

WATER**Regulated water companies**

Company	Customers	Nearest city/town
CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC	358	Blanchard
Diamond Bar Estates Water Company	46	Rathdrum
Eagle Water Company, Inc.	3,546	Eagle
Falls Water Company, Inc.	4,500	Ammon
Grouse Point Water	24	Kuna
Happy Valley Water System	27	Athol
Island Park Water Company	362	Island Park
Kootenai Heights Water System, Inc.	11	Kootenai
Mayfield Springs Water Company	76	Kuna
Morning View Water Company, Inc.	108	Rigby
Picabo Livestock Company	28	Picabo
Ponderosa Terrace Estates Water System, Inc.	22	Sandpoint
Resort Water Company	422	Sandpoint
Rickel Water Company	38	Coeur D'Alene
Rocky Mountain Utility Company, Inc.	101	Rigby
Schweitzer Basin Water LLC	439	Sandpoint
Spirit Lake East Water Company	301	Coeur D'Alene
Suez Water Idaho Inc.	88,400	Boise
Sunbeam Water Company	22	American Falls
Teton Water and Sewer Company, LLC	285	Driggs
Troy Hoffman Water Corporation	147	Coeur D'Alene

WATER CASES

Grouse Point Water receives approval to raise rates and charges

In September, the Commission approved increases to rates and charges for customers of Grouse Point Water Company near Kuna.

The changes included an increase to the monthly customer charge, from \$22 to \$86, and to charges based on the amount of water used.

The changes took effect Oct. 15 and call for usage charges based on an inclining block rate structure that assesses a higher rate when usage exceeds certain amounts.

Grouse Point customers who use up to 8,000 gallons in a month are now charged \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons used. The rate increases to \$3.75 per 1,000 gallons for monthly usage between 8,001 and 20,000 gallons. It climbs to \$5 per 1,000 gallons for monthly usage exceeding 20,000 gallons.

Under the previous rate structure, customers paid 50 cents per 1,000 gallons used when monthly consumption exceeded 8,000 gallons. There were no usage charges for customers who consume less than 8,000 gallons per month.

Grouse Point Water provides service to 24 customers.

In requesting Commission approval to raise rates, the company said revenue had fallen short of operational expenses every year since 2003, when its previous rates were set. Without a rate increase, the company said, it would be unable to continue operations.

Grouse Point had proposed raising the monthly customer charge to \$113.86 and implementing consumptive charges with two tiers separated at 8,000 gallons - \$1.83 per 1,000 gallons for those who use less than 8,000 gallons in a month, and \$5 per 1,000 gallons for usage in excess of 8,000 gallons.

In its proposal, the company said revenue between 2012 and 2015 covered approximately 40 percent of its expenses for basic operations and maintenance, creating a deficit in excess of \$10,000. In addition, the company contended its rates did not reflect \$127,441 in capital improvements made in 2009 and 2013. Those improvements included installation of a new well, two pumps and associated equipment needed to comply with federal drinking water standards involving uranium that were established in 2004.

Commission approves Falls Water request to build new well

In September, the Commission approved a request from Falls Water Company to construct a new well in order to resolve problems with water pressure in its service territory.

The project is estimated to cost \$647,215 and calls for construction of a well, well house, pumping equipment and controls.

The decision does not immediately impact rates; however, the Commission's order allows project expenses to be considered in Falls Water's next rate case. Company estimates indicate the project could lead to a rate increase of between 3.4- and 4.4 percent, but all expenses related to the project will be reviewed for accuracy and reasonableness before they are included in future rates.

WATER CASES

Falls Water serves approximately 4,700 customers in Bonneville County, east of Idaho Falls.

Officials with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality notified the company in July 2016 that it had failed to comply with water pressure requirements of the Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems.

DEQ officials suggested that corrective action could include water-use restrictions or an increase in system capacity through additional sources, storage or pumping.

When the potential solutions were deemed inadequate or cost prohibitive, Falls Water sought to add capacity through the construction of a new well.

The Commission found that the company's proposal "appears to be the most cost-effective means of providing adequate service to its customers."

Morning View Water receives approval to raise rates and charges

In late 2016, the Commission approved a rate increase for customers of Morning View Water Company in Rigby.

The change raised the monthly minimum charge from \$32.62 to \$50 for quarter-acre lots, and introduced volumetric charges based on the amount of water used each month.

These consumption-based charges are now split into two tiers. For a customer with a quarter-acre lot, the first tier is 15 cents per 1,000 gallons used per month, up to 10,000 gallons. Usage beyond that amount is assessed at 48 cents per 1,000 gallons used per month.

The changes were expected to increase the company's annual revenue by \$93,727, or nearly \$8,000 less than the revenue generated under Morning View's proposal, which did not call for volumetric charges.

In its application to the Commission, the company said its first rate increase since 2007 was needed in order to meet expenses related to the installation of a third well, along with upgrades to two existing wells.

Morning View provides water service to approximately 100 customers in and around Rigby in eastern Idaho.

The Commission received a number of comments from customers opposed to the company's request.