



Greater Augusta  
Utility District

Water | Wastewater | Stormwater

# Drinking Water and Wastewater Rate Hearing

May 16, 2022 at 6:00 PM EST

# AGENDA

Introductions

Following PUC ratemaking process - MRS 35-A §6104

Timeline

Documents available for review

Right to petition the Commission

Public hearing

# Introductions - Board

Ken Knight

Brad Sawyer

Bob Corey

Cary Colwell

Kirsten Hebert

Keith Luke

Cecil Munson

Charlotte Warren

Pat Paradis

# Introductions

Brian Tarbuck

Andy Begin

Mike Payne

# GROUND RULES

People who want to address the Board will be recognized

People will have 3 minutes to address the Board; if there are not many speakers the Board will allot additional time provided its on topic

The meeting will be recorded and aired live on CTV7

# NOTICE & RIGHT TO PETITION MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

The drinking water rate change may be investigated by the commission in accordance with this section.

Petitions filed pursuant to subsection 7 must bear the signatures and the printed names and addresses of the signers.

Upon request, the GAUD will provide customers with petition forms that include space for signatures and the printed names and addresses of the signers.

# TIMELINE - MPUC 6104 process

Friday, April 8, 2022	Bill inserts to customers	no regulatory requirement to do this
Friday, April 15, 2022	Publish supporting materials	at least 30 days before public hearing
Monday, April 25, 2022	Mail notice of public hearing	must be in mailboxes 14 days before public hearing
Monday, May 2, 2022	Publish notice of public hearing	at least 14 days before public hearing; KJ notice
<b>Monday, May 16, 2022</b>	<b>Public hearing date</b>	<b>Simultaneous to GAUD Board meeting</b>
Friday, May 27, 2022	File rates w/ MPUC	at least 10 days after but no more than 30 days after public hearing
Thursday, June 16, 2022	30 day petition period ends	
Friday, June 17, 2022	Earliest effective date of rates	at least 31 days after hearing but not more than 9 mos after hearing
Friday, February 10, 2023	Latest effective date of rates	at least 31 days after hearing but not more than 9 mos after hearing

# PUBLIC HEARING

- Changing rates under 6104 requires a public hearing
- Customers and Public Advocate may testify and question officials present regarding the proposed drinking water rate change



# NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

- Rate change & percentage change for each drinking water customer class;
- customer's right to request information related to current and proposed rates;
- right to an open and fair hearing;
- right to further hearings before the PUC; and
- availability of assistance from the Public Advocate

# NOTICE REQUIREMENTS (CONT.)

- Right to petition the Commission to investigate proposed change;
- Petition forms are available upon request that include space for signatures and printed names and addresses of the signers;
- Petition signatures are invalid unless accompanied by printed names and addresses of signers

# AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE RATE CHANGES

If, within 30 days of the public hearing, 818 customers (15%) file petitions with the Treasurer of the Utility and the Commission to demand a review of the rate changes, the rate change may be suspended, investigated, reviewed and changed in accordance with section 310.

**Total customers:  $5,455 \times 15\% = 818$**

# NOTICE PROVIDED

Notice was provided at least 14 days ago declaring the date, time, place and purpose of the hearing using the following media:

- Kennebec Journal (April 27, 2022)
- Direct mail to all customers (front / back postcard)
- Website / Facebook / Instagram
- Note on all bills

# SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Materials supporting the rate change were provided to the commission and the public advocate at least 30 days before the hearing

These materials have been available to customers at the office of the utility for at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

The utility will promptly provide additional relevant information to the Commission, Public Advocate or customer upon request.

# FILING CHANGED RATES

GAUD will file drinking water rates with the Commission no sooner than 10 days (May 27, 2022) or later than 30 days (June 17, 2022) from today's public hearing.

# EFFECTIVE DATE FOR RATE CHANGE

The new rates for both drinking water and wastewater will go into effect on or about July 1, 2022.

# OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

- Keep remarks on topic and 3 minutes long or less to provide others a chance to comment



# CLOSING PUBLIC HEARING

After comments have been received the public hearing will be closed.



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