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Virginia American Water Infrastructure Service Charge Approved *Service charge to continue acceleration of needed water system improvements in City of Alexandria*

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (March 15, 2018) — The Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) has issued an order that approves a surcharge for customers in the company’s Alexandria district. Effective for service rendered on and after March 1, 2018, the three-year pilot Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Service Charge (WWISC) will allow Virginia American Water to accelerate water infrastructure replacement in the City of Alexandria.

Virginia American Water provides drinking water service to approximately 26,000 customers in the City of Alexandria. The city’s infrastructure includes nearly 281 miles of water main, with the oldest pipes installed in 1850. The majority of the city’s water mains, however, were installed between the early- and mid-20th century.

Approximately 63 percent of Alexandria’s water mains are made of cast iron, which account for 94 percent of main breaks in the city. While Virginia American Water proactively works each year to replace water mains that are approaching the end of their useful lives, the WWISC pilot will allow the company to improve Alexandria’s aging water infrastructure at a quicker pace. These efforts will result in improved service reliability, as replacing aging pipe will result in lower unscheduled work due to water main breaks. The systematic replacement of aging water main is also more cost-effective, as it will reduce the need to perform replacements on an emergency basis.

“We are committed to providing a high level of service to our Alexandria customers through infrastructure investments to maintain the capacity and reliability of water service for residents, businesses and fighting fires,” said Barry Suits, president, Virginia American Water. “Even with the increased monthly rate for Alexandria customers as approved by the SCC, our water service remains a remarkable value.”

The service charge allows the company to recover approximately \$11.5 million of investment for projects between April 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018. For the typical Alexandria residential customer using 5,000 gallons of water per month, the WWISC will increase monthly bills by approximately 90 cents – or 3 cents per day. Alexandria customers will begin seeing the WWISC on March 2018 bills.

Part of Virginia American Water’s WWISC pilot includes replacing aging 2-inch cast iron water mains installed in the 1930s and 1940s with the current industry standard 6- or 8-inch main. The increase in main diameter increases water flows, which is a critical for firefighting.

The WWISC project also includes a \$1.9 million water main interconnect project on Eisenhower Avenue. Virginia American Water will install nearly 1,000 feet of 12- and 14-inch pipe beneath the Cameron Run waterway, connecting two existing dead-end water mains. This looped system will improve water service reliability and fire hydrant flow capacity in the area.

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[Virginia American Water](#), a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water services to approximately 320,000 people.

With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 6,900 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 46 states and Ontario, Canada. American Water provides safe, clean, affordable and reliable water services to our customers to make sure we keep their lives flowing.