



## TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### TRA GRANTS TENNESSEE AMERICAN WATER COMPANY RATE INCREASE

*The \$2.50 Monthly Increase Is Less than Utility Requested*

**Nashville, Tenn.** – The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA), by a 2-1 majority vote, granted a Tennessee American Water Company's (TAWC) \$5.5 million annual rate increase – an amount *far less* than the company's initial rate increase request of over \$9.9 million.

The increase will amount to an approximate \$2.50 per month increase to customer bills, and will help the utility maintain its service quality and address increases in operating costs in the services it provides for customers in Chattanooga and the surrounding area.

“With the current economy we are very sensitive about any rate increases to consumers. While we successfully reduced the company's proposed rate increase by 44%, the Authority is charged with the task of promoting the public interest by balancing the interests of utility customers and utility service providers,” said TRA Chairman Mary Freeman of the increase.

TRA directors held five days of hearings on the TAWC rate increase in March of this year at the Hamilton County Courthouse in Chattanooga. During the hearings, several Chattanooga residents and TAWC customers voiced their feelings about a rate increase during those sessions.

Tennessee American Water was also directed to provide semi-annual reports to the Authority on the current staffing levels and their valve operation and maintenance program. These reports will provide the TRA more oversight in these areas.

The mission of the TRA is to promote the public interest by balancing the interests of utility consumers and providers. For more information on the TRA, visit online at [www.tn.gov/tra](http://www.tn.gov/tra) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tntra](http://www.facebook.com/tntra).

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