



WASHINGTON WATER SERVICE

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April 23, 2019

Via e-filing
Mark L. Johnson, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Received
Records Management
04/23/19 08:33
State Of WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

Re: water availability charge, service connection charge, hydrant fees, construction meters, and various tariff sheet revisions

Dear Mr. Johnson,

The purpose of this filing is to add a water availability charge (WAL), update the costs of a hydrant installation shown on Schedule No. 7, update the costs of a service connection charge shown on Schedule No. 8, add a rule for construction meters, and add clarifying language to several of Washington Water Service Company's (WWSC) tariff sheets.

A WAL is needed at this time due to the numerous inquiries WWSC receives from prospective customers. After a prospective customer inquires about potential service and WWSC prepares the water availability letter, WWSC may never hear from the customer again. A WAL ensures only serious customers inquire about water availability while also not burdening customer service representatives and engineering. The proposed language has been added to First Revision of Sheet No. 17 and the proposed charges of \$100 for a residential WAL (≤ 2 equivalent residential units) or \$500 for a commercial/residential WAL (≥ 3 equivalent residential units) are shown on Schedule X.

WWSC proposes to revise the cost to install a hydrant as shown on Schedule No. 7 of the tariff. The cost is currently shown as "Time and Materials". Because hydrant installations are straight forward, WWSC believes charging a set price for the install rather than estimating an installation on a case by case basis can streamline these installations. The average cost to install a fire hydrant is \$9,200. WWSC proposes to replace the "time and materials" cost currently shown on Schedule No. 7 with the average cost of \$9,200. There is also a tax gross-up provision of \$2,484 which is the income tax WWSC would be charged for the funds received for the installation.

The cost to install a service connection needs to be updated because the cost currently shown on Schedule No. 8 no longer covers WWSC's actual incurred costs for service connections. The current \$360 service connection charge was put in place over 10 years ago and labor and materials costs have increased significantly since then. Additionally, the current service connection charge is the only charge WWSC is authorized to use regardless of 1) whether a service line is already installed and the customer requests to connect to it or 2) a service and meter needs to be installed. WWSC proposes to add service connection charges for 5/8 x 3/4 inch short service (direct connect) and 5/8 x 3/4 inch short service (tap and push). The average cost of a direct connect service connection is \$3,500, the tax gross up is approximately \$945, and the total cost is \$4,445. The average cost of a tap and push service connection is \$4,400, the tax gross up is approximately \$1,188, and the total cost is \$5,588. These charges are shown on

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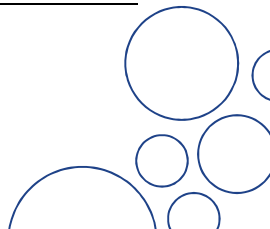
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Schedule No. 8. In the case where a service is already installed, costs have also been revised. The average cost of materials is \$515, the tax gross-up is \$139, and the total cost is \$654. For service connections larger than 3/4 inches, the charge remains as labor, materials, and taxes due to the variability in cost when dealing with this type of installation.

There are currently no rules in the tariff for construction meter activities. WWSC requests to add rules governing the use of construction meters. The rules will ensure that all construction meters are safe, customers are protected, and water that is used for construction activities is used appropriately. No new rates are being requested at this time for a construction meter. Current rates as shown on Schedule 2 would apply to construction meter activities.

In addition to the proposed charges discussed above, WWSC has added new text, clarifying language to several rules, and reformatted tariff sheets for ease of reading. The new text includes the addition of references to the Washington Administrative code or Revised Code of Washington. As a result, some rules have moved to different tariff sheets. The following tariff sheets have been revised:

Current Sheet	Revised Sheet	Notes
Original Sheet No. 2	First Revision of Sheet No. 2	Change in text
Original Sheet No. 3	First Revision of Sheet No. 3	Change in text and new text
Original Sheet No. 4	First Revision of Sheet No. 4	Change in text and new text
Original Sheet No. 5	First Revision of Sheet No. 5	Change in text and new text
Original Sheet No. 6	First Revision of Sheet No. 6	new text and moved text
Original Sheet No. 7	First Revision of Sheet No. 7	Change in text, new text, and moved text
Original Sheet No. 8	First Revision of Sheet No. 8	Change in text, new text, and moved text
Original Sheet No. 9	First Revision of Sheet No. 9	Change in text and moved text
Original Sheet No. 10	First Revision of Sheet No. 10	New text
Original Sheet No. 11	First Revision of Sheet No. 11	Change in text, new text, and moved text
Original Sheet No. 12	First Revision of Sheet No. 12	Moved text
Original Sheet No. 13	First Revision of Sheet No. 13	Moved text
Original Sheet No. 14	First Revision of Sheet No. 14	Change in text, new text, and moved text
Original Sheet No. 15	First Revision of Sheet No. 15	Change in text, new text, and moved text
Original Sheet No. 16	First Revision of Sheet No. 16	Moved text
Original Sheet No. 17	First Revision of Sheet No. 17	New conditions
Original Sheet No. 18	First Revision of Sheet No. 18	New conditions
Original Sheet No. 19	First Revision of Sheet No. 19	Change in text
Second Revision of Sheet No. 20	Third Revision of Sheet No. 20	Moved text
First Sheet No. 21	Second Revision of Sheet No. 21	Moved text
Second Sheet No. 22	Third Revision of Sheet No. 22	Moved text
Second Sheet No. 23	Third Revision of Sheet No. 23	Moved text
Third Sheet No. 24	Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 24	Moved text
Second Sheet No. 25	Third Revision of Sheet No. 25	Moved text
Second Sheet No. 26	Third Revision of Sheet No. 26	Moved text
Second Sheet No. 27	Third Revision of Sheet No. 27	Change in text
Original Sheet No. 37	First Revision of Sheet No. 37	New conditions





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First Sheet No. 38	Second Revision of Sheet No. 38	New conditions
Original Sheet No. 44	First Revision of Sheet No. 44	New conditions

If there are any questions concerning this tariff update, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian Gandara".

Julian Gandara
Regulatory Program Manager
(408) 472 – 5677
jgandara@calwater.com

