

# LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORDER NUMBER U-37760

LOUISIANA WATER COMPANY, INC., EX PARTE.

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*Docket No. U-37760, In re: Request for extension and modification of Formula Rate Plan.*

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(Decided at the April 15, 2026 Business and Executive Session.)

## ORDER

### I. BACKGROUND

On October 21, 2025, Louisiana Water Company, Inc. (“LAWCO”) initiated this matter by filing with the Louisiana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) its Application for Extension and Modification of Formula Rate Plan (“Application”). In its Application, the Company requested that the Commission grant LAWCO an extension of and approval of certain modifications to its Formula Rate Plan (“FRP”). Notice of the Company’s Application was published in the Commission’s Official Bulletin No. 1361 dated October 24, 2025. No interventions or protests, timely or otherwise, were filed in this matter. On November 17, 2025, a Notice of Assignment and Notice of Status Conference was issued, assigning this matter to Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) Joy M. Guillot. On December 3, 2025, the Tribunal and the Parties participated in a status conference, and a Report of Status Conference issued that same day established the procedural schedule governing this docket. Following discovery on the Company’s Application, on February 27, 2026, Staff filed into the record of this docket its *Staff Report and Recommendation and the Testimony of Chassitty J. Williams in support thereof*. On March 3, 2026, Staff also filed into the record of this matter an executed Affidavit verifying Ms. Williams’s Testimony. Subsequently, the Parties negotiated and resolved the outstanding issues regarding the procedural deadlines of the 2025 test year FRP annual review and the Company’s capital structure.

On March 13, 2026, the Parties executed an Uncontested Proposed Stipulated Settlement, adopting the recommendations contained in the Staff Report and Recommendation filed on February 27, 2026, and resolving all issues in this docket.

### II. COMMISSION AUTHORITY

The Commission exercises jurisdiction over public utilities in Louisiana pursuant to Article IV, Section 21(B) of the Louisiana Constitution.

**LA. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 21(B) provides in pertinent part:**

The commission shall regulate all common carries and public utilities and have such other regulatory authority as provided by law. It shall adopt and enforce reasonable rules, regulations, and procedures necessary for the discharge of its duties, and shall have other powers and perform other duties as provided by law.

**III. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT**

On March 13, 2026, LAWCO and Commission Staff, pursuant to Rule 6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filed a *Joint Motion to Convert to an Uncontested Stipulated Settlement*, including Uncontested Stipulated Settlement Term Sheet, Settlement Testimony from Chassitty Williams for Staff, and Settlement Testimony from Roger A. Simmons on behalf of LAWCO. A hearing on the Settlement was held before ALJ Guillot on March 25, 2026. At the hearing, Staff and LAWCO introduced testimony and documentary evidence in support of the settlement. ALJ Guillot issued *Report of Proceedings and Submission of Stipulation for Consideration by Commissioners* on March 25, 2026.

Terms of the Stipulated settlement are:

1. LAWCO shall be authorized to renew its Formula Rate Plan ("FRP") for an additional three-year term with the following modifications:
  - a. *Extraordinary Cost/Revenue Changes* – LAWCO must submit proper documentation for any extraordinary cost or revenue changes incurred during each filing year of its FRP annual report.
  - b. *Additional Rate Base Adjustment* – By March 1 of each filing year of its FRP, LAWCO must submit with the Company's FRP Annual Report all documentation supporting all expenses related to projects in use and useful since the previous March 1.
  - c. *Special Rate Filings* – LAWCO may propose new or modified rate schedules; however, all such proposed tariff changes are subject to Commission review and approval.
2. The procedural deadlines of LAWCO's 2025 test year FRP annual review shall be extended as follows:
  - a. FRP Annual Report Filing Deadline: May 1, 2026
  - b. Parties' Error/Dispute Notification Deadline: July 1, 2026
  - c. Correction/Resolution Deadline: August 1, 2026

d. Rate Effective Date: August 1, 2026

If Commission approval has not been obtained in order to adjust the FRP rider effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, the adjustments used to determine the FRP adjustment under this rider shall be adjusted to reflect the delay in order to ensure the full collection of the FRP revenue requirement. In the alternative, if Commission approval has not been obtained in order to adjust the FRP rider effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, the Company may implement rates effective August 1<sup>st</sup> subject to refund.

3. The Company's capital structure for FRP rate making purposes shall be imputed using 50% apportioned to equity and 50% apportioned to debt.
4. LAWCO shall file in the record of this proceeding a new or revised tariff reflecting the Commission's action and submit a copy of the same to the Commission's Utilities Division within thirty (30) days after the issuance of an order in this proceeding.
5. Upon the expiration of this FRP, LAWCO shall file for a full base rate review with the Commission in conjunction with its 2027 test year FRP Annual Report filing.

#### **IV. COMMISSION CONSIDERATION**

This matter was considered at the Commission's April 15, 2026 Business and Executive Session. On motion of Commissioner Francis, seconded by Chairman Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to approve the Uncontested Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on March 13, 2026.

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**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

- 1) The Uncontested Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on March 13, 2026, is accepted.
- 2) This order is effective immediately.

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**  
April 22, 2026



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon M. Frey".

**BRANDON M. FREY  
SECRETARY**

*/S/ ERIC F. SKRMETTA*

**DISTRICT I  
CHAIRMAN ERIC F. SKRMETTA**

*/S/ JEAN-PAUL P. COUSSAN*

**DISTRICT II  
VICE CHAIRMAN JEAN-PAUL P. COUSSAN**

*/S/ FOSTER L. CAMPBELL*

**DISTRICT V  
COMMISSIONER FOSTER L. CAMPBELL**

*/S/ MIKE FRANCIS*

**DISTRICT IV  
COMMISSIONER MIKE FRANCIS**

*/S/ DAVANTE LEWIS*

**DISTRICT III  
COMMISSIONER DAVANTE LEWIS**