

Received Records Management Jul 29, 2024

July 29, 2024

Jeff Killip Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Attn: Records Center 621 Woodland Square Loop SE Lacey, WA 98503

Dear Jeff Killip,

Water of Bethel, LLC, is filing for approval for a general rate change and to update the UTC tariff. If approved, the new rates will become effective October 1, 2024, after the high use summer months. The initial customer letter indicated an effective date of September 1, 2024, however after a discussion with the Commission Staff we have agreed to move the effective date to October 1 to allow more time for review.

The rates were increased in 2021, however, not enough to cover all the costs associated with having no increase for the previous 20 years. In our ongoing effort to bring the system to sustainable rates which support the operations and to offset the significant increase in inflation on material, chemical and labor rates we are requesting this increase. The increase will bring the company closer towards a sustainable system, thus increasing your property value, increasing your water quality and ensuring your system remains reliable and functional for years to come. If you have any questions about how this rate change may affect you, please call Water of Bethel at 253-255-5892 or bethelh20@gmail.com.

The company revenue impact of this filing, based on a 2023 test year, will be an monthly increase to the company of approximately \$6,500 for a total annual increase of \$78,000. The average customer usage is 1,020 cubic feet per month and the average bill would increase by approximately \$19.00 starting September 1, 2024. Your increase may be different based on your usage patterns. The rate impact on the average usage customer is presented below:

Current Rates:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Rate	1st Block (cubic feet)	1st Usage Rate*	2nd Block (cubic feet)	2nd Usage Rate*	3rd Block (cubic feet)	3rd Usage Rate*
3/4 - Inch	\$27.50	0 – 800	\$1.15	801- 1,300	\$1.50	Over 1,301	\$2.05

Proposed Rates:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Rate	1st Block (cubic feet)	1st Usage Rate*	2nd Block (cubic feet)	2nd Usage Rate*	3rd Block (cubic feet)	3rd Usage Rate*
3/4 - Inch	\$35.00	0 – 500	\$1.75	501- 1,500	\$2.75	Over 1,501	\$3.75

The UTC has the authority to set final rates that may be either lower or higher than 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 a.m. on August 29, 2024. The open meeting is hybrid and can be attended in person or virtually. Our Physical address is 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey, WA 98503. If you intend to listen or participate, call 360-664-1234 for instructions and to sign-in the day before the open meeting. You can also comment by using the "Submit a Comment" feature at the Commission's Web site at www.utc.wa.gov or by using the contact information below

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Post Office Box 47250

Olympia, WA 98504-7250

E-mail: records@utc.wa.gov

Telephone: 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)

A memo containing the staff recommendation will be available on the commission website about three days prior to the open meeting. To view the memo, go to utc.wa.gov. Click on the link near the bottom that says "Documents." Under "Open Meetings," click on "Agendas, meeting minutes, orders." When the open meeting date (see above) appears, click on it, then on the memo for this filing. Then click on "Documents." This will take you to a page with the memo and other filed documents.

Sincerely,

Sincerely, Water of Bethel/Cole Loncar