Electronically Filed in TPUC Docket Room on August 12, 2026 at 1:47 p.m.

IN THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:	)	
	)	
PETITION OF TENNESSEE-	)	
AMERICAN WATER TO MODIFY	)	
TARIFF, CHANGE AND INCREASE	)	**DOCKET NO. 24-00032**
CHARGES, FEES, AND RATES, AND	)	
FOR APPROVAL OF A GENERAL	)	
RATE INCREASE [LEGAL FEES]	)	

CONSUMER ADVOCATE'S FIRST SET OF DISCOVERY REQUESTS
TO TENNESSEE-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

These Discovery Requests is hereby served upon Tennessee-American Water Company ("TAWC" or the "Company"), pursuant to Rules 26, 33, 34, and 36 of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure and Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-01-02-.11. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General ("Consumer Advocate") requests that full and complete responses be provided pursuant to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure. The responses are to be produced at the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General and Reporter, Consumer Advocate Division, John Sevier Building, 500 Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd., Nashville, Tennessee 37243, c/o Shilina Brown and Vance Broemel, on August 28, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. (Central Time).

<u>PRELIMINARY MATTERS AND DEFINITIONS</u>

1. **Continuing Request.** These discovery requests are to be considered continuing in nature and are to be supplemented from time to time as information is received by the Company and any of its affiliates which would make a prior response inaccurate, incomplete, or incorrect.

2. **Clear References**. To the extent that the data or information requested is incorporated or contained in a document, identify the document including page/line number if applicable.

3. **Format of Responses.** Provide all responses in the format in which they were created or maintained, for example, Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel format with all cells and formulas intact and in working order. If a document (including without limitation a financial or other spreadsheet or work paper) is not created or maintained in Microsoft Excel format, convert the document to Microsoft Excel format or provide the document in a format that enables or permits functionality like or similar to Microsoft Excel (including without limitation the functionality of working cells and formulas), or provide the software program(s) that will enable the Consumer Advocate to audit and analyze the data and information in the same manner as would be enabled or permitted if the document were provided in Microsoft Excel format.

4. **Objections.** If any objections to this discovery are raised based on privilege or immunity, include in your response a complete explanation concerning the privilege or immunity asserted. If you claim a document is privileged, identify the document and state the basis for the privilege or immunity asserted. If you contend that you are entitled to refuse to fully answer any of this discovery, state the exact legal basis for each such refusal.

5. **Singular/Plural.** The singular shall include the plural, and vice-versa, where appropriate.

6. **Definitions.** As used in this Request:

(a) "You," "Your," "Company," "Tennessee-American," or "TAWC" shall mean Tennessee American Water Company and all employees, agents, attorneys, representatives or any other person acting or purporting to act on its behalf.

(b) "Affiliate" shall mean any entity who, directly or indirectly, is in control of, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Company. For greater clarification, "control" is the ownership of 20% or more of the shares of stock entitled to vote for the election of directors in the case of a corporation, or 20% or more of the equity interest in the case of any other type of entity, or status as a director or officer of a corporation or limited liability company, or status as a partner of a partnership, or status as an owner of a sole proprietorship, or any other arrangement whereby a person has the power to choose, direct, or manage the board of directors or equivalent governing body, officers, managers, employees, proxies, or agents of another person. In addition, the term “Affiliate” shall mean any entity that directly or indirectly provides management or operational services to the Company or any affiliate (as defined in the preceding sentence) of the Company, or to which the Company provides management or operational services. Further, the payment of money to the Company or receipt by the Company of money from an entity with which the Company has any relationship, other than such payment or receipt, shall include the payor or recipient of such money as an “Affiliate”.

(c) “Communication” shall mean any transmission of information by oral, graphic, written, pictorial or otherwise perceptible means, including but not limited to personal conversations, telephone conversations, letters, memoranda, telegrams, electronic mail, newsletters, recorded or handwritten messages, meetings and personal conversations, or otherwise.

(d) “Document” shall have the broadest possible meaning under applicable law. “Document” shall mean any medium upon which intelligence or information can be recorded or retrieved, such as any written, printed, typed, drawn, filmed, taped, or recorded medium in any manner, however produced or reproduced, including but not limited to any writing, drawing, graph, chart, form, letter, note, report, electronic mail, memorandum (including memoranda, electronic mail, report, or note of a meeting or communication), work paper, spreadsheet, photograph, videotape, audio tape, computer disk or record, or any other data compilation in any form without limitation, which is in your possession, custody or control. If any such document was, but no longer is, in your possession, custody or control, state what disposition was made of the document and when it was made?

(e) “Person” shall mean any natural person, corporation, firm, company, proprietorship, partnership, business, unincorporated association, or other business or legal entity of any sort whatsoever.

(f) “Identify” with respect to:

i. Any natural person, means to state the full name, telephone number, email address and the current or last known business address of the person (if no business address or email address is available provide any address known to you) and that person’s relationship, whether business, commercial, professional, or personal with you;

ii. Any legal person, business entity or association, means to state the full name, the name of your contact person with the entity, all trade name(s), doing business as name(s), telephone number(s), email address(es), and current or last known business address of such person or entity (if no business address is available provide any address known to you);

iii. Any document, means to state the type of document (e.g., letter), the title, identify the author, the subject matter, the date the document bears and the date it was written; and

iv. Any oral communication, means to state the date when and the place where it was made, identify the person who made it, identify the person or persons who were present or who heard it, and the substance of it.

(g) "And" and "or" shall be construed conjunctively or disjunctively as necessary to make the discovery request inclusive rather than exclusive.

(h) "Including" shall be construed to mean including but not limited to.

DISCOVERY REQUESTS

1-1. Provide the total amount incurred to date for rate case expenses and the total amount the Company estimates it will incur through the conclusion of this proceeding.

RESPONSE:

1-2. List each outside attorney, law firm, consultant, accountant, expert witness, or other professional retained by the Company in connection with this rate case proceeding. For each, provide the scope of work, engagement date, billing rates, estimated total fees, and total fees incurred to date.

RESPONSE:

1-3. For each outside professional identified in DR No. 1-2, provide a copy of the engagement letter, retainer agreement, fee agreement, statement of work, or other document establishing the terms under which the professional was retained and whose fees are included in rate case expenses.

RESPONSE:

1-4. Identify by nature of service and dollar amount all requests for payment by outside law firms that were rejected by the Company and explain the rejection of such invoices by the Company.

RESPONSE:

1-5. Provide all internal procedures, protocols or standards used by the Company for evaluating bills submitted by outside law firms.

RESPONSE:

1-6. Describe the process by which the Company selected each outside law firm, consultant, and expert witness, including if competitive bidding, requests for proposals, or comparison of rates among providers was involved. If no competitive process was used, explain why.

RESPONSE:

1-7. Identify each instance in which more than one employee, attorney, consultant, accountant, or other professional performed substantially similar or overlapping work in connection with this proceeding. For each instance, explain why the duplication or overlap was necessary.

RESPONSE:

1-8. Identify any portion of the Company's requested legal fee expenses that was incurred because of correcting errors, omissions, deficiencies, incomplete responses, supplemental filings, amended filings, mock hearings or other. State the amount associated with each such matter.

RESPONSE:

1-9. Identify any portion of rate case expenses attributable to issues on which the Company did not prevail or that were withdrawn prior to hearing.

RESPONSE:

1-10. Provide all forecasts prepared by the Company prior to the filing which estimated the range of outcomes the Commission could order because of the general rate case filing. Provide an *Excel* file with cell references intact supporting the forecast.

RESPONSE:

1-11. State whether the Company tracks rate case expenses with a budget. If so, produce the budget and any budget-to-actual variance reports for this rate case proceeding.

RESPONSE:

1-12. State whether any of the costs included in rate case expenses could reasonably have been avoided, reduced, or performed by in-house Company personnel at lower cost, and if in-house Company personnel were not considered, explain the basis why they were not considered.

RESPONSE:

1-13. As to the Company witness(es) responsible for sponsoring and supporting the rate case expense request in this proceeding, describe the analysis, if any, performed by that witness to determine that the requested expenses are prudent and reasonable.

RESPONSE:

1-14. Provide the amount the Company incurred for its Cost of Capital witness in this rate case.

RESPONSE:

1-15. Provide an explanation for why TAWC ratepayers should reimburse the Company for 100% of the Cost of Capital witness in this rate case.

RESPONSE:

1-16. State whether any affiliate, parent company, or non-utility subsidiary shared in, benefited from, or contributed to any of the work-product or services underlying the claimed rate case expenses, and if so, describe the cost allocation methodology used to assign costs between the utility and non-utility operations.

RESPONSE:

1-17. Identify any rate-case expense incurred in connection with public relations, governmental affairs, lobbying, communications, media relations, customer communications, shareholder communications, investor relations, or corporate communications. State whether any such costs are included in the Company's request for recovery.

RESPONSE:

1-18. Identify all rate-case expenses that were charged to another proceeding, regulatory matter, affiliate, business unit, or customer class and subsequently reallocated, in whole or in part, to this proceeding. Explain the allocation methodology and provide all supporting calculations.

RESPONSE:

1-19. Identify all expenses included in the Company's rate-case expense request that relate to matters that are also being litigated, reviewed, or addressed in another proceeding. Explain why those costs were not excluded or allocated to the other proceeding.

RESPONSE:

1-20. Refer to legal invoice time entries by [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-21. Refer to legal invoice time entry on [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-22. Refer to legal invoice [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-23. Refer to legal invoice [redacted] Explain what is being referred to and what impact occurred.

RESPONSE:

1-24. Refer to legal invoice [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-25. Refer to legal invoice time entries [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-26. Refer to legal invoice time entries [redacted]

RESPONSE:

1-27. Identify the total amount of rate-case expense incurred by the Company in each of its two most recent rate cases. For each proceeding, provide the total amount requested, the amount ultimately approved for recovery, and the amount disallowed or excluded.

RESPONSE:

1-28. Explain each material increase in the Company's requested rate-case expense compared with the Company's two most recent rate case proceedings. For each increase, identify the amount of the increase, the reason for the increase, and the extent to which the increase is attributable to higher hourly rates, increased hours, additional professionals, expanded scope of work, or other factors.

RESPONSE:

1-29. State whether the Company contends that every dollar included in its requested rate-case expense is reasonable, necessary, prudently incurred, and appropriately recoverable from ratepayers. If not, identify each expense or category of expense that the Company does not contend satisfies all these criteria.

RESPONSE:

1-30. On November 7, 2025, the Company filed the *Direct Testimony Of Robert C. Lane On Recovery Rate Case Expenses Incurred In TPUC Docket No. 24-00032, Proposed Amortization Period And Cost Recovery Mechanism (With Petitioner Exhibits 1-Rate Case Expense Summary; Exhibit 2-Rate Case Expense Detail, And Exhibit 3-Proposed Tariff).* Since Mr. Lane is no longer employed by the Company, identify the witness that will be filing testimony supporting the rate case expenses incurred in Docket No. 24-00032.

RESPONSE:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Shilina B. Brown

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via electronic mail, with a copy served by U.S. Mail, upon request, to:

Melvin J. Malone, Esq.
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This 12th day of August, 2026.

Shilina B. Brown
Senior Assistant Attorney General