 65-4-101 and is engaged in providing monthly wastewater services to 342 residential customers located in the Company’s service territory in Williamson County, Tennessee. The name and business address of the Company are:

Superior Wastewater Systems, LLC
John Powell, President
P.O. Box 40
Arrington, Tennessee 37014

2. The names and business address of the Party Staff are:

Craig Cox, Financial Regulatory Analyst
Patsy Fulton, Utility Rate Specialist
Cole McCormick, Utilities Consultant
Joe Shirley, Director of Utility Audit & Compliance

David Foster, Director of Utilities
Ryan McGehee, Senior Counsel
Tennessee Public Utility Commission
502 Deaderick Street, Fourth Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

3. Superior Wastewater has not increased wastewater service rates since it began operations in 2005. The currently tariffed service rates were approved by the Commission seventeen years ago by order issued on January 3, 2006, in Docket No. 04-00335. Under the current rates and charges, the Company's revenues and revenue projections are not sufficient to allow the Company a fair opportunity to recover its reasonable operating costs and to provide a fair and reasonable net operating income. In order for Superior Wastewater to maintain its utility systems and provide safe and reliable services to its customers in accordance with Commission requirements, an increase to its rates and charges should be granted.

4. As shown by the Exhibits and Pre-filed Direct Testimonies of Party Staff witnesses Craig Cox, Cole McCormick, and Joe Shirley filed in support of this Joint Petition, the Company is projected to experience a net operating loss of \$57,150 for the Twelve-Month Attrition Period Ending December 31, 2022. Using the operating margin method to establish a fair margin of 10.0% of operating expenses, Superior Wastewater is projected to incur a revenue deficiency of \$78,086 during the Attrition Period absent any rate relief. The Parties propose to eliminate this revenue deficiency by increasing the monthly rates and charges as follows:

Current Monthly Rate*	Proposed Monthly Rate*
<u>\$35.11</u>	<u>\$54.34</u>

* The monthly rate includes a \$10.13 escrow charge. The monthly rate does not include annual bonding costs which are passed through to customers with no markup by the Company. The monthly rate also excludes currently authorized surcharges and taxes.

5. On September 9, 2022, the Company notified its current customers of the proposed increase to rates and charges by either electronic mail or direct mail in the same manner customers receive their bill.

6. In light of the Company's present negative financial position, the Parties request the Joint Petition be heard and approved at the regularly scheduled Commission Conference on October 10, 2022, with the new rates and charges to become effective upon approval.

7. In further support of this Joint Petition, the Parties have filed herewith the following:

a. Pre-filed Direct Testimony and Exhibits of John Powell, President, regarding a general overview of the Company's operations and a summary of the requested rate relief;

b. Pre-filed Direct Testimony and Exhibits of Party Staff witnesses Craig Cox, Cole McCormick, and Joe Shirley regarding the ratemaking principles, methodologies and calculations used to project the revenue deficiency for the Attrition Period and to recommend the rate design to eliminate the projected revenue deficiency;

c. Customer notice and accompanying Affidavit of John Powell; and

d. Revised tariff providing the adjustments to rates and charges calculated by the Parties' cost of service study.

WHEREFORE, the Parties jointly request the Commission to:

1. Schedule the Joint Petition for hearing on October 10, 2022, upon proper notice;

2. Find that the rates and charges proposed by the Parties are just and reasonable and in the public interest;

3. Approve the Company's revised tariff implementing the proposed rates and charges effective October 10, 2022; and

4. Grant such other and further relief as circumstances may warrant.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

For Superior Wastewater Systems, Inc.:



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For TPUC Staff (As a Party):



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Attorney for TPUC Staff (As a Party)

VERIFICATION

STATE OF Tennessee)

COUNTY OF Williamson)

I, John Powell, hereby declare under penalty of perjury, that I am the President of Superior Wastewater Systems, LLC; that I am authorized to make this verification on behalf of Superior Wastewater Systems LLC; that I have read the foregoing Joint Petition; and that the facts stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.



John Powell

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 9th day of September 2022.





Notary Public

My commission expires: 3-22-26

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 9th day of September 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Joint Petition was served by electronic mail upon the following:

Vance Broemel, Esq. (Vance.Broemel@ag.tn.gov)
Karen Stachowski, Esq. (Karen.Stachowski@ag.tn.gov)
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