

From: [John Poppe](#)
To: [Young, Mike \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Cupp, John \(UTC\)](#); [Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa \(UTC\)](#); [Carter, Brietta J \(DOH\)](#); [Pell, Derek \(DOH\)](#)
Subject: Re: Echo Glen Notice of Surcharge
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2023 8:55:15 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

External Email

What is the correct way to file?

1. Notice has been sent to customers by email.
2. Notice to customers will be sent US Mail this week.
3. Next step/process/procedure?

On Thu, Jul 13, 2023, 7:29 AM Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

John, I had sent my calculation in a previous email-it amounted to \$36/month for 12 months based on the data I had from you at that time. When you file, you will need to include the invoices demonstrating total cost and the calculations used to determine the surcharge. Traditionally, the commission has only allowed 70% recovery through a surcharge, this is to ensure the company has some "skin in the game". I don't know if the commissioners would be willing to allow an exception in this case or not. Bottom line, when customers are paying \$40/month, a \$60 surcharge, which is 150% of their bill, is going to be a hard sell, even if it is for a short time. And yes, I realize the need for trucked water is due to customer use.

The company has the right to file whatever they think is best. Although staff support is a key component, the decision ultimately rests with the commissioners.

From: John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 6:22 AM
To: Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov>
Cc: Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa (UTC) <melissa.castaneda-kerson@utc.wa.gov>; Carter, Brietta J (DOH) <brietta.carter@doh.wa.gov>; Pell, Derek (DOH) <Derek.Pell@DOH.WA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Echo Glen Notice of Surcharge

External Email

Good morning Mike,

What calculation / methodology does your group use to determine a surcharge \$ amount?

Washington Water Supply funds for trucking Water will be depleted August 1, 2023.

On Wed, Jul 12, 2023, 3:01 PM John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks for the quick response.

Show me your calculation and methodology for your decision on what the surcharge should be?

On Wed, Jul 12, 2023 at 2:25 PM Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

If the surcharge turns out to be less than what the notice says, further notice will not be required.

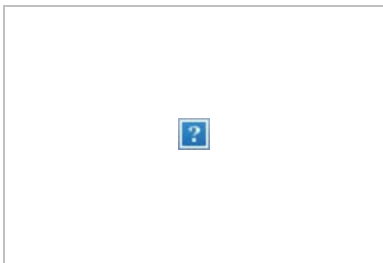
John Cupp

Regulatory Analyst, Consumer Protection

(360) 664-1113 Office

john.cupp@utc.wa.gov

www.utc.wa.gov



This email/letter states the informal opinions of commission staff, offered as technical assistance, and are not intended as legal advice. We reserve the right to amend these opinions should circumstances change or additional information be brought to our attention. Staff's opinions are not binding on the commission.

From: Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 2:03 PM
To: John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com>; Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov>; Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa (UTC) <melissa.castaneda-kerson@utc.wa.gov>; Carter, Brietta J (DOH) <brietta.carter@doh.wa.gov>; Pell, Derek (DOH) <Derek.Pell@DOH.WA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Echo Glen Notice of Surcharge

I think \$60 is too steep.

However, I suggest you get it filed so there can be a review and if it needs to change you should be prepared for that.

If the surcharge ends up being less than you noticed customers, then a re-notice will not be required. John Cupp can correct me if I am wrong.

I may not be the auditor assigned to the filing once it comes in.

From: John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov>; Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa (UTC) <melissa.castaneda-kerson@utc.wa.gov>; Carter, Brietta J (DOH) <brietta.carter@doh.wa.gov>; Pell, Derek (DOH) <Derek.Pell@DOH.WA.GOV>
Subject: Echo Glen Notice of Surcharge

External Email

Good afternoon all,

I have attached the Notice of Surcharge for the Echo Glen water system. This notice has been emailed today and will be mailed to each customer.

Mike Young, is the UTC staff going to support the \$60 surcharge?

From: [John Poppe](#)
To: [Young, Mike \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa \(UTC\)](#); [Carter, Brietta J \(DOH\)](#); [Cupp, John \(UTC\)](#); [Pell, Derek \(DOH\)](#); [Ward, Jim \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Re: Echo Glen Water System
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:47:44 PM

External Email

Regulators,

Echo Glen is a test case with this thought:

How do we get conservation? Rates or outages?

Outages is not the best way to promote conservation, because water quality may suffer.

During a time with limited water supply from the well, what is the responsibility of the consumer and what is the responsibility of the purveyor ?

Bottom line.....money talks, BS walks?

Again I do not like unhappy customers?

On Thu, Jun 22, 2023, 9:54 AM Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

OK, so the well is producing about 216,000 gallons per month, but demand is only 200,000 gallons in winter?

What I am trying to rationalize is how much water *should* the company be providing (until the well can be fixed) vs. how much customers are using. They obviously can get by with 200,000 gallons/mo. in winter. Perhaps DOH can weigh in here?

From: John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:42 AM

To: Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>

Cc: Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa (UTC) <melissa.castaneda-kerson@utc.wa.gov>; Carter, Brietta J (DOH) <brietta.carter@doh.wa.gov>; Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov>; Pell, Derek (DOH) <Derek.Pell@DOH.WA.GOV>

Subject: Re: Echo Glen Water System

External Email

MONTH GALLONS

November 2022 183,000

December 2022 199,000 Cold weather, frozen faucets outside homes. Found illegal line to swimming pool prior to meter/shut off valve

January 2023 189,000

February 2023 199,000

March 2023 207,000

April 2023 216,000

On Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 9:18 AM Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Can you provide the usage (from the well) for November 2022 through April 2023, preferably by month?

Thanks.

From: John Poppe <poppe.john@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:37 AM

To: Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Castaneda-Kerson, Melissa (UTC) <melissa.castaneda-kerson@utc.wa.gov>; Carter, Brietta J (DOH) <brietta.carter@doh.wa.gov>; Cupp, John (UTC) <john.cupp@utc.wa.gov>; Pell, Derek (DOH) <Derek.Pell@DOH.WA.GOV>

Subject: Echo Glen Water System

External Email

Regulators,

Thanks for the conference call 6-21-23.

The conversation was necessary to begin the long journey for rehabbing the well. My understanding of the call was:

1. Summarize the Echo Gen water system major events for 2022 & 2023.
2. Discuss improvements needed to restore well production to design criteria.
3. Discuss rate increase / surcharge for the Echo Glen customers for importing water.
4. Meeting consumed 50 minutes.

The following is an update for the action plan.

1. All mechanical and electrical systems performing.
2. Current production of the well is 5 gpm = 7200 GPD = 50,400 gallons/week + 4000 of imported water = 54,400 gallons / week of demand. = 185 average gallons per day for 42 customers.
3. Imported water costs \$400 / load (one load per week) = \$1600 / month = \$38.09 surcharge /customer (42 customers) = \$9600 for the summer of 2023 or until the

rehabilitation of the well can be completed. Hopefully sooner.

4. Historical water demand record(s) indicates water will be imported from May thru October 2023 = 6 months = expected imported water bill to be \$9,600 = 12 month payout \$800 / month for the 42 customers = \$19 / month surcharge / customer.

5. \$62.25 is the temporary rate, for importing water, that I will be seeking for each customer.

6. UTC staff.....is there a flaw in my thinking?

7. UTC staff / DOH....do you folks have templets / forms for this process? With the timeline requirements for UTC review, public notices I'm targeting a rate increase to be effective August 1, 2023. If the increase is delayed later than 8-1-2023, then loan costs will increase monthly surcharge to the customer.

Basically, do you regulators have a written procedure, forms, templets to initiate the surcharge process?

Thanks Poppe

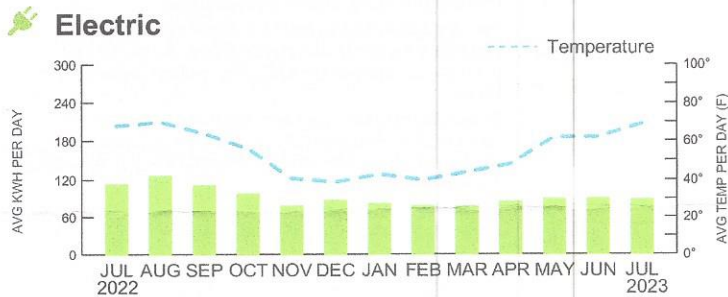


pse.com |

Issued: August 1, 2023
Account Number: 200023207117
DUE DATE August 21, 2023
TOTAL DUE \$252.79

WASHINGTON WATER SUPPLY INC
 Serving: 22928 SE 206TH ST # ECHO, Maple Valley

Your Usage Information



	Last Year	This Year
Average daily kilowatt hours	113.50	88.44
Average daily cost	\$12.13	\$10.28
Days in billing cycle	30	32
Average temperature	68°F	69°F

Your Account Summary

Previous Charges:	
Amount of Your Last Bill (dated 6/30/2023)	\$ -76.05
Total Previous Charges	\$ -76.05
Current Charges:	
Electric Charges	\$ 328.84
Total Current Charges	\$ 328.84
<i>Total includes current and past due charges</i>	Total \$ 252.79

Late Payments | A late payment fee of 1% per month will apply to past due charges, if any, and amounts unpaid more than 10 business days after the statement due date. Amounts will be considered delinquent if payment is not received on or before the due date.

Wildfire season is here
 During high wildfire risk conditions, PSE's system operators monitor real-time weather information and may implement operational procedures to reduce fire risk, such as pausing maintenance work or increasing power line inspections. pse.com/wildfireplan.

How to reach us

- For self-service options visit our website at pse.com.
- Email: customer@pse.com
- Customer Service: 1-888-225-5773 | TTY: 1-800-962-9498
 Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. M – F | TRS: 1-866-831-5161
 Puget Sound Energy: P.O. Box 91269, Bellevue, WA 98009
24 Hour Emergency and Outage line: 1-888-225-5773

- 8-9-23
- ① No water outages in winter months
 - ② Less KWH used in 2023 summer vs 2022 summer.
 - ③ KWH is a good way to check system operation

*Papae
 Washington Water Supply*



- I want to donate \$_____ to the Warm Home Fund
- pse.com to pay online or to find pay station locations
- Mail this coupon and make check payable to Puget Sound Energy

032019 034591 32019 1 AV 0.495 B026
 WASHINGTON WATER SUPPLY INC
 PO BOX 2985
 SILVERDALE WA 98383-2985

Account Number: 200023207117
DUE DATE August 21, 2023
TOTAL DUE \$252.79

Serving:
 22928 SE 206TH ST # ECHO, Maple Valley

Puget Sound Energy
 P.O. BOX 91269
 Bellevue, WA 98009-9269