

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Case No. CAP-W-13-01, Order No. 32837

July 5, 2013

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Capitol Water seeks rate hike due to power costs

Capitol Water Corp., which serves about 2,900 customers in the Boise area, is asking state regulators to approve an approximate 2.37 percent increase in customer bills to account for increasing power costs.

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission, which is taking customer comment through July 11 on the proposal, allows Capitol Water, after review, to increase or decrease its rates in an annual adjustment outside a general rate case if power expenses impact the company's revenue by greater than 0.25 percent.

Capitol Water maintains that customers already pay \$75,483 in their base rates for electrical expense. Last year, the company was authorized to add a 1.85 percent surcharge when electric expense increased to \$85,418. This year, electrical expense is \$101,915, the company claims. The company seeks to add another 2.37 percent surcharge to base rates, for a total surcharge (when added to last year's 1.85 percent) of 4.22 percent effective Aug. 1.

Capitol Water residential customers who use a ¾"-inch meter pay a flat monthly rate of \$12.65. The average annual power cost surcharge, if approved, would add about 53 cents to the non-summer flat rate and \$1.21 during the months of May to September. During the summer months, customers also pay a monthly sprinkling rate of \$16.50.

Capitol Water serves residential and commercial customers in an area bounded roughly by Northview Street south to Ustick Road and from Curtis Road west to North Maple Grove.

Comments are accepted via e-mail by accessing the commission's homepage at www.puc.idaho.gov and clicking on "Case Comment or Question Form," under the "Consumers" heading. Fill in the case number (CAP-W-13-01) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.

A full text of the commission's order, along with other documents related to this case, is available on the commission's Web site. Click on "Open Cases" under the "Water" heading and scroll down to the above case number.