

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:**  
**PROPOSED INCREASES TO WATER RATES**

**Hearing Date: December 19, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.**

**Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, Hall of Administration, Ventura County  
Government Center, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1920**

**VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 19 (Somis)**

The District provides water to the community of Somis. In 2022, 6% of the water was imported water from the State Water Project, delivered through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Calleguas Municipal Water District, and the remaining 94% of the water was groundwater from local wells. All revenue generated from your monthly water bills is used to meet costs such as purchasing imported water, electricity, chemicals, maintenance of the water distribution infrastructure, and salaries and benefits for District staff – all of which are needed to bring water to your community. Revenues are not used for other general governmental purposes.

**WHY ARE RATE ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED?**

The principal factors for the proposed rate increases include:

- ❖ 4% estimated increase in the cost of power for 2024
- ❖ 3.5% estimated increase in the cost of labor for 2024
- ❖ 3% estimated increase in the cost of materials for 2024
- ❖ 571 Reservoir Pump Station replacement in 2024
- ❖ Well #4 pump replacement in 2024
- ❖ Pipeline replacement Highway 118 in 2024

**WHAT ARE THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED WATER RATES?**

The proposed rates and charges will be effective beginning on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after January 1, 2024. The proposed rates will be no higher than shown.

| <b>Water Commodity Rates</b>    |                          |                        |                               |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Residential</b>              |                          | <b>Current Rates</b>   | <b>Proposed Rates</b>         |
| <b>28-day Billing Cycle</b>     |                          |                        |                               |
| Tier 1                          | <b>0 – 9.33 HCF*</b>     | \$2.41                 | <b>\$2.59</b>                 |
| Tier 2                          | <b>9.34 – 28.93 HCF</b>  | \$2.93                 | <b>\$3.15</b>                 |
| Tier 3                          | <b>&gt; 28.94 HCF</b>    | \$3.87                 | <b>\$4.16</b>                 |
| <b>35-day Billing Cycle</b>     |                          |                        |                               |
| Tier 1                          | <b>0 – 11.67 HCF</b>     | \$2.41                 | <b>\$2.59</b>                 |
| Tier 2                          | <b>11.68 – 36.17 HCF</b> | \$2.93                 | <b>\$3.15</b>                 |
| Tier 3                          | <b>&gt; 36.18 HCF</b>    | \$3.87                 | <b>\$4.16</b>                 |
| <b>Other Classes</b>            |                          | <b>Current Rates</b>   | <b>Proposed Rates</b>         |
| <b>Residential Multi Family</b> |                          | \$3.33                 | <b>\$3.58</b>                 |
| <b>Commercial</b>               |                          | \$3.31                 | <b>\$3.56</b>                 |
| <b>Agricultural</b>             |                          | \$3.10 (\$1,350.36/AF) | <b>\$3.33 (\$1,450.55/AF)</b> |
| <b>Industrial</b>               |                          | \$5.48                 | <b>\$5.89</b>                 |

|   |                      |                       |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Institutional</b>  | \$3.58               | <b>\$3.85</b>         |
| <b>Temporary Construction</b>   | \$5.71               | <b>\$6.14</b>         |
| <b>Lift Charges</b>   | \$0.24               | <b>\$0.26</b>         |
| * HCF = Hundred Cubic Feet (748 Gallons); *AF = Acre Feet (435.60 HCF)                                  |                      |                       |
| <b>Monthly Service Charges – Meters</b>   |                      |                       |
| <b>Meter Size</b>   | <b>Current Rates</b> | <b>Proposed Rates</b> |
| 3/4-inch  | \$20.68              | <b>\$22.23</b>        |
| 1-inch  | \$31.65              | <b>\$34.02</b>        |
| 1 1/2-inch  | \$59.05              | <b>\$63.48</b>        |
| 2-inch  | \$91.93              | <b>\$98.82</b>        |
| 3-inch  | \$196.06             | <b>\$210.76</b>       |
| 4-inch  | \$349.51             | <b>\$375.72</b>       |
| 6-inch  | \$716.70             | <b>\$770.45</b>       |
| <b>Monthly Service Charges - Fire Line</b>  |                      |                       |
| <b>Meter Size</b>   | <b>Current Rates</b> | <b>Proposed Rates</b> |
| 2-inch  | \$9.61               | <b>\$10.33</b>        |
| 3-inch  | \$19.83              | <b>\$21.32</b>        |
| 4-inch  | \$37.46              | <b>\$40.27</b>        |
| 6-inch  | \$100.74             | <b>\$108.30</b>       |
| 8-inch  | \$209.87             | <b>\$225.61</b>       |
| NOTE: Water used through private fire services will be charged at the temporary construction water rate |                      |                       |

## HOW MUCH WILL MY BILL CHANGE?

To assist you in determining the impact of the proposed rates, a bill calculator is available at <https://www.vcpbublicworks.org/wsd/ratesandcharges/>

## HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

If you wish to oppose the proposed water rate increases you are requested to submit a written protest by mail prior to December 19, 2023, public hearing at 10:00 a.m. to the following address: Attn: WWD19 Water Rate Protest, 6767 Spring Road, P.O. Box 250, Moorpark, CA 93020-0250. 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 are a tenant/leaseholder (if you are a property owner but did not own the property as of the last tax roll, include confirmation of your property ownership); (3) a statement that you are protesting the water rate increases; and (4) your name (printed), date, and 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) protests will not be counted. If you choose to submit your protest by regular mail, please allow enough 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 (even if multiple meters are located on the property). 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.

Per section 53759 of the Government Code, effective January 1, 2022, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge from the effective date or of the date of the final passage, adoption, or approval of the ordinance, resolution, or motion, whichever is later.