



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED INCREASES TO WATER RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

HEARING DATE: December 10, 2024, 11:30 a.m.
LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Simi Valley City Hall, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA 93063

VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 19 (SOMIS)

The District provides water to the community of Somis. In 2023, 3% 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 97% 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 are needed to bring water to your community. Revenues are not used for other general governmental purposes.

WHY ARE RATE ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED?

These rates are based on the cost of providing water service to our customers and developed during the budget process. The rates must recover the cost of purchasing and producing water, maintaining, and improving the systems. The main factors for the rate increases include:

- 9.5% estimated increase in the cost of imported water for 2025
- 4% estimated increase in the cost of power for 2025
- 5% estimated increase in the cost of labor for 2025
- 3% estimated increase in the cost of materials for 2025
- 571 reservoir pump station replacement
- Well #4 pump replacement
- Balcom Canyon reservoir coating and repair
- Pipeline replacement of Highway 118

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES?

The proposed rates and charges will be effective on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after January 1, 2025. The proposed rates will be no higher than those shown.

WATER COMMODITY RATES				MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES - METERS		
RESIDENTIAL		CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED RATES	METER SIZE	CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED RATES
28-DAY BILLING CYCLE				3/4-inch	\$22.23	\$23.34
Tier 1	0 – 9.33 HCF*	\$2.59	\$2.72	1-inch	\$34.02	\$35.72
Tier 2	9.34 – 28.93 HCF	\$3.15	\$3.31	1 1/2-inch	\$63.48	\$66.65
Tier 3	> 28.94 HCF	\$4.16	\$4.37	2-inch	\$98.82	\$103.77
35-DAY BILLING CYCLE				3-inch	\$210.76	\$221.30
Tier 1	0 – 11.67 HCF	\$2.59	\$2.72	4-inch	\$375.72	\$394.51
Tier 2	11.68 – 36.17 HCF	\$3.15	\$3.31	6-inch	\$770.45	\$808.97
Tier 3	> 36.18 HCF	\$4.16	\$4.37	MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES - FIRE LINE		
OTHER CLASSES		CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED RATES	METER SIZE	CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED RATES
RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY		\$3.58	\$3.76	2-inch	\$10.33	\$10.85
COMMERCIAL		\$3.56	\$3.74	3-inch	\$21.32	\$22.38
AGRICULTURAL		\$3.33 (\$1,450.55/AF)	\$3.50 (\$1,524.60/AF)	4-inch	\$40.27	\$42.28
INDUSTRIAL		\$5.89	\$6.19	6-inch	\$108.30	\$113.71
INSTITUTIONAL		\$3.85	\$4.04	8-inch	\$225.61	\$236.89
TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION		\$6.14	\$6.45	<i>NOTE: Water used through private fire services will be charged at the temporary construction water rate</i>		
LIFT CHARGES		\$0.26	\$0.27			
* HCF = Hundred Cubic Feet (748 Gallons); *AF = Acre Feet (435.60 HCF)						

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

If you wish to oppose the proposed water rate increases you are requested to submit a written protest by mail before December 10, 2024, public hearing at 11:30 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 on July 1, 2024, 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) will not be counted. For protests by regular mail, please allow enough time for the mail to be delivered to the District before the public hearing; the District is not responsible for U.S. Postal Service delays. Only one protest per property will be counted. For 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.