PROPOSITION 218 NOTICE



NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SEWER RATE INCREASE Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 (Piru) Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Ventura County Government Center 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1920

Why are you Receiving this Notice?

The Board of Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 ("Board") will be conducting a Public Hearing on a proposed sewer rate increase for Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 ("District"). This notice is being mailed to you by the District pursuant to the California Constitution Article XIIID (also known as Proposition 218). Pursuant to Proposition 218, the District is required to notify property owners of proposed changes to property-related fees such as sewer services.

Why are the Rate Changes Required?

Annually, as part of the budget process, the sewer rate is reviewed to determine if adjustments are needed to accommodate projected expenses. The last sewer rate increase of 3% was approved by the Board in June 2022, Resolution No. 22-104. This year, a \$5.22 per month increase, effective July 1, 2023, is necessary due to increases in power and maintenance costs to operate the District's infrastructure, and to maintain appropriate financial reserves (of 25% of operating expenses and 10% of operating revenue). This increase in revenues is needed to pay off a \$2 million general fund loan related to the 2009 plant construction by fiscal year ("FY") 2028.

To reduce the costs of collections, the sewer charges are collected through the annual general County tax roll. A report has been prepared identifying which parcels benefit from the services provided by the District and listing each by Assessor's Parcel Number. The annual amount of the sewer service charge for each parcel may be obtained by calling the District at (805) 378-3005, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The report will also be filed with the Clerk of the Board prior to the public hearing. The District has several tax-exempt institutional accounts that are billed monthly.

| What are the Current and Proposed Rates? | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Current Rates FY 2022-23 | Proposed Rates FY 2023-24 |
| \$104.33 per month | \$109.55 per month |
| \$1,251.96 per year | \$1,314.54 per year |
| | |

How do you Protest?

If you wish to oppose the proposed sewer rate increase, you must submit a written protest by mail prior to the public hearing at the following address: Attn: Waterworks District No. 16 (Piru) Sewer Rate Protest, 6767 Spring Road, P.O. Box 250, Moorpark, CA 93021. Protests must contain the following information: (1) The property's Assessor's Parcel Number and address; (2) Whether you are the owner of record of the property or a leaseholder (if you were not the owner of the property as of Ventura County's last tax roll on July 1, 2022, please include confirmation that you presently own the property); (3) A statement that you are protesting the sewer rate increase; and (4) Your name (printed), the date, and your original signature.

The District will not count written protests received after the conclusion of the public hearing. Any verbal protests unaccompanied by a written protest or protests delivered by facsimile (fax) will not be counted. If you choose to submit your protest by regular mail, please allow sufficient time for the mail to be delivered to the District prior to the public hearing; the District is not responsible for U.S. Postal Service delays. Only one protest per property will be counted. If you own multiple properties affected by the proposed increases, you should submit separate protests for each affected parcel, as the protest threshold is based upon a majority of the total number of parcels. Once opened, protests are disclosable public records. For further information, call 805-378-3000, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you prefer to electronically participate at this hearing, please visit <u>http://www.ventura.org/meetings-and-broadcasts</u> the Thursday prior to the public hearing date to learn how to participate.