



July 6, 2023

Dear Water Customer:

The SBIP Water (SBW) has filed for a rate increase approval from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. Since 1999 the SBW has increased water rates only 37 percent, and there has been no increase since 2014. Operating expenses including wages, insurance, utilities, and repairs and maintenance expenses have steadily risen over the last nine years. Company-wide, the proposed increase represents approximately \$119,664, or a 55.7 percent increase annually. If approved, the rates will become effective August 1, 2023, and will be reflected in your September 1, 2023 billing statement.

In accordance with state climate guidelines, the existing rate structure, which benefited heavier users, is being replaced with a flat minimum charge and rates that increase with usage. SBW's filing represents a rate increase lower than the state's recommendation. As such, we intend to re-evaluate the effect of the proposed increase next year with a view toward moving closer to the state's recommendation.

<u>Size</u>	<u>Current Allowance</u>	<u>Proposed Allowance</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Difference</u>
5/8	500 cf	250 cf	(250) cf	-100.0%
3/4	500 cf	250 cf	(250) cf	-100.0%
1	500 cf	250 cf	(250) cf	-100.0%
1.5	1,000 cf	500 cf	(500) cf	-100.0%
2	1,500 cf	750 cf	(750) cf	-100.0%
3	2,500 cf	1,250 cf	(1,250) cf	-100.0%
4	3,600 cf	1,800 cf	(1,800) cf	-100.0%
6	5,100 cf	2,550 cf	(2,550) cf	-100.0%

<u>Current Minimum Charge</u>	<u>Proposed Minimum Charge</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 15.90	\$ 23.14	\$ 7.18	45.0%
\$ 17.55	\$ 25.45	\$ 7.90	45.0%
\$ 19.15	\$ 27.77	\$ 8.62	45.0%
\$ 28.57	\$ 41.43	\$ 12.86	45.0%
\$ 38.14	\$ 55.30	\$ 17.16	45.0%
\$ 55.72	\$ 80.79	\$ 25.07	45.0%
\$ 73.30	\$ 106.29	\$ 32.99	45.0%
\$ 97.16	\$ 140.88	\$ 43.72	45.0%

<b>Rate</b>				
<u>Tier</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Difference</u>
1	\$ 0.5995	\$ 0.8800	\$ 0.2805	46.8%
2	Eliminated	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	Eliminated	N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>Floor Volume for Tiers</b>			
<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Difference</u>
0	0	0	0.00%
Eliminated	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eliminated	N/A	N/A	N/A

(cf = cubic foot. One cu. Ft. of water = 7.48 gallons) Note: Volume charge applies after allowance (which is being eliminated) based on meter size above.

If you have questions about the proposed filing and how it will affect you, please call Bill Jenkins at SBIP Water at (509) 924-1720. If you have questions about the rate making process, you may contact the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission at the following address: WUTC, 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey, WA 98503; 1-800-562-6150 (toll-free) or by email [comments@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@wutc.wa.gov).

If you would like to comment on this proposal, it is important for you to do so now. Comments must be submitted in writing or presented at the commission's open meeting to be included as part of the formal record. The commission is interested in receiving your views regarding this proposal whether in favor or not. All open meetings are held in Olympia, WA. If you would like to be added to the commission's mailing list to be notified of the open meeting date, please call 1-800-562-6150 and leave your name, complete mailing address, the water company's name, and a description of the proposal you are interested in.

Sincerely,

**CROWN WEST REALTY dba SBIP WATER**

By: Oliver Lawrence

Phone: (509) 924-1720

Fax: (509) 924-3748

e-mail: [olawrence@crowwest.com](mailto:olawrence@crowwest.com)