

**Gold Beach Water Company, Inc.**

P.O. Box 2138 Vashon, WA 98070  
 (206) 463-9958 (206) 718-1530

March 22, 2022

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
 ATTN: Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and  
 Secretary 621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
 Lacey, WA 98503  
 Re: General Rate Proceeding

Received  
 Records Management  
 03/23/22 10:37  
 State Of WASH.  
 UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
 COMMISSION

Amanda Maxwell,

Gold Beach Water Company, Inc. (“Gold Beach Water” or the “Company”) hereby files this general rate proceeding with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the “Commission”), in accordance with Washington Administrative Code (“WAC”) 480-07-530. The filing includes:

- This filing letter;
- Gold Beach Water’s new consolidated Tariff, WN U-2, superseding and cancelling the Company’s current Tariff WN U-1;
- The Company’s completed Commission GRC workbook with rate design;
- Customer Notice

### Background

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

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.

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.

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Additional Revenue</b>	<b>Percent Incremental Increase</b>
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**

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Base Rate</b>	<b>Block 1</b>	<b>Block 1 Rate</b>	<b>Block 2</b>	<b>Block 2 Rate</b>	<b>Block 3</b>	<b>Block 3 Rate</b>
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)**

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

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

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

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

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Base Rate</b>	<b>Block 1</b>	<b>Block 1 Rate</b>	<b>Block 2</b>	<b>Block 2 Rate</b>	<b>Block 3</b>	<b>Block 3 Rate</b>
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.

	<b>Average Monthly Bill</b>	<b>Change</b>
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 tht ancillary charges are only in 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

If you have any questions about the Company’s filing please feel free to reach out to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

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