

THE OAK PARK WATER COMPANY, INC.  
PO Box 2026  
Shelton, Washington 98584  
360-427-0678

March 31, 2015

Mr. Steven King  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
PO Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RECEIVED  
REGULATORY MANAGEMENT  
2015 APR 10 PM 3:54  
STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Oak Park Water Company, Inc. Change of Tariff Rate Filing PWS ID: 62675F

Dear Mr. King:

Please find enclosed updated tariff sheets, our work papers and our customer notice. The company wishes to increase our rates based on increased expenses in water testing, labor, meter replacement, leak detection, utility costs, etc.

The company wide increase would be \$27,240 annually or about 23.5% increase.  
The Flat Rate for Multi-family unit increase would be \$120 annually or 29% annually.  
The Ready to Service increase would be \$3.60 per month when used, an increase of 56%.  
The Metered Rate annual increase would be \$120 or an increase of 35%.  
The increase on reconnection charges would be \$10, an increase of 40%.  
The increase on NSF checks would be \$15, an increase of 150%.

The proposed rates will increase revenues to the company by about \$27,240, which is 23.48% per year to cover increased expenses in water testing, labor, meter replacement, leak detection, utility costs, etc. We have asked for an effective date of May 22, 2015 and understand that there is a 30-day review period and our tariff may become effective at the end of that time. This is the first rate increase for operations and maintenance purposes in over 15 years.

The rate increase in 2002 is paying for the creek crossing that was done to increase pressures in Division 7 and not for general expenses. The annual amount set aside for this loan is \$15,378. We could not locate a space for this dollar amount on the GRCW application. This dollar amount shows as an operating expense but is just a pass through like a surcharge would be. The \$4 surcharge put in place in 2009 is paying for new reservoirs that were installed in 2010.

Please docket the revised tariff page for a multi-family flat rate increase for The Oak Park Water Company, Inc. This is the eighth revision of Sheet No. 21.

The multi-family base rate increases from \$34.40 to \$44.40 per month per rental unit. The flat rated multi-family units have 1" master meters to satisfy water use efficiency so we can track the usage. The owners prefer the flat rate to having to install their own meters and read and charge each individual renter the variable rates to cover their water bill. The reason for this is because at the property line service connection, there is only one line that extends onto the property. We do not want to install meters on private property.

We wish to add a ready to serve lot charge of \$10.00 per month to all vacant homes.

Please docket the revised tariff page for a rate increase for The Oak Park Water Company, Inc. This is the fourth revision of Sheet No. 22.

Meter service base rate will increase from \$28.25 to \$38.25 per month for ¾ inch or smaller meters.

Please docket the revised tariff page of rules and regulations to reflect an increase in the reconnection of service charges. This is the second revision of Sheet No. 6.

Reconnection charges will increase from \$25 to \$35 for each reconnection made during the day time hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reconnection charges will increase from \$40 to \$50 for reconnections made after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

Please docket the revised tariff page of rules and regulation to reflect an increase in the NSF fees charged for delinquent checks written to The Oak Park Water Co., Inc. This is the second revision of Sheet No. 11.

The NSF charges will increase from \$10 per check to \$25 for each NSF check written to The Oak Park Water Co., Inc.

The consumption charges for the first tier will be changed from 1-1500 cuft to 1-1000 cuft usage per month to encourage conservation. The dollar amount will remain the same. Tier two changes from 1501-2500 cuft to 1001-2000 cuft usage per month. The dollar amount will remain the same. Tier three changes from 2501 and above to – 2001 and above. The dollar amount remains the same. The consumption rate change is to satisfy the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Act requirements to encourage customer conservation as stated in our WUE goals.

If you have any questions, please call Drew Noble at 360-463-6189.

Sincerely,

Esther J. Cunningham  
President

THE OAK PARK WATER COMPANY, INC.  
PO Box 2026  
Shelton, Washington 98584  
360-427-0678

IMPORTANT NOTICE

April 10, 2015

To Oak Park Customers:

The Oak Park Water Company has asked Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission for permission to increase its water rates to all customers.

The proposed rates will increase revenues to the company by about \$27,000 per year to cover increased expenses in water testing, labor, meter replacement, leak detection, utility costs, etc. This is the first rate increase for maintenance and operations since 2000.

	<u>Current Monthly Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Monthly Rates</u>
NSF Check charge	\$10	\$25
Reconnection Charge (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)	\$25	\$35
After hours reconnection charge (after 5 p.m. and on week ends)	\$40	\$50
Delivery of Disconnection notice	\$20	\$30
Ready To Serve houses	\$6.40	\$10
¾" or smaller Meter Base Rate	\$28.25	\$38.25
Multi-family Flat Rate	\$34.40	\$44.40

Metered Usage Rate:

0-1500 cuft @ \$1.20 per 100 cuft  
1501-2500 cuft @ \$1.70 per 100 cuft  
2501 and up @ \$2.20 per 100 cuft

Metered Usage Rate:

0-1000 cuft @ \$1.20 per 100 cuft  
1001-2000 cuft @ \$1.70 per 100 cuft  
2001 and up is \$2.20 per 100 cuft

Cuft = cubic foot      one cuft = 7.48 gallons

The consumption rate change is to satisfy the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Act requirements to encourage customer conservation as stated in our WUE goals.

Customers should recognize that water cannot be delivered without cost and those costs should be borne by those who use the water. Those who use more water should pay more. Customers who choose to install water intensive landscaping or engage in other activities that require large volumes of water must bear the cost.

The rate increase will become effective with the May 22nd meter reading and will show on the June 2015 billing.

Records from December 2013 indicate that the average usage per household was 701 cuft. Records from June 2014 indicate that the average usage per household was 944 cuft and July 2014 average usage was 1,177 cuft. The following is an example of metered customer billings based on the above averages at the proposed rate increase:

701 cuft per month - \$38.25 plus \$8.41 for 701 cuft plus \$4 surcharge = \$50.66  
944 cuft per month - \$38.25 plus \$11.33 for 944 cuft plus \$4 surcharge = \$53.58  
1177 cuft per month - \$38.25 plus \$12.00 for the first 1000 cuft, \$3.01 for the remaining 117 cuft plus \$4 surcharge = \$57.26

The commission has the authority to set final rates that may be lower or higher than the company's request, depending on the outcome of its investigation. You can comment by using the "Submit a Comment" feature at the commission's web site, at [utc.wa.gov](http://utc.wa.gov) or by using the contact information below. Commission staff will make a recommendation to the commissioners at an open meeting in Olympia, which is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on May 14, 2015. You will have an opportunity to comment in person at this meeting. The UTC is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation, please contact the commission at (360) 664-1132 or [humanresources@utc.wa.gov](mailto:humanresources@utc.wa.gov).

If you are unable to attend the open meeting, the commission has a bridge line which enables you to participate by telephone. Call 360-644-1234 the day before the open meeting for instructions and to sign in.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
PO Box 47250 , Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
E-mail: [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)  
Telephone: 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)

Sincerely,

Esther J. Cunningham  
President