

SERVICE DATE
Oct 05, 2021

PSC REF#:422138

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 10/05/2021 3:05:00 PM

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of the Village of Maine, Marathon County, Wisconsin,
as a Water Public Utility, for Authority to Adjust Water Rates

3298-WR-100

FINAL DECISION

This is the Final Decision in the Class 1 proceeding conducted by the Public Service Commission (Commission) on the application of Maine Water Utility (applicant) for approval to increase water rates. This application is APPROVED, subject to conditions.

Introduction

The applicant applied to the Commission on March 3, 2021 for authority to increase water rates. Pursuant to due notice, the Commission held an audiovisual hearing on September 7, 2021 before Administrative Law Judge Michael E. Newmark. The parties, for purposes of review under Wis. Stat. §§ 227.47 and 227.53, are listed in Appendix A. The applicant is the only party to this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The applicant's presently authorized rates for water utility service will produce operating revenues of \$133,619 for the 2021 test year. These rates exceed the test year revenue needed by \$6,443 and are unreasonable.
2. The estimated net investment rate base applicable to water utility operations for the 2021 test year is \$1,635,678.
3. It is reasonable to require the applicant to file in the docket for this proceeding a summary of the final costs for the project authorized in docket 3298-CW-100, allocated to plant

accounts and maintenance accounts by December 31, 2021. If any of the capital costs charged to plant accounts vary from the estimates provided in Schedule 5 of Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement by more than 10 percent, it is reasonable to require the applicant to provide an explanation of the variances. ([PSC REF#: 416668.](#))

4. It is reasonable to require the applicant to record funds received from the Village of Maine (Village) to pay for construction in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Non-operating Income) and close the income to Account 216.2 (Earned Surplus – Contributions) at the end of this year. It is reasonable to require the applicant to record funds received from the Village to pay for maintenance projects and refinanced debt in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Non-operating Income) and close the income to Account 216.1 (Earned Surplus – Earnings) at the end of this year. It is reasonable to require the applicant to file a copy of these entries in the docket for this proceeding by April 1, 2022.

5. It is reasonable to require the applicant to set aside \$11,665 each year in a segregated fund in Account 128 (Other Special Funds) to ensure it has funds available to paint the water tower as needed in the future.

6. It is reasonable to require the applicant to set aside \$17,500 each year in a segregated fund in Account 128 (Other Special Funds) to ensure it has funds to replace the heat tape on the water main under the bridge as needed in the future.

7. It is reasonable to require the applicant to file future PSC Annual Reports as a Class D utility in order to simplify accounting.

8. It is reasonable to require the applicant to file an application for a conventional rate case (CRC) within three years of the date of the Final Decision in this proceeding.

9. The rate changes set forth for water service in Appendix C will permit the applicant to earn the necessary revenue requirement and are consistent with the cost of service and rate design.

Conclusions of Law

1. The applicant is a municipal public utility as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5)(a).
2. The Commission has authority under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.02(1), 196.03(1) and (3), 196.19, 196.20, 196.22, 196.37(1), (2), and (3), and 196.395 to authorize the applicant to increase water utility rates and revise tariff provisions.
3. The Commission has authority under Wis. Stat. § 15.02(4) to delegate to the Administrator of the Division of Water Utility Regulation and Analysis (Division Administrator) those functions vested by law as enumerated above and has delegated the authority to issue this Final Decision to the Division Administrator.

Opinion

Net Investment Rate Base

The estimated net investment rate base for the 2021 test year is as follows:

Utility Financed Plant in Service	\$1,938,098
Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation	<u>\$303,420</u>
Net Plant in Service	\$1,634,678
Plus: Materials and Supplies	1,000
Less: Regulatory Liability for Pre-2003 Accumulated Depreciation - CIAC	<u>0</u>
Net Investment Rate Base	<u>\$1,635,678</u>

Comparative Income Statement

Commission staff submitted a revenue requirement for the test year as shown in Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement. ([PSC REF#: 416668.](#)) The estimated test year income statement showing the effect of the decrease in revenue that will result from authorized rates is as follows:

	<u>At Present Rates</u>	<u>Authorized Decrease</u>	<u>After Rate Decrease</u>
Operating Revenues	\$133,619	(\$6,443)	\$127,176
Operating Expenses:			
Oper. & Maint. Exp.	\$91,524		\$91,524
Depreciation	34,027		34,027
Taxes & Tax Equiv.	<u>1,625</u>		<u>1,625</u>
Total Oper. Expenses	<u>\$127,176</u>		<u>\$127,176</u>
Oper. Income (or Loss)	<u>\$6,443</u>		<u>\$0</u>
Rate of Return	0.39%		0.00%

Commission staff computed the depreciation expense included in the revenue requirement for the 2021 test year using the depreciation rates shown in Appendix E. For purposes of computing the depreciation expense on the average investment for each plant account, these depreciation rates are effective as of January 1, 2021.

In Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement, Commission staff requested that the applicant file a 2020 PSC Annual Report prior to the hearing, and the applicant completed this requirement.

Funding for Major Project

In docket 3298-CW-101, the Commission authorized the applicant to construct Wells No. 7 and 8 and transmission main and modify its existing elevated tank at a total cost of \$4,194,000.

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The applicant secured funding totaling \$4,828,000 to cover the cost of the project and replacement of water mains. Funding sources included a direct \$129,000 contribution from the Village, a \$1,173,000 loan and \$2,892,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program (USDA-RD), and a \$634,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

In addition, through Omnibus Motion #418, the State of Wisconsin authorized increased Expenditure Restraint Payment (ERP) funding to the Village of \$583,000 annually for the years 2018-2023. (Exhibit C, [PSC REF#: 406188](#).) The Omnibus Motion did not direct how the Village was to use the funds. The Village's Resolution 2019-16 states its intended use of the funds was to assist the "Village of Maine in implementing a sustainable, efficient water utility system with no or minimum debt." (Exhibit C, [PSC REF#: 406188](#).) Accordingly, the Village plans to use the ERP funds to pay off the \$1,173,000 USDA-RD loan. In response to PSCW-KAB-39, the applicant confirmed that it expects to pay off the \$1,173,000 USDA-RD loan prior to the end of September 2021. ([PSC REF#: 413150](#).)

In this proceeding, the applicant requested to classify the constructed project authorized by the Commission in docket 3298-CW-101 as Contributed Plant, which would eliminate depreciation expense and any return component from the revenue requirement. Given the unique circumstances under which the Village acquired this water system from the former Village of Brokaw and committed to use external funding sources for purposes of ensuring the applicant is able to provide safe, reliable water service at reasonable rates, the Commission finds the applicant has provided sufficient documentation to support its request and finds it reasonable for the applicant to classify all construction completed in 2020 and 2021 as Contributed Plant.

Capital Structure

In its application, the applicant requested a 0.00 percent rate of return (ROR) in order to keep rates at a reasonable level. The requested ROR is significantly lower than the benchmark ROR of 4.90 percent. In support of a 0.00 percent ROR, the applicant requested that water rates provide only for the recovery of operating expenses, including taxes, and depreciation.

Because the Village plans to repay the applicant's one loan used to fund part of its major construction project using ERP funds from the State of Wisconsin, the applicant will have no debt. The Commission estimates the depreciation expense in the test year is \$34,028, an amount that should provide adequate cash flow for the applicant to meet unexpected operating costs. The Commission notes that any increase in operating costs will result in a Net Operating Loss. Given the unique circumstances in this proceeding, the Commission finds it reasonable to authorize a 0.00 percent ROR as a way to stabilize the applicant's rates. However, the Commission cautions the applicant that it will need to monitor its operating costs closely and recommends the applicant file for a rate increase in a timely manner if ongoing costs increase. The Commission also cautions the applicant that foregoing the rate of return will limit the funds the applicant can save for infrastructure improvement in the future. Without funding set aside for these purposes, the applicant's customers may experience a significant rate increase if the applicant needs additional capital investments in the future. As outlined in Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement, Commission staff made a number of assumptions in preparing the revenue requirement based on the applicant's submission of limited information. In addition, the applicant filed delayed and incomplete responses to Commission staff data requests throughout this proceeding. Given the lack of detail provided, Commission staff recommended a number of

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conditions in Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement to ensure the applicant is following proper regulatory accounting and is able to maintain financial stability in the long term.

The Commission finds it reasonable to require the applicant to file in the docket for this proceeding a summary of the final costs for the project authorized in docket 3298-CW-100, allocated to plant accounts and maintenance accounts, by December 31, 2021. If any of the capital costs charged to plant accounts vary from the estimates provided in Schedule 5 by more than 10 percent, it is reasonable to require the applicant to provide an explanation of the variances. The Commission also finds it reasonable to require the applicant to record funds received from the Village to pay for construction in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Non-operating Income) and close the income to Account 216.2 (Earned Surplus – Contributions) at the end of 2021. It is also reasonable to require the applicant to record funds received from the Village to pay for maintenance projects and debt payment in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Non-operating Income) and close the income to Account 216.1 (Earned Surplus – Earnings) at the end of 2021. The Commission further finds it reasonable to require the applicant to file a copy of these entries in the docket for this proceeding by April 1, 2022. These two conditions will ensure that the applicant follows proper utility accounting procedures.

The Commission also finds it reasonable to require the applicant to set aside funds included in the revenue requirement for water tower painting (\$11,665 per year) and replacement of heat tape on the water main under the bridge (\$17,500 per year) in segregated accounts. This condition will ensure the applicant has adequate funds available for these maintenance activities in the future. Additionally, since the applicant has fewer than 1,000 customers and is unlikely to experience significant growth in the near future, the Commission finds it reasonable to require

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the applicant to file future PSC Annual Reports as a class D utility in order to simplify its accounting requirements.

Cost of Service

Commission staff submitted for the record an analysis of the cost of supplying water for general service and for public fire protection service. Commission staff used the base-extra capacity cost allocation method for the analysis. This method allocates operating expenses first to the service cost functional components of base, customer, extra-capacity maximum-day and extra-capacity maximum-hour demand, and fire protection and then to each of the customer classes served. Schedules 8 and 11 of Ex.-PSC-COSS and Rate Design, Commission staff's proposal in the record in this proceeding, provide summaries of these analyses. ([PSC REF#: 418159](#).) Appendix B shows customer class revenue requirements resulting from the cost analysis compared with revenues at authorized rates.

Rates

Water service rates authorized in this decision provide only for the recovery of operating expenses (including taxes), and depreciation. Commission staff provided the applicant with Commission staff's proposed rates for review prior to the hearing, and the applicant had no objection to these rates.

As shown in attached Appendix B, the base-extra capacity cost allocation method results in a relatively wide range of decreases in the charges to the various general service customer classes to reflect the cost of providing service to such classes. The percentage rate decrease to any individual customer will not necessarily equal the overall percentage decrease to the associated customer class, but rather will depend on the specific water use of that customer.

At the request of the applicant, Commission staff included a rate for non-potable bulk water sales, which the applicant requested in order to sell water from Well No. 4 to contractors and farmers. Schedule R-1, Raw Water Service outlines the rate. The Commission based the authorized rates, as set forth in Appendix C, on the cost of providing service to various customer classes or types of service. All customers will be required to pay an appropriate amount for the service provided.

Commission staff computed some typical water bills for single family residential, multifamily residential, commercial, and public authority customers using Schedule Mg-1 to compare present rates with the new rates. That comparison is set forth in Appendix D.

The overall decrease in annual revenues is 4.93 percent and is comprised of a 15.80 percent decrease in general service charges and a 9.41 percent increase in public fire protection charges. A typical single family residential customer's bill, including public fire protection, will decrease by 6.29 percent. Rates have decreased because of a 7.52 percent decrease in operating expenses since the last Brokaw Water Utility (Brokaw) rate case in 2015. In 2018, the applicant acquired all of Brokaw's assets and adopted its rates in docket 3298-CW-100.

The general service charges will decrease by 15.80 percent, compared to a 9.41 percent increase in the annual public fire protection charge. The increase in the PFP charge results from a greater proportion of the annual operating costs being allocated to fire protection compared to what was allocated at the time of the Brokaw's last rate proceeding and is based on current ratios of maximum general service demand to available system fire protection capacity. The larger increase in the PFP charge is reasonable, in that it reflects the cost of providing service appropriately.

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The applicant has agreed to revise its tariff provisions (operating rules and main extension rules) to be consistent with those of other Wisconsin water utilities. The proposed rules were incorporated into the record by receipt of Ex.-PSC-COSS and Rate Design, which incorporates the rules by reference. They are in accordance with Commission policy and the Wisconsin Administrative Code. The Commission finds the rates as presented in Ex.-PSC-COSS to be reasonable.

Items from Previous Construction Case (Docket 3298-CW-101)

In the Final Decision in docket 3298-CW-101, the Commission included conditions, including Order Point No. 8 that stated “No later than July 1, 2020, the applicant shall file an application for a water rate adjustment that addresses its financial needs and ensures its cost allocation and rate structure are appropriate.” ([PSC REF#: 379649.](#)) On May 14, 2020, the applicant requested an extension for filing a rate case. ([PSC REF#: 389477.](#)) On August 11, 2020, the Commission granted an extension to file a rate case until January 31, 2021. ([PSC REF#: 395157.](#)) The applicant filed an application for a rate adjustment on December 30, 2020. ([PSC REF#: 402304.](#)) On January 22, 2021, Commission staff informed the applicant that the application was incomplete. ([PSC REF#: 403433.](#)) The applicant filed a revised application on March 3, 2021. ([PSC REF#: 406187.](#))

Order Point No. 9 in the Final Decision in docket 3298-CW-101 stated “As part of the application for a rate adjustment, the applicant shall file with the Commission support for any requested ROR on rate base that is lower than the municipal benchmark ROR.” In this proceeding, the applicant requested a 0.00 percent ROR and stated that the applicant’s existing rates are extremely high in relation to surrounding communities as one reason for requesting a

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zero percent ROR. ([PSC REF#: 406188.](#)) The applicant also stated it would have no debt at the end of 2021 due to the Village's plan to repay the loan used to fund part of the applicant's construction project. As described above, the Commission finds, due to the specific circumstances in the case, the applicant's request to be reasonable in the short term but cautions the applicant that it is not likely in the interest of the applicant and its customers to maintain a 0.00 percent ROR in the long-term.

Order Point No. 10 in the Final Decision in docket 3298-CW-101 stated "[a]s part of the application for a rate adjustment, the applicant shall file with the Commission an estimate of how long Maine intends to continue to set the applicant's [Payment in Lieu of Taxes or] PILOT payment at \$0." In the current proceeding, the applicant provided a copy of Village Resolution 2017-06 setting the PILOT at \$0, but it did not state how long the Village intended to keep the PILOT at \$0. ([PSC REF#: 406188.](#)) In response to Commission staff's data request, the applicant stated, "The Village intends to keep the tax equivalent at zero for the foreseeable future and evaluate annually the performance of the Utility in conjunction with this." ([PSC REF#: 411194.](#))

Order Point No. 11 in the Final Decision in docket 3298-CW-101, stated "As part of the application for a rate adjustment, the applicant shall file with the Commission a statement of how long Maine plans to provide an annual subsidy in the form of a Water Benefit Charge to cover part of the operating costs." The applicant stated that the Village believes a Water Benefit Charge is not needed at present, because the Village indicated that including depreciation expense on existing assets in the revenue requirement would provide adequate cash flow even if customer rates were reduced by 12 percent. ([PSC REF#: 406188.](#)) The applicant also provided a

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copy of proposed Village Resolution 2021-02, which stated the Village would provide \$25,000 of ERP funds to the applicant to set up an equipment replacement account and \$25,000 of ERP funds to set up an operating cash account.

The Commission finds the applicant has fulfilled the requirements in order points included in the Final Decision in docket 3298-CW-101.

Requirement to File Rate Case

The current rate increase is based on a 2021 test year. The revenue requirement includes the applicant's estimates for operating expenses that are significantly higher than operating expenses for utilities of similar size. Commission staff noted that it was difficult for the applicant to develop accurate estimates for many of the expenses, because the applicant changed from purchased water to water from its own wells as its source of supply. As the applicant's staff members gain more experience operating the water system, it is likely costs will continue to change. In addition, the applicant included several requests that are intended to address rate affordability. The Commission notes that, when establishing rates, a utility must often balance competing goals such as affordability in the short term and revenue stability in the long term. Given the applicant's unique situation, and to ensure the applicant's long-term financial health, the Commission finds it reasonable to require the applicant to file an application for a CRC within three years of the date of the Final Decision in this proceeding.

Public Comments

The Commission received no public comments on the Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system. No members of the public attended or provided comments at the hearing.

Effective Date

The test year commenced on January 1, 2021. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.19, the changes in rates and tariff provisions that are authorized in this Final Decision take effect no sooner than one day after the date of service, provided that these rates and tariff provisions are filed with the Commission, and the applicant makes a copy of the new rates available to the public before this date by placing a copy of the new rates at locations where customer payments are accepted, on the applicant's website, or in a form and place that is otherwise readily accessible to the public.

Order

1. This Final Decision takes effect one day after the date of service.
2. The authorized rate increases and tariff provisions shall take effect no sooner than one day after the day the applicant has: (a) filed these rates and tariff provisions with the Commission; and (b) made them available to the public at locations where customer payments are accepted, on the applicant's website, or in a form and place that is otherwise readily accessible to the public, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.19 and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.33(1)(f). If a copy of the new rates and tariff provisions is not made available to the public when they are filed with the Commission, the new rates and tariff provisions shall take effect one day after the day they are made available to the public.
3. The rates approved in this docket shall take effect no later than 90 days from the service date of this Final Decision or as directed by the Commission or Commission staff.
4. The applicant shall submit a summary of the final project costs allocated to plant accounts and maintenance accounts to the docket by December 31, 2021, and if any of the capital

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costs charged to plant accounts vary from the estimates provided in Schedule 5

Ex.-PSC-Revenue Requirement by more than 10 percent, the applicant must include an explanation of any variances in its filing with the Commission. ([PSC REF#: 416668.](#))

5. The applicant shall record funds received from the Village to pay for construction in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income) and close the income to Account 216.2 (Earned Surplus – Contributions) at the end of 2021. The Utility shall record funds received from the Village to pay for maintenance projects and refinance debt in Account 421 (Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income) and close the income to Account 216.1 (Earned Surplus – Earnings) at the end of 2021. The applicant shall file a copy of these entries to this docket by April 1, 2022.

6. The applicant shall set aside \$11,665 each year in a segregated fund in Account 128 (Other Special Funds). The applicant shall use these funds to paint the water tower as needed in the future.

7. The applicant shall set aside \$17,500 each year in a segregated fund in Account 128 (Other Special Funds). The applicant shall use these funds to replace the heat tape on the water main under the bridge in the future.

8. The applicant shall simplify its accounting by filing future PSC Annual Reports as a Class D utility.

9. The applicant shall file an application for a CRC within three years of the date of the Final Decision in this proceeding.

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10. Jurisdiction is retained.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, October 5, 2021.

For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise L. Schmidt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Denise" and last name "Schmidt" clearly legible.

Denise L. Schmidt
Administrator
Division of Water Utility Regulation and Analysis

DLS:alf:krl DL:01830899

See attached Notice of Appeal Rights

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
4822 Madison Yards Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS FOR REHEARING OR JUDICIAL REVIEW, THE
TIMES ALLOWED FOR EACH, AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE
PARTY TO BE NAMED AS RESPONDENT**

The following notice is served on you as part of the Commission's written decision. This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2), and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

PETITION FOR REHEARING

If this decision is an order following a contested case proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3), a person aggrieved by the decision has a right to petition the Commission for rehearing within 20 days of the date of service of this decision, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. The date of service is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of service is shown immediately above the signature line. The petition for rehearing must be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and served on the parties. An appeal of this decision may also be taken directly to circuit court through the filing of a petition for judicial review. It is not necessary to first petition for rehearing.

PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

A person aggrieved by this decision has a right to petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. In a contested case, the petition must be filed in circuit court and served upon the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin within 30 days of the date of service of this decision if there has been no petition for rehearing. If a timely petition for rehearing has been filed, the petition for judicial review must be filed within 30 days of the date of service of the order finally disposing of the petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition of the petition for rehearing by operation of law pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.49(5), whichever is sooner. If an *untimely* petition for rehearing is filed, the 30-day period to petition for judicial review commences the date the Commission serves its original decision.¹ The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

If this decision is an order denying rehearing, a person aggrieved who wishes to appeal must seek judicial review rather than rehearing. A second petition for rehearing is not permitted.

Revised: March 27, 2013

¹ See *Currier v. Wisconsin Dep't of Revenue*, 2006 WI App 12, 288 Wis. 2d 693, 709 N.W.2d 520.

CONTACT LIST FOR SERVICE BY PARTIES

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

(Not a party but must be served per Wis. Stat. § 227.53)

MARK RUSZKIEWICZ; ANDREW FISHER

4822 MADISON YARDS WAY

PO BOX 7854

MADISON, WI 53707

MARK2.RUSZKIEWICZ@WISCONSIN.GOV; ANDREW.FISHER@WISCONSIN.GOV

MAINE WATER UTILITY

KEITH RUSCH, ADMINISTRATOR

6111 N 44TH AVE

WAUSAU WI 54401

ADMINISTRATOR@VILLAGEOFMAINE.ORG

**Maine Water Utility
Comparison of Revenue
at
Present Rates, Cost of Service and Authorized Rates**

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Revenue at Present Rates</u>	<u>Cost of Service</u>		<u>Authorized Rates</u>		
		<u>Revenue Required</u>	<u>Increase over Present Rates</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Increase over Present Rates</u>	<u>Percent of Cost of Service</u>
Residential	\$33,881	\$27,415	-19.08%	\$30,179	-10.93%	110.08%
Multifamily Residential	\$23,593	\$22,603	-4.19%	\$20,302	-13.95%	89.82%
Commercial	\$8,797	\$6,015	-31.62%	\$7,874	-10.50%	130.89%
Public Authority	\$8,076	\$6,565	-18.71%	\$7,068	-12.48%	107.66%
Public Fire Protection	\$56,372	\$61,678	9.41%	\$59,147	4.92%	95.90%
Total	<u>\$130,719</u>	<u>\$124,276</u>	<u>-4.93%</u>	<u>\$124,569</u>	<u>-4.70%</u>	<u>100.24%</u>

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Appendix C

Maine Water Utility
Authorized Water Rates and Rules

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Maine Water Utility
Water Rate File Changes

New

X-4
RW-1

Amended

PWAC-1
F-1
Upf-1
Mg-1
Am-1
OC-1
Mpa-1
Ug-1
Sg-1
BW-1
R-1
Cz-1
X-1
X-2
X-3

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Purchased Water Adjustment Clause

Maine Water Utility (utility) may apply a purchased water adjustment clause (PWAC) to its water rates set forth under Schedules F-1 and Mg-1 to reflect an increase or decrease in the rates charged by its wholesale water supplier, Wausau Water Utility (wholesaler), **and only when the wholesaler's rates are adjusted through the conventional rate case process.** Adjustments under this PWAC that result in an increase cannot be effective until the utility has filed the PWAC application with the Public Service Commission (Commission), the utility provides notice to its customers of such change in rates, and the Commission holds a public hearing and authorizes the rate adjustments in a Final Decision.

Calculation of Adjusted Annual Municipal Charge for Public Fire Protection Service - - - F-1

$$AFP = FP + A$$

$$A = N - B$$

Where: AFP = Adjusted annual charge for public fire protection service to the Maine Water Utility.

FP = Current annual charge for public fire protection service under the utility's Schedule F-1 rate.

A = New annual wholesale public fire protection service charge less the current annual wholesale public fire protection service charge.

N = New annual wholesale public fire protection service charge.

B = Current annual wholesale public fire protection service charge.

Calculation of Adjusted Quarterly Public Fire Protection Service Charges - - - F-1

$$C = Z \times (1 + P)$$

$$P = (N - B) / T$$

Where: C = Adjusted Schedule F-1 quarterly retail service charges rounded up to the nearest cent.

Z = Current Schedule F-1 direct quarterly retail service charges.

P = Adjustment factor rounded up to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which is four places past the decimal point (.XXXX).

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Purchased Water Adjustment Clause

N = New quarterly wholesale public fire protection service charge.

B = Current quarterly wholesale public fire protection service charge.

T = Total quarterly dollar revenue from quarterly retail service charges per rate Schedule F-1.

Calculation of Adjusted Quarterly Service Charges - - - Mg-1

$$C = Z \times (1 + P)$$

$$P = (N - B) / T$$

Where: C = Adjusted Schedule Mg-1 quarterly retail service charges rounded up to the nearest cent.

Z = Current Schedule Mg-1 quarterly retail service charges.

P = Adjustment factor rounded up to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which is four places past the decimal point (.XXXX).

N = New quarterly wholesale service charge.

B = Current quarterly wholesale service charge.

T = Total quarterly dollar revenue from quarterly retail service charges per Schedule Mg-1.

Commodity Charge Adjustment - - - Mg-1

$$AVBR = VBR + A$$

Where: AVBR = Adjusted Schedule Mg-1 retail volume block rates rounded up to the nearest cent.

VBR = Current Schedule Mg-1 retail volume block rates.

A = New wholesale volume charge less the current wholesale volume charge.

Maine Water Utility

Public Fire Protection Service

Public fire protection service includes the use of hydrants for fire protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purpose of extinguishing fires within the service area. This service shall also include water used for testing equipment and training personnel. For all other purposes, the metered or other rates set forth, or as may be filed with the Public Service Commission, shall apply.

Municipal Charge:

The annual charge for public fire protection service to the Village of Maine shall be \$51,551. The utility may bill for this amount in equal installments.

Direct Charge:

Under the Wis. Stat. 196.03(3)(b), the municipality has chosen to have the utility bill the remaining public fire protection service charge to the retail general service customers.

Quarterly Public Fire Protection Service Charges:

5/8 - inch meter:	\$ 17.13	3 - inch meter:	\$ 255.00
3/4 - inch meter:	\$ 17.13	4 - inch meter:	\$ 426.00
1 - inch meter:	\$ 42.78	6 - inch meter:	\$ 855.00
1 1/4 - inch meter:	\$ 63.30	8 - inch meter:	\$ 1,368.00
1 1/2 - inch meter:	\$ 85.86	10 - inch meter:	\$ 2,052.00
2 - inch meter:	\$ 138.00	12 - inch meter:	\$ 2,736.00

Customers who are provided service under Schedules Mg-1, Ug-1, or Sg-1 shall also be subject to the charges in this schedule according to the size of their primary meter. Customers who are provided service under Schedule Am-1 are exempt from these charges for any additional meters.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

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Maine Water Utility

Private Fire Protection Service - Unmetered

This service shall consist of permanent or continuous unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems, standpipes, and private hydrants. This service shall also include reasonable quantities of water used for testing check valves and other backflow prevention devices.

Quarterly Private Fire Protection Service Demand Charges:

2 - inch or smaller connection:	\$	39.00
3 - inch connection:	\$	72.00
4 - inch connection:	\$	123.00
6 - inch connection:	\$	246.00
8 - inch connection:	\$	390.00
10 - inch connection:	\$	585.00
12 - inch connection:	\$	780.00
14 - inch connection:	\$	975.00
16 - inch connection:	\$	1,170.00

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 1 of 1

Schedule No. Mg-1

Amendment No. 2

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

General Service - Metered

Quarterly Service Charges:

5/8 - inch meter:	\$	57.06	3 - inch meter:	\$	168.00
3/4 - inch meter:	\$	57.06	4 - inch meter:	\$	225.00
1 - inch meter:	\$	68.46	6 - inch meter:	\$	384.00
1 1/4 - inch meter:	\$	79.86	8 - inch meter:	\$	594.00
1 1/2 - inch meter:	\$	91.29	10 - inch meter:	\$	867.00
2 - inch meter:	\$	123.00	12 - inch meter:	\$	1,140.00

Plus Volume Charges:

All water used quarterly: \$11.35 per 1,000 gallons

Billing: Bills for water service are rendered quarterly and become due and payable upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of 1 percent per month will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This late payment charge will be applied to the total unpaid balance for utility service, including unpaid late payment charges. The late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued. Unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next 10 days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code ch. PSC 185.

Combined Metering: Volumetric meter readings will be combined for billing if the utility for its own convenience places more than one meter on a single water service lateral. Multiple meters placed for the purpose of identifying water not discharged into the sanitary sewer are not considered for utility convenience and shall not be combined for billing. This requirement does not preclude the utility from combining readings when metering configurations support such an approach. Meter readings from individually metered separate service laterals shall not be combined for billing purposes.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Additional Meter Rental Charge

Upon request, the utility shall furnish and install additional meters to:

- A. Water service customers for the purpose of measuring the volume of water used that is not discharged into the sanitary sewer system; and
- B. Sewerage service customers who are not customers of the water utility for the purpose of determining the volume of sewage that is discharged into the sanitary sewer system.

The utility shall charge a meter installation charge of \$60.00 and a quarterly rental fee for the use of this additional meter.

Quarterly Additional Meter Rental Charges:

5/8 - inch meter:	\$	28.53
3/4 - inch meter:	\$	28.53
1 - inch meter:	\$	34.23
1 1/4 - inch meter:	\$	39.93
1 1/2 - inch meter:	\$	45.66
2 - inch meter:	\$	61.50

This schedule applies only if the additional meter is installed on the same service lateral as the primary meter and either:

- A. The additional meter is 3/4-inch or smaller if the metering configuration is the Addition Method; or
- B. The additional meter is 2-inch or smaller for all other metering configurations.

If the additional meter is larger than 2-inch or larger than 3/4-inch and installed in the Addition Method, each meter shall be treated as a separate account and Schedule Mg-1 rates shall apply.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Other Charges

Payment Not Honored by Financial Institution Charge: The utility shall assess a \$40.00 charge when a payment rendered for utility service is not honored by the customer’s financial institution. This charge may not be in addition to, but may be inclusive of, other such charges when the payment was for multiple services.

Special Billing Charge: The utility shall assess a \$40.00 charge to the requestor to cover administrative expenses whenever an existing customer or the property owner requests a special billing outside of the normal utility billing. This charge may not be assessed to a new customer.

Special Meter Reading Charge: The utility shall assess a \$40.00 charge to the requestor whenever an existing customer or the property owner requests a special meter reading by utility personnel on a date other than the regularly scheduled meter reading. This charge may not be assessed if the customer or the property owner provides the meter reading. This charge may not be assessed to a new customer.

Missed Appointment Charge: The utility shall assess a missed appointment charge when a customer, without providing reasonable cancellation notice, fails to be present at the customer’s location for an appointment scheduled with utility personnel. The utility may not apply the charge for the first such missed appointment during normal business hours. The utility shall apply the charge for the first such missed appointment after normal business hours.

During normal business hours:	\$50.00
After normal business hours:	\$100.00

Real Estate Closing Account Charge: The utility shall assess a \$40.00 charge whenever a customer or the customer’s agent requests written documentation from the utility of the customer’s account status in connection with a real estate closing.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Public Service

Metered Service

Water used by the Village of Maine on an intermittent basis for flushing sewers, street washing, flooding skating rinks, drinking fountains, etc., shall be metered and billed according to the rates set forth in Schedule Mg-1.

Unmetered Service

Where it is impossible to meter the service, the utility shall estimate the volume of water used based on the pressure, size of opening, and the period of time the water is used. The estimated quantity shall be billed at the volumetric rates set forth in Schedule Mg-1, excluding any service charges.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

General Water Service - Unmetered

Service may be supplied temporarily on an unmetered basis where the utility cannot immediately install a water meter, including water used for construction. Unmetered service shall be billed the amount that would be charged to a metered residential customer using 7,000 gallons of water quarterly under Schedule Mg-1, including the service charge for a 5/8-inch meter. If the utility determines that actual usage exceeds 7,000 gallons of water quarterly, an additional charge for the estimated excess usage shall be made according to the rates under Schedule Mg-1.

This schedule applies only to customers with a 1-inch or smaller service connection. For customers with a larger service connection, the utility shall install a temporary meter and charges shall be based on the rates set forth under Schedule Mg-1.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Seasonal Service

Seasonal customers are general service customers who voluntarily request disconnection of water service and who resume service at the same location within 12 months of the disconnection, unless service has been provided to another customer at that location in the intervening period. The utility shall bill seasonal customers the applicable service charges under Schedule Mg-1 year-round, including the period of temporary disconnection.

Seasonal service shall include customers taking service under Schedule Mg-1, Schedule Ug-1, or Schedule Am-1.

Upon reconnection, the utility shall apply a charge under Schedule R-1 and require payment of any unpaid charges under this schedule.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1, unless the utility and customer agree to an alternative payment schedule for the period of voluntary disconnection.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Bulk Water

All bulk water supplied from the water system through hydrants or other connections shall be metered or estimated by the utility. Utility personnel or a party approved by the utility shall supervise the delivery of water.

Bulk water sales are:

- A. Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for the purpose of extinguishing fires outside the utility's service area;
- B. Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for purposes other than extinguishing fires, such as water used for irrigation or filling swimming pools; or,
- C. Water supplied from hydrants or other temporary connections for general service type applications, except that Schedule Ug-1 applies for water supplied for construction purposes.

A service charge of \$60.00 and a charge for the volume of water used shall be billed to the party using the water. The volumetric charge shall be calculated using the highest volumetric rate for residential customers under Schedule Mg-1. In addition, for meters that are assigned to bulk water customers for more than 7 days, the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1 will apply after the first 7 days.

The water utility may require a reasonable deposit for the temporary use of its equipment under this and other rate schedules. The deposit(s) collected shall be refunded upon return of the utility's equipment. Damaged or lost equipment shall be repaired or replaced at the customer's expense.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 1 of 1

Schedule No. RW-1

Amendment No. 2

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Raw Water Service

Service Charge: Same as Schedule Mg-1

Volume Charge: Same as Schedule Mg-1

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Reconnection Charges

The utility shall assess a charge to reconnect a customer, which includes reinstalling a meter and turning on the valve at the curb stop, if necessary. A utility may not assess a charge for disconnecting a customer.

During normal business hours:	\$60.00
After normal business hours:	\$100.00

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 1 of 1

Schedule No. Cz-1

Amendment No. 2

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Lateral Installation Charge
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The utility shall charge a customer for the actual cost of installing a water service lateral from the main through curb stop and box if these costs are not contributed as part of a subdivision development or otherwise recovered under Wis. Stats. Chapter 66.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Compliance with Rules

All persons now receiving water service from this water utility, or who may request service in the future, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Establishment of Service

Application for water service may be made in writing on a form furnished by the water utility. The application will contain the legal description of the property to be served, the name of the owner, the exact use to be made of the service, and the size of the service lateral and meter desired. Note particularly any special refrigeration, fire protection, or water-consuming air-conditioning equipment.

Service will be furnished only if (1) the premises have a frontage on a properly platted street or public strip in which a cast iron or other long-life water main has been laid, or where the property owner has agreed to and complied with the provisions of the water utility's filed main extension rule, (2) the property owner has installed or agrees to install a service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use that is not less than 6 feet below the surface of an established or proposed grade and meets the water utility's specifications, and (3) the premises have adequate piping beyond the metering point.

The owner of a multi-unit dwelling has the option of being served by individual metered water service to each unit. The owner, by selecting this option, is required to provide interior plumbing and meter settings to enable individual metered service to each unit and individual disconnection without affecting service to other units. Each meter and meter connection will be treated as a separate water utility account for the purpose of the filed rules and regulations.

No division of the water service lateral to any lot or parcel of land shall be made for the extension and independent metering of the supply to an adjoining lot or parcel of land. Except for duplexes, no division of a water service lateral shall be made at the curb for separate supplies for two or more separate premises having frontage on any street or public service strip, whether owned by the same or different parties. Duplexes may be served by one lateral provided (1) individual metered service and disconnection is provided and (2) it is permitted by local ordinance.

Buildings used in the same business, located on the same parcel, and served by a single lateral may have the customer's water supply piping installed to a central point so that volume can be metered in one place.

The water utility may withhold approval of any application where full information of the purpose of such supply is not clearly indicated and set forth by the applicant property owner.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Reconnection of Service

Where the water utility has disconnected service at the customer’s request, a reconnection charge shall be made when the customer requests reconnection of service. See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.

A reconnection charge shall also be required from customers whose services are disconnected (shut off at curb stop box) because of nonpayment of bills when due. See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.

If reconnection is requested for the same location by any member of the same household, or, if a place of business, by any partner of the same business, it shall be considered as the same customer.

Temporary Metered Service, Meter, and Deposits

An applicant for temporary water service on a metered basis shall make and maintain a monetary deposit for each meter installed as security for payment for use of water and for such other charges which may arise from the use of the supply. A charge shall be made for setting the valve and furnishing and setting the meter. See Schedule BW-1 for the applicable rate.

Water for Construction

When water is requested for construction purposes or for filling tanks or other such uses, an application shall be made to the water utility, in writing, giving a statement of the amount of construction work to be done or the size of the tank to be filled, etc. Payment for the water for construction may be required in advance at the scheduled rates. The service lateral must be installed into the building before water can be used. No connection with the service lateral at the curb shall be made without special permission from the water utility. In no case will any employee of the water utility turn on water for construction work unless the contractor has obtained permission from the water utility.

Customers shall not allow contractors, masons, or other persons to take unmetered water from their premises without permission from the water utility. Any customer failing to comply with this provision may have water service discontinued and will be responsible for the cost of the estimated volume of water used.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Use of Hydrants

In cases where no other supply is available, permission may be granted by the water utility to use a hydrant. No hydrant shall be used until the proper meter and valve are installed. In no case shall any valve be installed or moved except by an employee of the water utility.

Before a valve is set, payment must be made for its setting and for the water to be used at the scheduled rates. Where applicable, see Schedule BW-1 for deposits and charges. Upon completing the use of the hydrant, the customer must notify the water utility to that effect.

Operation of Valves and Hydrants and Unauthorized Use of Water - Penalty

Any person who shall, without authority of the water utility, allow contractors, masons, or other unauthorized persons to take water from their premises, operate any valve connected with the street or supply mains, or open any fire hydrant connected with the distribution system, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, or who shall wantonly damage or impair the same, shall be subject to a fine as provided by municipal ordinance. Utility permission for the use of hydrants applies only to such hydrants that are designated for the specific use.

Refunds of Monetary Deposits

All money deposited as security for payment of charges arising from the use of temporary water service on a metered basis, or for the return of a hydrant valve and fixtures if the water is used on an unmetered basis, will be refunded to the depositor on the termination of the use of water, the payment of all charges levied against the depositor, and the return of the water utility's equipment.

Service Laterals

No water service lateral shall be laid through any trench having cinders, rubbish, rock or gravel fill, or any other material which may cause injury to or disintegration of the service lateral, unless adequate means of protection are provided by sand filling or such other insulation as may be approved by the water utility. Service laterals passing through curb or retaining walls shall be adequately safeguarded by provision of a channel space or pipe casing not less than twice the diameter of the service connection. The space between the service lateral and the channel or pipe casing shall be filled and lightly caulked with an oakum, mastic cement, or other resilient material and made impervious to moisture.

In backfilling the pipe trench, the service lateral must be protected against injury by carefully hand tamping the ground filling around the pipe. There should be at least 6 inches of ground filling over the pipe, and it should be free from hard lumps, rocks, stones, or other injurious material.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Service Laterals (continued)

All water service laterals shall be of undiminished size from the street main into the point of meter placement. Beyond the meter outlet valve, the piping shall be sized and proportioned to provide, on all floors, at all times, an equitable distribution of the water supply for the greatest probable number of fixtures or appliances operating simultaneously.

Replacement and Repair of Service Laterals

The service lateral from the main to and through the curb stop will be maintained and kept in repair and, when worn out, replaced at the expense of the water utility. The property owner shall maintain the service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use.

If an owner fails to repair a leaking or broken service lateral from the curb to the point of metering or use within such time as may appear reasonable to the water utility after notification has been served on the owner by the water utility, the water will be shut off and will not be turned on again until the repairs have been completed.

Abandonment of Service

If a property owner changes the use of a property currently receiving water service such that water service will no longer be needed in the future, the water utility may require the abandonment of the water service at the water main. In such case, the property owner may be responsible for all removal and/or repair costs, including the water main and the utility portion of the water service lateral.

Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.35 or Schedule X-4, if applicable.

Thawing Frozen Service Laterals

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.88 or Schedule X-4, if applicable.

Curb Stop Boxes

The curb stop box is the property of the water utility. The water utility is responsible for its repair and maintenance. This includes maintaining, through adjustment, the curb stop box at an appropriate grade level where no direct action by the property owner or occupant has contributed to an elevation problem. The property owner is responsible for protecting the curb stop box from situations that could obstruct access to it or unduly expose it to harm. The water utility shall not be liable for failure to locate the curb stop box and shut off the water in case of a leak on the owner's premises.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Installation of Meters

Meters will be owned, furnished, and installed by the water utility or a utility-approved contractor and are not to be disconnected or tampered with by the customer. All meters shall be so located that they shall be protected from obstructions and permit ready access for reading, inspection, and servicing, such location to be designated or approved by the water utility. All piping within the building must be supplied by the owner. Where additional meters are desired by the owner, the owner shall pay for all piping. Where applicable, see Schedule Am-1 for rates.

Repairs to Meters

Meters will be repaired by the water utility, and the cost of such repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear will be borne by the water utility.

Repair of any damage to a meter resulting from the carelessness of the owner of the premises, owner's agent, or tenant, or from the negligence of any one of them to properly secure and protect same, including any damage that may result from allowing a water meter to become frozen or to be damaged from the presence of hot water or steam in the meter, shall be paid for by the customer or the owner of the premises.

Service Piping for Meter Settings

Where the original service piping is installed for a new metered customer, where existing service piping is changed for the customer's convenience, or where a new meter is installed for an existing unmetered customer, the owner of the premises at his/her expense shall provide a suitable location and the proper connections for the meter. The meter setting and associated plumbing shall comply with the water utility's standards. The water utility should be consulted as to the type and size of the meter setting.

Turning on Water

The water may only be turned on for a customer by an authorized employee of the water utility. Plumbers may turn the water on to test their work, but upon completion must leave the water turned off.

Sprinkling Restrictions and Emergency Water Conditions

Where the municipality has a policy regarding sprinkling restrictions and/or emergency water conditions, failure to comply with such may result in disconnection of service.

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.37.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Failure to Read Meters

Where the water utility is unable to read a meter, the fact will be plainly indicated on the bill, and either an estimated bill will be computed or the minimum charge applied. The difference shall be adjusted when the meter is again read, that is, the bill for the succeeding billing period will be computed with the gallons or cubic feet in each block of the rate schedule doubled, and credit will be given on that bill for the amount of the bill paid the preceding period. Only in unusual cases shall more than three consecutive estimated or minimum bills be rendered.

If the meter is damaged (see Surreptitious Use of Water) or fails to operate, the bill will be based on the average use during the past year, unless there is some reason why the use is not normal. If the average use cannot be properly determined, the bill will be estimated by some equitable method.

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.33.

Complaint Meter Tests

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.77.

Inspection of Premises

During reasonable hours, any officer or authorized employee of the water utility shall have the right of access to the premises supplied with service for the purpose of inspection or for the enforcement of the water utility's rules and regulations. Whenever appropriate, the water utility will make a systematic inspection of all unmetered water taps for the purpose of checking waste and unnecessary use of water.

See Wis. Stat. § 196.171.

Vacation of Premises

When premises are to be vacated, the water utility shall be notified, in writing, at once, so that it may remove the meter and shut off the water supply at the curb stop. The owner of the premises shall be liable for prosecution for any damage to the water utility's property. See "Abandonment of Service" in Schedule X-1 for further information.

Deposits for Residential Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.36.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Deposits for Nonresidential Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.361.

Deferred Payment Agreement

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.38 or Schedule X-4, if applicable.

Dispute Procedures

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.39.

Disconnection and Refusal of Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.37.

The following is an example of a disconnection notice that the utility may use to provide the required notice to customers.

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

Dear Customer:

The bill enclosed with this notice includes your current charge for water utility service and your previous unpaid balance.

You have 10 days to pay the water utility service arrears or your service is subject to disconnection.

If you fail to pay the service arrears or fail to contact us within the 10 days allowed to make reasonable deferred payment arrangement or other suitable arrangement, we will proceed with disconnection action.

To avoid the inconvenience of service interruption and an additional charge of (amount) for reconnection, we urge you to pay the full arrears IMMEDIATELY AT ONE OF OUR OFFICES.

If you have entered into a Deferred Payment Agreement with us and have failed to make the deferred payments you agreed to, your service will be subject to disconnection unless you pay the entire amount due within 10 days.

If you have a reason for delaying the payment, call us and explain the situation.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Disconnection and Refusal of Service (continued)

DISCONNECTION NOTICE (continued)

PLEASE CALL THIS TELEPHONE NUMBER, (telephone number), IMMEDIATELY IF:

1. You dispute the notice of delinquent account.
2. You have a question about your water utility service arrears.
3. You are unable to pay the full amount of the bill and are willing to enter into a deferred payment agreement with us.
4. There are any circumstances you think should be taken into consideration before service is discontinued.
5. Any resident is seriously ill.

Illness Provision: If there is an existing medical emergency in your home and you furnish the water utility with a statement signed by either a licensed Wisconsin physician or a public health official, we will delay disconnection of service up to 21 days. The statement must identify the medical emergency and specify the period of time during which disconnection will aggravate the existing emergency.

Deferred Payment Agreements: If you are a residential customer and you are unable to pay the full amount of the water utility service arrears on your bill, you may contact the water utility to discuss arrangements to pay the arrears over an extended period of time.

This time payment agreement will require:

1. Payment of a reasonable amount at the time the agreement is made.
2. Payment of the remainder of the outstanding balance in monthly installments over a reasonable length of time.
3. Payment of all future water utility service bills in full by the due date.

In any situation where you are unable to resolve billing disputes or disputes about the grounds for proposed disconnection through contacts with our water utility, you may make an appeal to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin by calling (800) 225-7729.

(WATER UTILITY NAME)

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Collection of Overdue Bills

An amount owed by the customer may be levied as a tax as provided in Wis. Stat. § 66.0809.

Surreptitious Use of Water

When the water utility has reasonable evidence that a person is obtaining water, in whole or in part, by means of devices or methods used to stop or interfere with the proper metering of the water utility service being delivered, the water utility reserves the right to estimate and present immediately a bill for unmetered service as a result of such interference, and such bill shall be payable subject to a 24-hour disconnection of service. If the water utility disconnects the service for any such reason, the water utility will reconnect the service upon the following conditions:

- A. The customer will be required to deposit with the water utility an amount sufficient to guarantee the payment of the bills for water utility service.
- B. The customer will be required to pay the water utility for any and all damages to water utility equipment resulting from such interference with the metering.
- C. The customer must further agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the water utility against further losses.

See Wis. Stat. §§ 98.26 and 943.20.

Repairs to Mains

The water utility reserves the right to shut off the water supply in the mains temporarily to make repairs, alterations, or additions to the plant or system. When the circumstances will permit, the water utility will give notification, by newspaper publication or otherwise, of the discontinuance of the water supply. No credit will be allowed to customers for such temporary suspension of the water supply.

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.87.

Duty of Water Utility with Respect to Safety of the Public

It shall be the duty of the water utility to see that all open ditches for water mains, hydrants, and service laterals are properly guarded to prevent accident to any person or vehicle, and at night there shall be displayed proper signal lighting to insure the safety of the public.

Maine Water Utility

Water Utility Operating Rules

Handling Water Mains and Service Laterals in Excavation Trenches

Contractors must call Digger’s Hotline and ensure a location is done to establish the existence and location of all water mains and service laterals as provided in Wis. Stat. § 182.0175. Where water mains or service laterals have been removed, cut, or damaged during trench excavation, the contractors must, at their own expense, cause them to be replaced or repaired at once. Contractors must not shut off the water service laterals to any customer for a period exceeding 6 hours.

Protective Devices

- A. Protective Devices in General: The owner or occupant of every premise receiving water supply shall apply and maintain suitable means of protection of the premise supply and all appliances against damage arising in any manner from the use of the water supply, variation of water pressure, or any interruption of water supply. Particularly, such owner or occupant must protect water-cooled compressors for refrigeration systems by means of high and/or low pressure safety cutout devices. There shall likewise be provided means for the prevention of the transmission of water ram or noise of operation of any valve or appliance through the piping of their own or adjacent premises.
- B. Relief Valves: On all "closed systems" (i.e., systems having a check valve, pressure regulator, reducing valve, water filter, or softener), an effective pressure relief valve shall be installed at or near the top of the hot water tank or at the hot water distribution pipe connection to the tank. No stop valve shall be placed between the hot water tank and the relief valve or on the drain pipe. See applicable plumbing codes.
- C. Air Chambers: An air chamber or approved shock absorber shall be installed at the terminus of each riser, fixture branch, or hydraulic elevator main for the prevention of undue water hammer. The air chamber shall be sized in conformance with local plumbing codes. Where possible, the air chamber should be provided at its base with a valve for water drainage and replenishment of air.

Cross-Connections

Every person owning or occupying a premise receiving municipal water supply shall maintain such municipal water supply free from any connection, either of a direct or of an indirect nature, with a water supply from a foreign source or of any manner of connection with any fixture or appliance whereby water from a foreign supply or the waste from any fixture, appliance, or waste or soil pipe may flow or be siphoned or pumped into the piping of the municipal water system.

See Wis. Admin. Code § NR 811.06.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Main Extension Rule

Water mains will be extended for new customers on the following basis:

- A. Where the cost of the extension is to immediately be collected through assessment by the municipality against the abutting property, the procedure set forth under Wis. Stat. § 66.0703 will apply, and no additional customer contribution to the utility will be required.
- B. Where the municipality is unwilling or unable to make a special assessment, the extension will be made on a customer-financed basis as follows:
 - 1. The applicant(s) will advance as a contribution in aid of construction the total amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed for all property under paragraph A.
 - 2. Part of the contribution required in paragraph B.1. will be refundable. When additional customers are connected to the extended main within 10 years of the date of completion, contributions in aid of construction will be collected equal to the amount which would have been assessed under paragraph A. for the abutting property being served. This amount will be refunded to the original contributor(s). In no case will the contributions received from additional customers exceed the proportionate amount which would have been required under paragraph A., nor will it exceed the total assessable cost of the original extension.
- C. When a customer connects to a transmission main or connecting loop installed at utility expense within 10 years of the date of completion, there will be a contribution required of an amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed under paragraph A.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Main Installations in Platted Subdivisions

Application for installation of water mains in regularly platted real estate development subdivisions shall be filed with the utility.

If the developer, or a contractor employed by the developer, is to install the water mains (with the approval of the utility), the developer shall be responsible for the total cost of construction.

If the utility or its contractor is to install the water mains, the developer shall be required to advance to the utility, prior to the beginning of the construction, the total estimated cost of the extension. If the final costs exceed estimated costs, an additional billing will be made for the balance of the cost due. This balance is to be paid within 30 days. If final costs are less than estimated, a refund of the overpayment will be made by the water utility.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Maine Water Utility

Water Customer Supplemental Rules

Compliance with Rules

All persons now receiving water service from this water utility, or who may request service in the future, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks

Pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § 185.35(6) and the utility’s policy, when a leak unknown to the customer is found in an appliance or the plumbing, the utility shall estimate the water wasted due to the leak and bill for this excess usage at a reduced rate not less than the utility’s cost. If this provision applies, the utility shall bill the customer for excess usage at the lowest volumetric rate in the utility’s Schedule Mg-1, General Service - Metered. No additional adjustments shall be made for water supplied after the customer has been notified of the leak and has had an opportunity to correct the condition.

Thawing Frozen Service Laterals

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.88.

**Maine Water Utility
Customer Water Bill Comparison at Present and Authorized Rates**

Customer Type	Meter Size	Volume (1000 Gallons)	Quarterly			Quarterly Including Public Fire Protection		
			Bills at Old Rates	Bills at New Rates	Percent Change	Bills at Old Rates	Bills at New Rates	Percent Change
Small Residential	5/8"	4	\$ 113.20	\$ 102.46	-9.49%	\$ 124.06	\$ 119.59	-3.60%
Average Residential	5/8"	7	\$ 153.10	\$ 136.51	-10.84%	\$ 163.96	\$ 153.64	-6.29%
Large Residential	5/8"	11	\$ 206.30	\$ 181.91	-11.82%	\$ 217.16	\$ 199.04	-8.34%
Large Residential	5/8"	12	\$ 219.60	\$ 193.26	-11.99%	\$ 230.46	\$ 210.39	-8.71%
Large Residential	5/8"	25	\$ 392.50	\$ 340.81	-13.17%	\$ 403.36	\$ 357.94	-11.26%
Multifamily Residential	1 1/2"	65	\$ 960.50	\$ 829.04	-13.69%	\$ 1,014.80	\$ 914.60	-9.87%
Multifamily Residential	1 1/2"	75	\$ 1,093.50	\$ 942.54	-13.81%	\$ 1,147.80	\$ 1,028.10	-10.43%
Multifamily Residential	1 1/2"	80	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 999.29	-13.85%	\$ 1,214.30	\$ 1,084.85	-10.66%
Multifamily Residential	1 1/2"	85	\$ 1,226.50	\$ 1,056.04	-13.90%	\$ 1,280.80	\$ 1,141.60	-10.87%
Commercial	5/8"	11	\$ 206.30	\$ 181.91	-11.82%	\$ 217.16	\$ 199.04	-8.34%
Commercial	5/8"	12	\$ 219.60	\$ 193.26	-11.99%	\$ 230.46	\$ 210.39	-8.71%
Commercial	5/8"	17	\$ 286.10	\$ 250.01	-12.61%	\$ 296.96	\$ 267.14	-10.04%
Commercial	5/8"	34	\$ 512.20	\$ 442.96	-13.52%	\$ 523.06	\$ 460.09	-12.04%
Industrial	5/8"	5	\$ 126.50	\$ 113.81	-10.03%	\$ 137.36	\$ 130.94	-4.67%
Industrial	5/8"	10	\$ 193.00	\$ 170.56	-11.63%	\$ 203.86	\$ 187.69	-7.93%
Industrial	5/8"	15	\$ 259.50	\$ 227.31	-12.40%	\$ 270.36	\$ 244.44	-9.59%
Industrial	5/8"	20	\$ 326.00	\$ 284.06	-12.87%	\$ 336.86	\$ 301.19	-10.59%
Public Authority	5/8"	1	\$ 73.30	\$ 68.41	-6.67%	\$ 84.16	\$ 85.54	1.64%
Public Authority	5/8"	6	\$ 139.80	\$ 125.16	-10.47%	\$ 150.66	\$ 142.29	-5.56%
Public Authority	3"	10	\$ 310.00	\$ 281.50	-9.19%	\$ 472.90	\$ 536.50	13.45%
Public Authority	3"	15	\$ 376.50	\$ 338.25	-10.16%	\$ 539.40	\$ 593.25	9.98%

Maine Water Utility

**Schedule of Water Depreciation Rates
Effective January 1, 2021**

Account Number	Account Title	Depreciation Rate
SOURCE OF SUPPLY PLANT		
313	Lake, River and Other Intakes	2.90%
316	Supply Mains	1.80%
PUMPING PLANT		
321	Structures and Improvements	3.20%
325	Electric Pumping Equipment	4.40%
328	Other Pumping Equipment	4.40%
WATER TREATMENT PLANT		
331	Structures and Improvements	3.20%
334	Other Water Treatment Equipment	6.00%
TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION PLANT		
342	Distribution Reservoirs and Standpipes	1.90%
343	Transmission and Distribution Mains	1.30%
345	Services	2.90%
346	Meters	5.50%
348	Hydrants	2.20%
GENERAL PLANT		
391.1	Computer Equipment	26.70%
392	Transportation Equipment	13.30%
397.1	SCADA Equipment	9.20%