SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR STAFF-ASSISTED RATE CASE FOR NINE WATER UTILITIES LOCATED IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND ______ CASE NO. 9750

Issued: October 30, 2024

PUBLIC UTILITY LAW JUDGE'S NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS

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On July 18, 2024, the Public Service Commission of Maryland's ("Commission") Technical Staff ("Staff"), pursuant to Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland* ("PUA") §4-203(c)(1-4) filed a request for approval of the Settlement Agreement executed by the Maryland Office of People's Counsel ("OPC"), Staff and Counsel for Calvert Beach Water Company Inc., Pine Hill Water Company, Inc., Pomonkey Water Company, Inc., Pomunk Utilities, Inc., Red Hill Water Company, Inc., Tip Hill Water Company, Utilco, Western Shores Water Company, Inc., and White Plains Water Company, Inc. (collectively, "the Water Companies") to increase rates and charges for water services.

Due to an error in the stated revenue deficiency¹ in the Settlement² and for proper Notice to Customers to be issued, the evening public comment hearings previously scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2024 and Wednesday, November 13, 2024 **are hereby cancelled.** Further Notice of Public Hearings will be issued when new public comment dates are scheduled.

¹ Staff filed an Errata to the Settlement on October 26, 2024, correcting an error in the calculation of the revenue deficiency. The original proposed rates remain unchanged. Maillog ("ML") No. 313164.

² The Settlement and all filings are available on the Commission's website at <u>https://www.psc.state.md.us/</u> by clicking the "Case/Maillog Portal" and entering **Case No. 9750**.

The Water Companies are hereby directed to:

- Prominently post on the day of the in-person hearing, no later than 3:00 p.m. (EST), an informational sign that the hearing has been cancelled and will be rescheduled, at or near each public entrance of the **Waldorf Senior and Recreational Center, 90 Post Office Road, Waldorf, MD 20602**, which should be at least 17 inches by 22 inches in size, and state the time, room number, and subject of the public hearing in a font size greater than 48 point and as large as the sign allows. The Water Companies shall submit a separate affidavit certifying that the necessary properly sized informational sign(s) were posted as directed, including the time the signs were posted and a photograph of the informational sign near or at the public entrance of the building, which shall be filed with the Commission within two business days after the public hearing date.
- Post on the Water Companies' website(s) a notice that the hearings have been cancelled and will be rescheduled. The Water Companies shall file a separate affidavit certifying that the notice was published on its website including a screenshot.

The Office of People's Counsel is directed to:

• Post on the Office of People's Counsel website a notice that the hearings have been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

/s/Christine L. Burke Christine L. Burke Public Utility Law Judge Public Service Commission of Maryland