

February 23, 2011

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

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., on Wednesday, March 30, 2011**, at the Aupuni Center, 101 Pauahi Street, **in Hilo**, and at **6:00 p.m., on Thursday, March 31, 2011**, at the Kona Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keahokalole Street, **in Kailua-Kona**.

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
INCREASING A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED 3.7% RATE INCREASE
EFFECTIVE FY 2012 (JULY 1, 2011), TO 6.8% TO GENERATE ADDITIONAL
REVENUE TO COVER INCREASED HEALTH CARE COSTS.**

**THE WATER BOARD IS NOT SEEKING CHANGES TO THE 2.2%, 4.3%,
AND 2.7% RATE INCREASES APPROVED FOR FY 2013 (JULY 1, 2012), FY
2014 (JULY 1, 2013), AND FY 2015 (JULY 1, 2014), HOWEVER, THE RATES
FOR THESE PERIODS NEED TO BE REVISED IF THE FY 2012 RATES ARE
INCREASED AS PROPOSED.**

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.

	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
1 st Block	\$0.81	\$0.86	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89
2 nd Block	1.67	1.68	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
3 rd Block	2.87	2.88	3.03	3.03	3.03	3.03
4 th Block	3.77	3.78	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95

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.

	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
1 st Block	\$0.81	\$0.86	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89
2 nd Block	1.67	1.68	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
3 rd Block	0.94	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO GENERAL USE 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

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO AGRICULTURE RATE BLOCK THRESHOLDS (gallons per month)

Meter Size	1 st Block	2 nd Block	3 rd Block
All Sizes	5,000	5,001 - 15,000	> 15,000

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO AGRICULTURAL USE APPLICATION

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.

PROPOSED MONTHLY STANDBY CHARGES

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

Meter Size (inches)	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
5/8"	\$13.25	\$14.25	\$14.70	\$15.00	\$15.70	\$16.00
1"	27.00	28.00	29.00	30.00	31.00	32.00
1½"	50.00	52.00	54.00	55.00	58.00	59.00
2"	78.00	81.00	84.00	86.00	90.00	92.00
3"	123.00	132.00	136.00	145.00	156.00	167.00
4"	195.00	211.00	218.00	235.00	255.00	275.00
6"	397.00	427.00	440.00	472.00	507.00	545.00
8"	743.00	770.00	794.00	811.00	846.00	869.00
10"	1,090.00	1,110.00	1,140.00	1,170.00	1,220.00	1,250.00
12"	2,070.00	2,140.00	2,210.00	2,260.00	2,360.00	2,420.00

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO 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. Actual Power Cost Charges are assessed per 1,000 gallons. The Department will review the actual costs of power every two months, when necessary. The Department shall calculate the Power Cost Charge based on the actual cost of power for that two-month period, or for the period since the last revision to the Power Cost Charge. The formula used to calculate the Power Cost Charge is as follows:

$$\text{Power Cost Charge} = \text{Actual Power Cost} / \text{Water Consumed (1,000 gallons)}$$

Revised Power Cost Charge will be implemented the month following the Water Board approval of the change.

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)	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
2"	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00
3"	30.00	31.00	32.00	33.00	34.00	35.00
4"	41.00	43.00	44.00	45.00	47.00	48.00
6"	77.00	80.00	82.00	84.00	88.00	90.00
8"	115.00	120.00	123.00	126.00	131.00	134.00

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO 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

Conditions:

- 1) For special conditions such as concrete sidewalks, compaction tests, large cut or fill areas where additional work is required, additional charges, as determined by the Department, shall be added to the installation charges listed above.
- 2) Deduct \$40 if no meter is required.

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO 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.

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)	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
3"	\$123.00	\$132.00	\$136.00	\$145.00	\$156.00	\$167.00
4"	195.00	211.00	218.00	235.00	255.00	275.00
6"	397.00	427.00	440.00	472.00	507.00	545.00
8"	743.00	770.00	794.00	811.00	846.00	869.00
10"	1,090.00	1,110.00	1,140.00	1,170.00	1,220.00	1,250.00

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:

	Current July 1, 2010	3.7% Approved July 1, 2011	6.8% Proposed July 1, 2011	2.2% Revised July 1, 2012	4.3% Revised July 1, 2013	2.7% Revised July 1, 2014
Initial Payment						
Meter Size:						
5/8"	\$127.00	\$132.00	\$136.00	\$139.00	\$145.00	\$148.00
1"	254.00	263.00	271.00	277.00	289.00	297.00
1½"	317.00	329.00	339.00	346.00	361.00	371.00
2"	381.00	395.00	407.00	416.00	434.00	445.00
Amortized Installation Cost – Monthly						
Meter Size:						
5/8"	\$8.50	\$8.80	\$9.10	\$9.30	\$9.70	\$10.00
1"	17.00	18.00	18.00	19.00	19.00	20.00
1½"	21.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00
2"	25.00	26.00	27.00	27.00	28.00	29.00

NO CHANGE PROPOSED TO 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.

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 23rd day of February, 2011.

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
February 27, 2011

West Hawaii Today
February 27, 2011