



WASHINGTON WATER'S GENERAL RATE CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Prepared by Public Counsel Unit, Attorney General's Office
800FifthAvenue • Suite 2000 • Seattle, WA 98104
utility@atg.wa.gov • www.atg.wa.gov

The Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office advocates for the interests of residential and small business customers of electric, gas, water, transportation, and telecommunications companies regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC or Commission). Public Counsel advocates on behalf of customers before the Commission and courts regarding utility rates, mergers, business practices, service quality, energy efficiency, safety, and policy matters.

Washington Water's Increase Request

Washington Water Service Company has requested a rate increase for two water service territories owned by the company, the East Pierce system and a service area referred to as the Legacy system. After reaching a settlement with Commission Staff and Public Counsel, Washington Water is now requesting a \$2.73 million, 24.1% increase for East Pierce and a \$1.40 million, 10.2% increase for the Legacy system. This is a total increase of 16.45%. The rate increase is driven by capital investments and increased costs which have been verified by Commission Staff.

The greater increase for the East Pierce system is a result of Washington Water moving the rates for both systems to parity, as East Pierce's rates are currently lower than those of the Legacy system.

The increase includes a 10.18% return on equity (ROE) for Washington Water, which is a return to the company's shareholders for capital investments made into the system.

Public Counsel's Position

The current cost of living is too high, and utility costs are a burden for many households. Public Counsel will continue to advocate to save Washington consumers money. This case is a step in the right direction. Public Counsel supports the ROE portion of the settlement and does not oppose the remainder.

Water utilities in Washington have generally received a 12% return on capital investments. This settlement saves consumers money now by delivering a lower 10.18% return, which is similar to the result in a recent fully litigated water case. If Public Counsel had gone to litigation, the Commission could have allowed Washington Water to pass litigation costs on to consumers. Public Counsel believes that agreeing to a 10.18% return and avoiding litigation is in the public interest and reduces costs for consumers. Public Counsel will continue to advocate for lower returns in future Commission policy dockets and cases.

The Parties

The following parties are participating in this proceeding:

- Washington Water Service Company
- UTC Staff *
- Washington Attorney General's Office, Public Counsel Unit (residential and small business customer advocate)

*In formal UTC proceedings, regulatory Staff participates like any other party, and UTC Commissioners make the decision.





If you have questions, you can contact Public Counsel by email at: utility@atg.wa.gov, or by mail at:

**Attorney General's Office, Public Counsel Unit,
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000,
Seattle, WA 98104.**

Average Residential Monthly Bill Comparisons

EAST PIERCE	Proposed Monthly Bill	Average Proposed Monthly Bill	LEGACY	Proposed Monthly Bill	Average Proposed Monthly Bill
Median monthly charge – ¾" residential	\$33.65	\$44.26	Median monthly charge – ¾" residential	\$47.63	\$54.88
Flat rate	\$19.68	\$24.36	Flat rate	\$24.72	\$30.60
Non-metered	\$41.91	\$51.88	Non-metered	\$64.35	\$79.65

Process for Commission Decision

The parties have submitted testimony supporting the settlement. The Commission will either make a decision based on the written record or it will schedule a public hearing before issuing an order.

Submit a Comment

The UTC Commissioners appreciate hearing from members of the public about how the Company's proposed rate increases will affect them. The UTC is holding a virtual public comment hearing to take comments on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. You can participate via the Zoom link below or by phone.

- **Join via Zoom by visiting the link:** [Washington Water Rate Increase Zoom Link](#)
- **Join via phone by calling:** (253) 215-8782 and use Meeting ID 814 3640 6490# with Passcode 718078#.

The public can additionally submit comments in the following ways:

- Via UTC web form at: [Public Comment Form](#)
- By email at: comments@utc.wa.gov
- By mail at: **UTC, P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250**
- By phone: [1-888-333-WUTC \(9882\)](tel:1-888-333-WUTC).

Please include the following in your written comment: your name, mailing address, the name of the company (PacifiCorp), and the Docket Number UE-230482. For more information, see <http://www.utc.wa.gov/>, or call 1-800-562-6150.