

Lost Hills Utility District

Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Water Rate Adjustments

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN that the Lost Hills Utilities District (**District**) Board of Directors (**Board**) has called a public hearing for **October 5, 2023, at 5:00 pm** at **14801 Woodward Avenue, Lost Hills, CA 93249** to consider adjustments to the water rates. The new rates, if adopted, will go into effect on November 1, 2023. In compliance with Proposition 218, affected property owners and tenants directly responsible for the payment of water service fees within the District's service area are hereby informed of the proposed adjustment in water rates.

Background: The District provides residents and customers with safe, high-quality water meeting all federal and state requirements at fair and affordable rates. Water services charges are paid directly by property owners and/or tenants through bills rendered monthly.

Why is the Rate Adjustment Needed? The proposed adjustments will help the District meet the increasing costs of operations and maintenance caused by inflation, debt service coverage, increased regulatory requirements, needed capital improvements, as well as contributing to reserves. The proposed water rates necessary to meet future obligations are shown in Table A, along with the current rates.

Questions And Public Comment: If you have any questions regarding this notice or how it may affect your property, call (661) 797-2903 Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Supporting documentation is available for review at the District Office, 14801 Woodward Avenue, Lost Hills, CA 93249 and located on the District website <https://www.Lhud.org/>.

To Protest this Adjustment: Any record owner of a parcel upon which the proposed water service charges are to be imposed or any tenant directly responsible for the payment of water service fees (collectively, a "Customer of Record") may submit a written protest to the proposed adjustments to the rates for the District's Water Rates; provided, however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel. Each protest must: (1) be in writing; (2) state whether the protest is submitted in opposition to the rate adjustments to the proposed water rates; (3) provide the location of the identified parcel (by service address or assessor's parcel number); and (4) include the name and signature of the person submitting the written protest. Written protests may be submitted by mail to the District mailing address, P.O. Box 246, Lost Hills CA 93249. Written protests may also be submitted in person at the District Office, 14801 Woodward Avenue, Lost Hills, CA 93249 or at the public hearing (see date, time, and location above). All written protests must be received prior to the conclusion of the public input portion of the Public Hearing. Any protest submitted via e-mail or other electronic means will not be accepted as a formal written protest. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person, Attn: Public Hearing on the Proposed Adjustment to Water Rates.

The District's Board of Directors will consider all written protests submitted and hear and consider all public comments made at the public hearing. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the District's Board of Directors will determine whether to adopt the proposed rate adjustments to the water rates. If, after the close of the public hearing, written protests against the proposed rate adjustments as outlined above are not presented by a majority of the Customers of Record of the identified parcels upon which they are proposed to be imposed, the District's Board of Directors will be authorized to impose the rate adjustments. Pursuant to Government Code Section 53759, a judicial action to challenge any new, increased, or extended fee or charge must be brought within 120 days of the final approval of the fee or charge.

How Are Your Water Service Charges Calculated? Your water service bill consists of a monthly fixed charge based on each customer's class and meter size. Customers also pay a variable charge for each thousand gallons (tGal) of water usage. Fixed rates were determined by summing the total fixed costs allocated to each customer class. Next, total fixed costs are divided by the number of equivalent meters in each customer class. Customer

service costs were divided evenly between each billed customer. Volumetric rates were established based on variable costs such as water purchases and pumping costs. Customers are billed per 1,000 gallons (tGal) for all usage. For example, under the proposed rates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 the water service charges for a single-family service with a 5/8-inch meter and monthly water usage of eight tGal would be as follows: Fixed Charge (\$29.16) plus Water Quantity Charge (8 tGal x \$3.59) = \$57.88.

Current Rates and Proposed Rates
Table A

Fixed Charges						
Meter Size	Current	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Residential	\$31.18	\$29.16	\$31.49	\$33.38	\$35.38	\$36.80
Commercial Under 1"	\$57.17	\$26.47	\$28.59	\$30.31	\$32.13	\$33.41
Commercial 1"	\$57.17	\$41.86	\$45.20	\$47.92	\$50.79	\$52.82
Commercial 1-1/2"	\$57.17	\$80.31	\$86.73	\$91.94	\$97.46	\$101.35
Commercial 2"	\$57.17	\$126.45	\$136.57	\$144.77	\$153.45	\$159.59
Commercial 3"	\$57.17	\$234.12	\$252.85	\$268.03	\$284.11	\$295.47
Commercial 4"	\$57.17	\$387.94	\$418.97	\$444.11	\$470.76	\$489.59
Out of Town Under 1"	\$83.15	\$121.54	\$131.26	\$139.14	\$147.49	\$153.39
Out of Town 1"	\$109.14	\$200.30	\$216.32	\$229.30	\$243.06	\$252.78
Out of Town 1-1/2"	\$161.11	\$397.20	\$428.97	\$454.71	\$481.99	\$501.27
Out of Town 2"	\$213.08	\$633.47	\$684.15	\$725.20	\$768.71	\$799.46
Out of Town 3"	\$317.01	\$1,184.79	\$1,279.57	\$1,356.34	\$1,437.72	\$1,495.23
Out of Town 4"	\$420.95	\$1,972.37	\$2,130.16	\$2,257.97	\$2,393.45	\$2,489.19
Fire Suppression	\$57.17	\$19.42	\$20.97	\$22.23	\$23.56	\$24.50

Variable Charges						
Customer Class	Current	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Residential	\$3.86	\$3.59	\$3.88	\$4.11	\$4.36	\$4.53
Commercial	\$6.07	\$5.01	\$5.42	\$5.74	\$6.08	\$6.33
Berrenda Mesa	\$21.86	\$26.98	\$29.14	\$30.89	\$32.74	\$34.05
I-5	\$7.17	\$6.29	\$6.79	\$7.20	\$7.63	\$7.94
Chevron	\$11.05	\$11.55	\$12.48	\$13.23	\$14.02	\$14.58