Linda County Water District 1280 Scales Avenue Marysville, CA 95901



Notice of Proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Rate Increase

Proposition 218 Notification to Property Owners of Public Hearing on Proposed Water Service Charge Rate Increases

Assessor's Parcel Number APN: Service Address:

Basic Information: You are receiving this notice because you are either a property owner in the Linda County Water District or you are a water user receiving service from the District.

The Linda County Water District provides water supply and distribution services for over 4,575 residential and commercial customer accounts supporting a population of approximately 18,000. The District delivers about 1,021 million gallons of water each year through a water distribution system that includes approximately 70 miles of pipeline, as well as water wells, storage reservoirs, treatment and transmission facilities.

The District's water system operations are funded mainly through water rates and service charges. Monthly water service charges are used to fund utility costs, including labor, energy, chemicals, regulatory compliance, system maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement of infrastructure, and capital improvements. By law, water rates must be calculated based on the cost to provide service. The proposed water rates and charges are necessary to ensure that the District can continue to pay the ongoing and increasing cost of providing clean, safe and reliable water service to you. The proposed water rates are supported by a financial plan and rate study, which determined that current water rates are insufficient to cover the District's on-going operating and maintenance costs, adequately support the capital improvement program, and meet reserve policy goals.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Linda County Water District will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 12th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. located at 1280 Scales Avenue, Marysville, California, 95901, to consider adoption of proposed water service rate increase

PUBLIC HEARING AND PROTEST PROCEDURES: Public comments and written protests will be accepted at the August 12, 2019 public hearing, and the Board will be requested to take action to implement the proposed increases / changes at this meeting. Only written protests of the proposed rate increases will be counted. Written protests may be sent to the District prior to the public hearing to the attention of the "District General Manager" at the address shown above and <u>must include the property</u> address AND the Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) found at the top of this notice.

At the close of the Public Hearing, the Board Secretary will announce the total number of written protest responses, including any received at the public hearing. If the Board receives written protests concerning the water rate increase from a majority of the identified parcel owners receiving service from the District; then the District cannot impose the proposed rate adjustments. The District will hold only one protest hearing. If adopted, the proposed increases and changes to water rates would become effective on November 1, 2019.

PROPOSED INCREASES TO MONTHLY WATER SERVICE CHARGES: For Fiscal Year 2019/2020 (FY19/20) (November 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020), the District is proposing a single-year Water Service Charge (WSC) rate increase of \$8.75 per month for a basic 5/8-inch meter on the Base Rate (\$15.25 per month) and \$0.75 per CCF (hundred cubic feet) on the Variable Rate charge (\$1.55 per CCF). A 3% annual adjustment is also included as part of this notice, but the inflator will not be implemented unless approved by the Board of Directors. Impacts on other meter sizes are shown below.

These increases are necessary to:

- Fund the installation of Well 17, complete system rehabilitation and replacement projects of water system facilities to ensure regulatory compliance and continuous service to customers.
- Address increasing labor costs related to employee certifications and the addition of one new certified operator position.
- Increased operating costs related to power and chemical costs and legislative mandates.

The table below summarizes the proposed base rate changes proposed for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (November 1 through June 30). The District does not anticipate proposing any additional rate increases above a discretionary 3% increase due to inflation through FY23/24.

Monthly Service Charge Based On Meter / Service Size			
Equivalent Residential Unit Ratio From M54 Manual	Description	Current Monthly Base Rate	Proposed Monthly Base Rate
1.000	5/8 Inch Meter	6.50	15.25
1.500	3/4 Inch Meter	9.10	22.90
2.500	1 Inch Meter	11.70	38.15
5.000	1 1/2 Inch Meter	14.30	76.25
8.000	2 Inch Meter	22.05	122.00
15.000	3 Inch Meter	42.80	228.75
25.000	4 Inch Meter	57.10	381.25
50.000	6 Inch Meter	101.15	762.50

If the new water rates are approved, the monthly variable (volumetric) charge for water use for all meter sizes will increase from \$0.70 per CCF to \$1.55 per CCF.

The proposed increases are applied to all customers based on meter/service size and on the amount of water measured by the meter. Base rates vary based on meter/service size, but the charge for metered water usage is based on 100 cubic feet blocks of water (748 gallons) to all customers. There are no blocks of water included in the base fee.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO WATER RATES: Further information on the proposed water rates, including the District's water system financial plan and rate study prepared by Municipal Consulting Group, is available for review during business hours at the District office, 1280 Scales Avenue, Marysville. If you would like additional information on how the proposed changes will affect your water bill, please contact the District Office at (530) 743-2043.

VERSION EN ESPAÑOL

AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA Y PROCEDIMIENTOS DE PROTESTA:

La Junta de Directores del Distrito de Agua del Condado de Linda celebrará una audiencia pública sobre los aumentos propuestos para la tasa de aguas residuales; y las modificaciones en la estructura de la tarifa de agua el lunes 12 de agosto de 2019 a las 7:00 p.m. en la Sala de la Junta del Distrito ubicada en 1280 Scales Avenue, Marysville, California, 95901. Se aceptarán comentarios públicos y protestas por escrito en esta Audiencia Pública, y se solicitará a la Junta que tome medidas para implementar aumentos / cambios en esta reunión. Se pueden enviar protestas por escrito al Distrito antes de la audiencia pública a la atención del "Gerente General del Distrito" en la dirección que se muestra arriba y debe incluir la dirección de la propiedad Y el Número de Parcela del Tasador (APN) que se encuentra en su etiqueta de correo.

Al cierre de la Audiencia Pública, el Secretario de la Junta anunciará el número total de respuestas de protesta, incluidas las recibidas en la audiencia pública. Si la Junta recibe protestas por escrito con respecto al aumento de la tarifa del agua de una mayoría de los propietarios identificados vasado en el Número de Parcela Del Tasador, que reciben el servicio del Distrito; entonces el Distrito no puede imponer los ajustes de tarifa propuestos.

Notado en la introducción, habrá una audiencia para este asunto por el Distrito. El Distrito propone modificar su estructura actual de tarifas para el servicio de agua potable y aumentar su cargo mensual de servicio actual.

Este informe contiene información importante, Si necesita ayuda con esta traducción, busque a alguien que la entienda o pase por la oficina para obtener ayuda. Gracias {00136842.1}

Linda County Water District Proposed Water Service Rate Increase

The Linda County Water District (District) recently performed a rate study and analysis of the costs of providing potable water to its customers in the community of Linda, in Yuba County. The study estimated operating costs based on power costs; the costs of operating and maintaining the water supply infrastructure; and replacement costs of infrastructure that is nearing the end of its useful life. Appropriate maintenance cost expenditures are required to protect the condition of our aging infrastructure, both to keep our pipelines, pumps and other equipment functioning properly, and to extend the useful life of this infrastructure to get the most usage from these investments before we need to replace them.

The District has found that a rate increase will be required to continue provide safe and reliable water to the community. The District does not take lightly its responsibility to provide water service at a cost to the consumer that reflects an efficient use of the public's resources, and the District is continuing to seek ways to reduce overall service costs to the community.

For example, in 2019 the District completed a significant project within the community to repair and replace broken water valves. This project with an estimated cost of \$400,000 was paid for completely by a grant awarded to the District by the California Department of Water Resources. The District has also received a \$1,000,000 grant to develop an additional water supply source for our community and will continue to exhaust the opportunity for further grants before implementing the project.

The District has not had an increase in our monthly water bills since 2006, and has operated the water system on a lean budget. Currently our District's water supply rates are the lowest in the region for any medium sized public water purveyor. Even after the proposed rate increase, the District anticipates still having the one of the lowest rates in the region.

Details regarding the proposed water rate increase are on the reverse of this sheet for all of the various customer types within the District. Water rates vary with the size of the water meter supplying the property, with larger meters costing more per month than smaller meters. The vast majority of our water customers are supplied water through a 5/8-inch meter. For these users the monthly water bill base rate, not including the amount of water used, will increase from \$6.50 to \$15.25 per month. The charge per gallon of water supplied is the same for all customers. The existing \$0.70 per CCF charge is proposed to increase to \$1.55 per CCF. One CCF is equal to one hundred cubic feet of water or about 748 gallons. This results in a new cost of water at \$0.0021 per gallon (up from \$0.0009). A typical household uses about 21 CCF per month.

We at the District know costs are raising for our customers all around. Cost increases come from many sources including food; rent; other utilities such as electricity, gas and telephone; and, healthcare, etc. Throughout this process we have been mindful of the needs of our community in our effort to assure that the District has the resources needed to continue to provide this essential service to our customers. We ask that our customers be understanding as we reluctantly implement our first water rate increase in 13 years.

Respectfully,

Brian G. Davis, P.E. General Manager

Linda County Water District