

**PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE  
SOUTH MILWAUKEE WATER UTILITY**

The South Milwaukee Water Utility has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to increase water rates. The increase is necessary due to a Department of Natural Resources mandate that required the utility to bring its clearwells up to code and a 35.33 percent increase in operating expenses since the last water rate case was completed in 2010.

The clearwell project, calls for building two new above-ground clearwells and new finished water pumping station at the plant. A clearwell is a tank that holds the treated water. Previously, these wells were underground, but state regulations now require them to be built above ground to prevent ground water from leaching into the treated water. The project, that costs \$6.5 million, is being funded with a low-interest loan through the federal government’s Safe Drinking Water Act Fund.

If the request is granted, the increase in water rates will be implemented in two steps. The increase in Step I is estimated to increase revenue by \$563,570. The Step II increase of the remaining \$706,543 would be implemented when the treatment plant improvements authorized by the Commission in docket 5590-CW-105 are completed and placed in service. Therefore, the overall increase in revenue will be \$1,270,112.

If the request is granted, the water bill for an average residential customer with a 5/8-inch or 3/4-inch meter who uses 2,100 cubic feet of water tri-annually (approximately 3,927 gallons per month) will increase from \$88.56 to \$100.78, or 14% (not including the public fire protection charge), and will increase from \$114.48 to \$134.78, or 18% (including the public fire protection charge), in Step I. Bills for the same customer will increase from \$100.78 to \$122.06, or 21%, (not including the public fire protection charge), and will increase from \$134.78 to \$161.86, or 20% (including the public fire protection charge), in Step II. Therefore, the customer’s overall bill will rise approximately 38% (not including public fire protection), and approximately 41% (including public fire protection), after Step II has been implemented. See chart below.

	use	Volume Charge	Current Rates	Volume Charge	Step I	Volume Charge	Step II
fixed fee	21	3.04	63.84	3.18	66.78	3.82	80.22
			<u>24.72</u>		<u>34.00</u>		<u>41.84</u>
			88.56		100.78	14%	122.06
Public Fire Protection			25.92		34.00		39.80
Total			114.48		134.78	18%	161.86
							41%

In other words; the average user’s water portion of the Water/Sewer bill will increase by \$11.85 per month.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. in the Open Meeting Room on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Hill Farms State Office Building, 4288 Madison Yards Way, Madison, WI 53705. Scheduling questions regarding this hearing may be directed to the PSCW at (608) 266-3766.

A person may testify in this proceeding without becoming a party and without attorney representation. A person may submit this testimony in only one of the following ways:

- **Web Comment.** Go to the Commission's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click on "File a Comment". On the next page select the "File a comment" link that appears for docket number 5590-WR-107. Web comments shall be received no later than the day before the hearing.
- **Oral Comment.** Spoken testimony at the public session.
- **Written Comment.** Instead of speaking at the hearing, write out a comment and submit it at the public session.
- **Mail Comment.** All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall be received no later than the day before the hearing and shall be addressed to: Attn: Docket 5590-WR-107 Comments, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854.

The PSCW intends to webcast this hearing live on the PSCW's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov> under the "PSC Live Broadcast" button.

All documents in this docket are filed on the Commission's Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system. To view these documents: (1) go to the Commission's E-Services Portal at <http://apps.psc.wi.gov>, (2) enter "5590-WR-107" in the box labeled "Quick Single Docket Search," and (3) select "Documents".

If you have any questions, please contact South Milwaukee Water Utility at (414) 768-8070.