To Our Valued Customers,

Please find the below public notice of hearing on the pending rate applications of seven Global Water utilities, including Global Water – Rincon Water Company, Inc.

Inquiries on this notice or the rate case can be emailed to <a href="mailto:ratecase@gwresources.com">ratecase@gwresources.com</a>. Information on how to provide comments to the Arizona Corporation Commission regarding this matter is provided in the below notice.

Regards, Global Water Resources

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATIONS OF 7 GLOBAL WATER
UTILITIES, INCLUDING GLOBAL WATER – RINCON WATER COMPANY, INC., TO BE
CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE WATER DISTRICT, TO BE KNOWN AS GLOBAL
WATER – SAGUARO DISTRICT WATER COMPANY, INC., AND FOR THE
CONSOLIDATED GLOBAL WATER UTILITIES TO RECEIVE REVENUE INCREASES
THROUGH CONSOLIDATED RATES ESTABLISHED FOR THE DISTRICT.
(DOCKET NOS. W-03945A-23-0130 ET AL.)

### **Summary**

On June 27, 2023, seven water utilities owned by Global Water Resources, Inc. ("GWR") and located in Pima County, including Global Water – Rincon Water Company, Inc. ("Rincon"), filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") rate applications requesting the establishment of just and reasonable rates and charges for water utility service and that the utilities' rate applications be consolidated into a single matter for Commission consideration and approval.

The Commission has granted consolidation of the utilities' rate application and hereinafter refers to GWR and the utilities collectively as "Global Water."

For the test year ending December 31, 2022, Global Water reported an adjusted original cost rate base ("OCRB") and fair value rate base ("FVRB") of \$3,531,670, an adjusted operating loss of \$46,298, and a current rate of return of -1.31%. Global Water requested approval of a rate of return of 7.36% on its OCRB/FVRB and a gross revenue increase of \$424,121.

Global Water requested consolidation of the rates for the utilities as well as approval to make organization changes that would ultimately result in a single utility to be named Global Water – Saguaro District Water Company, Inc. ("Saguaro District").

In the rate applications, Global Water proposed both stand-alone and consolidated rates, and notice of the Global Water rate applications' proposed rates previously was provided to the impacted utilities' customers in October 2023.

Global Water and the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") entered into settlement discussions in February 2024 and have now entered into a Settlement Agreement that would approve the consolidation of the utilities into the Saguaro District and would approve consolidated rates resulting in a gross revenue increase of \$351,080.

This notice is being provided specifically to Rincon customers because the previous notice provided reflected proposed changes to Rincon customers' monthly bills that were significantly different than those now proposed in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement rate design, if approved by the Commission, would result in the following changes to the monthly bill of a Rincon customer with a 1" meter and median usage of 5,541 gallons:

1" Meter	Rincon System Settlement Rate Changes	
Median: 5,541 Gallons	Phase 1	Phase 2
Current Bill at Median	\$47.71	\$47.71
Proposed Bill at Median	\$72.42	\$78.32
\$ Change	\$24.71	\$30.61
% Change	51.79%	64.16%

THE COMMISSION IS NOT BOUND BY THE PROPOSALS OF GLOBAL WATER, STAFF, OR ANY INTERVENORS. THE COMMISSION WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE RELIEF TO BE GRANTED IN RESPONSE TO GLOBAL WATER'S APPLICATIONS BASED ON THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED IN THIS MATTER. THE FINAL RATES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION MAY BE HIGHER, LOWER, OR DIFFERENT THAN THE RATES PROPOSED BY GLOBAL WATER, STAFF, OR ANY OTHER PARTY, AND MAY BE HIGHER, LOWER, OR DIFFERENT THAN THE RATES PROPOSED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

If you have any questions concerning how the rate applications may affect your bill or other substantive questions about the rate applications, you may contact Global Water at 866-940-1102 or by email at ratecase@gwresources.com.

# How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Application

Copies of the Application are available from Global Water, 21410 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 220, Phoenix, AZ 85027, Phone Number 866-940-1102; by emailing a request to ratecase@gwresources.com; at the Commission's Docket Control Center at 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona, and 400 West Congress Street, Suite 218, Tucson, Arizona, during regular business hours; and on the Commission website (<a href="www.azcc.gov">www.azcc.gov</a>) using the e-Docket function and the Docket Number shown above.

## **Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information**

The Commission will hold a hearing on this matter beginning **April 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** at the Commission's offices at 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

#### **Public Comment Meeting at Commission Office**

The Commission will hold the following public comment meeting in this matter at the Commission's office in Phoenix, at which either in-person or telephonic public comments may be provided:

Date	Location	Time	Call-In
			Number
March 25, 2024	Arizona Corporation	Beginning at 10:00	1-877-309-3457 and
	Commission	a.m. and ending at	enter passcode
	1200 W. Washington St.	1:00 p.m. or when	801972877##
	Phoenix, AZ 85007	the last commenter	
		has finished	
		speaking, whichever	
		comes first	

Additionally, a public comment meeting will be held at the beginning of the first day of hearing, and comment may be provided in person or telephonically. To provide telephonic public comments, call **1-877-309-3457**, and enter passcode **801972877**##.

Written public comments may be submitted by mailing a letter referencing **Docket Nos**. **W-03945A-23-0130 et al.** to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by submitting comments on the Commission's website (<a href="www.azcc.gov">www.azcc.gov</a>) using "Cases and Open Meetings" and "Make a Public Comment in a Docket." If you require assistance, you may contact the Consumer Services Section at 602-542-4251 or 1-800-222-7000.

If you do not intervene in this proceeding, you will receive no further notice of the proceedings in this docket unless you sign up to Follow the Docket. However, all documents filed in this docket are available online (usually within 24 hours after docketing) at the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function. Information on how to Follow a Docket is available on the Commission's website by clicking on "Cases and Open Meetings" and "Follow a Docket or Document Type."

## **About Intervention**

The law provides for an open public hearing at which, under appropriate circumstances, interested persons may intervene. An interested person may be granted intervention if the outcome of the case will directly and substantially impact the person, and the person's intervention will not unduly broaden the issues in the case. Intervention, among other things, entitles a party to present sworn evidence at hearing and to cross-examine other parties' witnesses. Intervention is not required for you to appear at the hearing and provide public comment, to file written comments in the docket for the case, or to receive emailed notice of each filing made in the case by following the docket.

Information about what intervention means, including an explanation of the rights and responsibilities of an intervenor, is available on the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) by clicking on "Cases and Open Meetings" and then clicking on "Intervene in a Case." The information includes a Sample Intervention Request and a Fillable Intervention Request Form.

To request intervention, you must file a written request to intervene, either (a) by filing a hard copy request (meeting filing requirements) with Docket Control (Docket Control, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007), or (b) by <u>eFiling</u> the request. Your request **must be filed or eFiled no later than April 4, 2024**. Instructions and restrictions for eFiling are available on the Commission's website at <a href="http://azcc.gov/hearing/efile-for-utilities-instruction">http://azcc.gov/hearing/efile-for-utilities-instruction</a>. You also **must** serve a copy of the request to intervene on each party of record, on the same day that you file the request to intervene with the Commission.

Your request to intervene **must** contain the information below:

- 1. Your name, address, and telephone number;
- 2. The docket number for the case in which you are requesting to intervene;
- 3. A short statement explaining:
  - a. Your interest in the proceeding (e.g., a customer of the regulated company involved, a property owner in an area to be affected by the case, etc.),
  - b. How you will be directly and substantially affected by the outcome of the case, and
  - c. Why your intervention will not unduly broaden the issues in the case;
- 4. A statement certifying that you have sent a copy of your request to intervene to the regulated company or its attorney and to all other parties of record in the case; and

5. If you are not represented by an attorney who is an active member of the Arizona State Bar, and you are not representing yourself as an individual, sufficient information and any appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with Arizona Supreme Court Rules 31.1, 31.2, 31.3, 38, 39, and 42, as applicable. This only applies if you are NOT representing yourself and you are not a licensed attorney.

The granting of motions to intervene shall be governed by A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that all motions to intervene must be filed on or before **April 4, 2024.** 

# **ADA/Equal Access Information**

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Carolyn Buck, E-mail ADACoordinator@azcc.gov, voice phone number 602-542-2247. Requests should be made as early as possible and no later than 48 hours in advance of the event to allow time to arrange the accommodation.