

**Gold Beach Water Company, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 2138 Vashon, WA 98070**  
**(206) 463-9958 (206) 718-1530**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

March 22, 2022

Gold Beach Water Company, Inc. (“Gold Beach Water” or “the Company”), on February 20, 2022, filed for approval from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (“UTC” or “the Commission”) to increase rates as shown in the table below over three phases, effective May 1, 2022, November 1, 2022, and May 1, 2023.

Background

Gold Beach Water serves over 200 connections located on Vashon Island. Gold Beach Water’s current rates became effective since July 1, 2014.

Purpose of General Rate Proceeding Filing

The purpose of this filing is to recover costs associated with water service provided by the Company. Gold Beach Water is seeking cost recovery in rates because current revenues are insufficient to cover the ongoing cost of continuing to provide service that is safe, adequate and efficient, and allowing an opportunity for a reasonable return to provide the Company’s needed capital investment.

Since our last rate case in July 2014, Gold Beach Water has made substantial investments in its water system and enhanced service and benefit our customers. To date, this includes:

- Installing water plant which will help support water quality for all of our customers while reducing the amount of system flushing required to replace old water with fresh water in the distribution system.
- We are also in the process of updating our Water System Plan (WSP), which looks at all aspects of the water system including system needs and how the system currently operates to continue providing safe and reliable drinking water to our customers. The plan is required by the Washington Department of Health.

Gold Beach Water has decided, in this particular case, to seek to recover its investment and necessary incremental operating expenses by phasing in new rates over a one-year period, beginning May 1, 2022. By phasing in rates over that period, Gold Beach Water will mitigate the initial rate impact of this request by smoothing the rate change over the course of one year. The overall revenue increase will be \$31,966 or about 37 percent.

The table below shows the timing and percent incremental increase for each phase. Gold Beach Water will mail reminder Notices to you before the Phase 2 and Phase 3 rate changes become

effective.

Phase	Effective Date	Additional Revenue	Percent Incremental Increase
1	May 1, 2022	\$5,734	6.7 %
2	November 1, 2022	\$5,385	6.3 %
3	May 1, 2023	\$5,368	6.3 %

The Current, Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 proposed rates and rate structure are presented in the tables below

**CURRENT RATES and RATE STRUCTURE**

Meter Size	Base Rate	Block 1	Block 1 Rate	Block 2	Block 2 Rate	Block 3	Block 3 Rate
3/4 "	\$32.75	0-500	With Base	501-2,500	\$0.50	Over 2,500	\$1.00
Ready to Serve	\$32.75						

Usage rates are per 100 cubic feet      100 cubic feet equals 750 gallons

**PROPOSED RATES and RATE STRUCTURE**

**Phase 1 Rates and Rate Structure (effective May 1, 2022)**

Meter Size	Base Rate	Block 1	Block 1 Rate	Block 2	Block 2 Rate	Block 3	Block 3 Rate
3/4 "	\$30.00	0-500	\$.50	501-1,200	\$1.25	Over 1,500	\$1.75
Ready to Serve	\$30.00						

**Phase 2 Rates and Rate Structure (effective November 1, 2022)**

Meter Size	Base Rate	Block 1	Block 1 Rate	Block 2	Block 2 Rate	Block 3	Block 3 Rate
3/4 "	\$30.00	0-500	\$.80	501-1,100	\$1.50	Over 1,200	\$2.00
Ready to Serve	\$30.00						

**Phase 3 Rates and Rate Structure (effective May 1, 2023)**

Meter Size	Base Rate	Block 1	Block 1 Rate	Block 2	Block 2 Rate	Block 3	Block 3 Rate
3/4 "	\$30.00	0-500	\$1.10	501-1,000	\$1.75	Over 1,000	\$2.50
Ready to Serve	\$30.00						

Customer average monthly bills are shown below. Note: Company currently bills bi-monthly. Based on companywide average per month of 790 cubic feet 2020.

	Average Monthly Bill	Change
Current	\$34.20	
Phase 1 May 1, 2022	\$36.15	\$1.95 5.7%
Phase 2 November 2022	\$38.35	\$2.20 6.1%
Phase 3 May 1, 2023	\$40.58	\$2.23 5.8%

Additionally, currently the company has a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan that was started in March of 2008 and will remain in effect until paid in March of 2028. The surcharge is \$5.00 per month and is not affected by this general rate case.

The company is also changing some of our ancillary charges as shown below. Please remember the ancillary charges are only incurred by customer action and does not apply to most customers.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Disconnection Visit Charge	NA	\$20.00
Reconnection Charge	\$18.00	\$40.00
NSF Check Charge	\$10.00	\$10.00
Service Visit	NA	\$15.00
Late Payment Charge	NA	2% of unpaid Balance or Minimum \$2.50, billed monthly.
Account Set-up Charge	NA	\$15.00
Water Availability Letter Charge	NA	\$15.00
Service Connection charge	\$350.00	\$525.00

The UTC has the authority to set final rates that may be either lower or higher from the Company's request, depending on the results of its investigation. Commission staff will make a recommendation to the Commissioners at an open meeting which is scheduled for 9:30 am on Thursday, April 28, 2022.

The UTC building is closed to the public until further notice. This open meeting will be conducted remotely. If you intend to listen or participate, call 360-664-1234 for instructions and sign in at least a day before the open meeting. Accommodation and translation services are available; please email [communications@utc.wa.gov](mailto:communications@utc.wa.gov) to request.

You can also comment by using the "Submit a Comment" feature at the Commission's Web site at [www.utc.wa.gov](http://www.utc.wa.gov) or by using the contact information below.

Washington Utilities and Transportation  
 Commission Post Office Box 47250  
 Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
[comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)  
 1-888-333- UTC (9882)

If you have any questions about the Company's filing or how it may affect you, please feel free to reach out to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,  
 /s/ Steve Reed, General Manager; Gold Beach Water Company, LLC