

April 6, 2010

WATER BOARD, COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Water Board of the County of Hawai‘i will hold public hearings on the Proposed Water Rates at **6:00 p.m., May 4, 2010, Tuesday, in the Aupuni Center Conference Room, 101 Pauahi Street, Hilo, Hawai‘i, and at 6:00 p.m., May 5, 2010, Wednesday, at the King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel, Kamakahonu Ballroom, Room #1 (Ekahi), 75-5660 Palani Road, Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i.**

Pursuant to Chapter 54, Part III, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, the hearings will be for the purpose of hearing views and comments of all persons interested in the following proposals for increases in the water rate schedules to be applied by the Department of Water Supply, County of Hawai‘i, for all districts.

THE WATER BOARD IS SOLICITING PUBLIC INPUT ON TWO PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURES FOR GENERAL USE RATES AND AGRICULTURE USE RATES. OPTION “A” REFLECTS GRADUATED LEVELS OF ANNUAL RATE INCREASES FOR AGRICULTURE CUSTOMERS. OPTION “B” MAKES NO CHANGE TO THE CURRENT AGRICULTURE USE RATE. BOTH OF THESE PROPOSALS AFFECT THE GENERAL USE RATES IN VARYING DEGREES. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THESE ARE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS. The Water Board may adopt either option or a different set of rates based on public input. FOR ALL OTHER RATES/CHARGES, THERE IS ONLY ONE PROPOSAL FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

OPTION A: PROPOSED GENERAL USE RATES (per 1,000 gallons)

In addition to standby and power cost charges, a consumption charge will be applied to all general use customers.

Option A – General Use block rates with Graduated Levels of Annual Rate Increases for Agricultural Customers:

Option A	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
1 st Block	\$0.81	\$0.86	\$0.86	\$0.87	\$0.87
2 nd Block	\$1.67	\$1.68	\$1.68	\$1.69	\$1.69
3 rd Block	\$2.87	\$2.88	\$2.88	\$2.89	\$2.89
4 th Block	\$3.77	\$3.78	\$3.78	\$3.79	\$3.79

OPTION A: PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL USE RATES (per 1,000 gallons)

In addition to standby and power cost charges, a consumption charge will be applied to all agricultural use customers.

	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
Option A - All Usage	\$0.92	\$1.07	\$1.21	\$1.42	\$1.69

In order to qualify for agricultural rates, applicants shall file annually with the Department, a written application and furnish upon request, satisfactory proof (as determined by the Department), of engagement in agriculture, stock raising or dairy farming on a commercial basis, and that water used in addition to the above is limited to one dwelling. The Department reserves the right to limit or restrict water flow to agricultural users in the event of water shortage or in the event water service to domestic users is disrupted or lowered because of agricultural water use. Applicants shall install backflow preventers which shall be inspected and approved by the Department before water service is granted. Agricultural rates are not applicable to canneries, mills or markets or other establishments engaged in the conversion or treatment or packaging of agricultural products.

OPTION B: PROPOSED GENERAL USE RATES (per 1,000 gallons)

In addition to standby and power cost charges, a consumption charge will be applied to all general use customers.

Option B – General Use block rates with No Change in Agricultural Use rates:

Option B	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
1 st Block	\$0.81	\$0.86	\$0.86	\$0.87	\$0.87
2 nd Block	\$1.67	\$1.68	\$1.68	\$1.69	\$1.69
3 rd Block	\$2.93	\$3.01	\$3.01	\$3.02	\$3.02
4 th Block	\$3.89	\$3.99	\$3.99	\$4.00	\$4.00

OPTION B: PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL USE RATES (per 1,000 gallons)

In addition to standby and power cost charges, a consumption charge will be applied to all agricultural use customers.

	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
Option B - All Usage	\$0.85	\$0.85	\$0.85	\$0.85	\$0.85

In order to qualify for agricultural rates, applicants shall file annually with the Department, a written application and furnish upon request, satisfactory proof (as determined by the Department), of engagement in agriculture, stock raising or dairy farming on a commercial basis, and that water used in addition to the above is limited to one dwelling. The Department reserves the right to limit or restrict water flow to agricultural users in the event of water shortage or in the event water service to domestic users is disrupted or lowered because of agricultural water use. Applicants shall install backflow preventers which shall be inspected and approved by the Department before water service is granted. Agricultural rates are not applicable to canneries, mills or markets or other establishments engaged in the conversion or treatment or packaging of agricultural products.

BLOCK THRESHOLDS (gallons per month)

Meter Size (inches)	1 st Block	2 nd Block	3 rd Block	4 th Block
5/8"	5,000	5,001 - 15,000	15,001 - 40,000	> 40,000
1"	5,000	5,001 - 100,000	100,001 - 300,000	> 300,000
1½"	5,000	5,001 - 400,000	400,001 - 1,000,000	> 1,000,000
2"	5,000	5,001 - 900,000	900,001 - 2,000,000	> 2,000,000
3"	5,000	5,001 - 2,000,000	2,000,001 - 5,000,000	> 5,000,000
4"	5,000	5,001 - 4,700,000	4,700,001 - 10,000,000	> 10,000,000
6"	5,000	5,001 - 10,000,000	10,000,001 - 25,000,000	> 25,000,000
8"	5,000	5,001 - 20,000,000	20,000,001 - 50,000,000	> 50,000,000
10"	5,000	5,001 - 40,000,000	40,000,001 - 100,000,000	> 100,000,000
12"	5,000	5,001 - 60,000,000	60,000,001 - 150,000,000	> 150,000,000

PROPOSED MONTHLY STANDBY CHARGES

All meter connections shall be subject to a monthly standby charge as follows:

Meter Size (inches)	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
5/8"	\$13.25	\$14.25	\$14.50	\$14.75	\$15.00
1"	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$31.00
1½"	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$53.00	\$56.00	\$57.00
2"	\$78.00	\$81.00	\$83.00	\$86.00	\$89.00
3"	\$123.00	\$132.00	\$141.00	\$151.00	\$162.00
4"	\$195.00	\$211.00	\$228.00	\$247.00	\$267.00
6"	\$397.00	\$427.00	\$458.00	\$492.00	\$529.00
8"	\$743.00	\$770.00	\$787.00	\$821.00	\$843.00
10"	\$1,090.00	\$1,110.00	\$1,130.00	\$1,180.00	\$1,210.00
12"	\$2,070.00	\$2,140.00	\$2,190.00	\$2,290.00	\$2,350.00

POWER COST CHARGE (per 1,000 gallons)

All water use shall be subject to a Power Cost Charge (PCC) in addition to standby and consumption charges. No change to the PCC formula currently in effect is proposed.

PROPOSED MONTHLY STANDBY CHARGE FOR PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION

For each connection of automatic fire sprinklers or other private fire protection, there shall be a standby charge per month, in addition to consumption and power cost charges, based on the size of the connection as follows:

Size of Service (inches)	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
2"	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$17.00
3"	\$30.00	\$31.00	\$31.00	\$33.00	\$34.00
4"	\$41.00	\$43.00	\$44.00	\$46.00	\$47.00
6"	\$77.00	\$80.00	\$82.00	\$85.00	\$88.00
8"	\$115.00	\$120.00	\$122.00	\$127.00	\$131.00

PROPOSED SERVICE LATERAL INSTALLATION CHARGES

Installation charge for service lateral connection with a 5/8-inch meter:

	Effective July 1, 2010	
	Same Side	Cross Road
County Right-of-Way	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00
State Right-of-Way	\$12,000.00	\$17,000.00

FACILITIES CHARGES

A facilities charge will be applicable to all new service connections based on the maximum size of the meter and type of service the service lateral can support or by the number of lots, dwelling units or equivalent units in the development, whichever cost is larger. The facilities charge is in addition to the service lateral installation charge. No change to the facilities charges schedule currently in effect is proposed.

PROPOSED MONTHLY STANDBY CHARGES FOR FIRE LINE OR FIRE SERVICE METERS

For each connection of combined fire and domestic services, there shall be a standby charge per month, in addition to consumption and power cost charges, based on the large size of the connection as follows:

Size of Service (inches)	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
3"	\$123.00	\$132.00	\$141.00	\$151.00	\$162.00
4"	\$195.00	\$211.00	\$228.00	\$247.00	\$267.00
6"	\$397.00	\$427.00	\$458.00	\$492.00	\$529.00
8"	\$743.00	\$770.00	\$787.00	\$821.00	\$843.00
10"	\$1,090.00	\$1,110.00	\$1,130.00	\$1,180.00	\$1,210.00

SHIPPING RATES

The shipping rate structure is being repealed effective July 1, 2010.

PROPOSED STANDPIPE CHARGES

New customers obtaining water service from Department of Water Supply standpipe facilities shall be charged an initial payment and on a monthly basis for the proportional cost of the standpipe facility. These charges are as follows and in addition to general use consumption, standby, and power cost charges:

	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2013	Effective July 1, 2014
Initial Payment					
Meter Size					
5/8"	\$127.00	\$132.00	\$135.00	\$140.00	\$144.00
1"	\$254.00	\$263.00	\$269.00	\$281.00	\$288.00
1½"	\$317.00	\$329.00	\$336.00	\$351.00	\$360.00
2"	\$381.00	\$395.00	\$404.00	\$421.00	\$432.00
Amortized Installation Cost - Monthly					
Meter Size					
5/8"	\$8.50	\$8.80	\$9.00	\$9.40	\$9.60

1"	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$19.00
1½"	\$21.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$23.00	\$24.00
2"	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$29.00

TEMPORARY SERVICE ON HYDRANT CHARGES

Each applicant for a temporary connection of a meter to a fire hydrant shall be charged an initial payment, to be set periodically by the Department, in addition to general use consumption, standby, and power cost charges. Service shall be limited to a period not longer than 180 calendar days. After 180 calendar days, service may continue with another application for temporary service. The Department reserves the right to deny any application or remove any temporary connection at any time.

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

The Safe Drinking Water Act rate adjustment clause is being repealed effective July 1, 2010.

All those desiring to express their views, arguments, or submit data on the above matter may do so by submitting statements in writing to the Chairperson of the Water Board of the County on or before the date of the public hearing; but anyone interested may appear in person to submit their data, views, or arguments orally before the Water Board at the hearing. Submissions made to the Chairperson prior to the date of the hearing shall be mailed or delivered to the Chairperson in care of the Department of Water Supply, 345 Kekūanaō‘a Street, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720.

If accommodation or auxiliary aid and/or services (i.e., sign language, interpreter, large print) to participate in the hearing is required, please call (808) 961-8050.

Dated at Hilo, Hawai‘i, this 6th day of April, 2010.

WATER BOARD OF THE
COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I

By: Dwayne Mukai
Its Chairperson

The Department of Water Supply is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer.

Posted on the internet at:
<http://www.hawaiidws.org>

Hawaii Tribune-Herald
April 11 & April 13, 2010

West Hawaii Today
April 11 & April 13, 2010