### **WATER**

### **Regulated Water Companies**

Company	Customers	Nearest City / Town
Algoma Water Company	27	Sagle
Aspen Creek	47	Fish Haven
Atomic Water Works	31	Atomic City
Capitol Water	3,019	Boise
CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC	384	Blanchard
Falls Water Company, Inc.	6,510	Ammon/Rigby
Gem State Water	1040	Coeur d'Alene
Grouse Point Water	24	Kuna
Island Park Water Company	425	Island Park
Kootenai Heights Water System, Inc.	11	Kootenai
Mayfield Springs Water Company	101	Kuna
North Star Water	10	Caldwell
Picabo Livestock Company	40	Picabo
Ponderosa Terrace Estates Water System, Inc.	22	Sagle
Resort Water Company	539	Sandpoint
Rocky Mountain Utility Company, Inc.	120	Rigby
Schweitzer Basin Water LLC	470	Sandpoint
Sunbeam Water Company	22	American Falls
Teton Water and Sewer Company, LLC	311	Driggs
Veolia Water Idaho	105,445	Boise

# Water Press Releases from the Commission for the Fiscal Year 2023

#### **Algoma Water System**

### WRITTEN COMMENTS BEING ACCEPTED ON WATER UTILITY PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is taking written comments until mid-October on an application from Algoma Water System to raise rates for residential and commercial customers.

Algoma Water serves customers in Sagle. It is asking for approval to increase residential customer rates to \$54.00 per month and increase commercial customer rates to \$89.00 per month. The Commission can approve, deny or modify the proposed increase.

Comments are being accepted until Oct. 18, 2023, and are required to be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To comment using the Commission's website, please visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the "Case Comment Form" link on the upper left side of the page. Please use case number AWS-W-23-01 when filling out the form. If submitting comments through e-mail, comments are required to be sent to Algoma and the Commission secretary at the e-mail addresses listed below. If computer access is not available, comments may be mailed to the Commission and the utility at these addresses:

### WORKSHOP, CUSTOMER HEARING WILL BE HELD ON WATER UTILITY'S APPLICATION TO INCREASE RATES

Idaho Public Utilities Commission staff have scheduled a workshop and customer hearing to share information and take testimony on an application from Algoma Water System to increase the rates for service it provides to residential and commercial customers.

The utility is asking for approval from the Commission to increase rates for residential customers to \$54.00 per month and increase rates for commercial customers to \$89.00 per month.

An online workshop will be held Wednesday, Oct. 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. The workshop will offer an overview of the application and Commission staff's analysis regarding how Algoma's proposed rate increase would impact customers if approved. At the workshop, attendees may ask staff questions. To participate online, please visit idahogov.webex.com, and enter meeting number 2633 090 8387. Then click on the green "Join" button. At the next window, please enter this password: AlgomaWorkshop. Next, please click on the green "Join Webinar" button. At the next window, please enter your name and e-mail address, and then click on the "next" button. Then click on the green "Join Webinar" button.

To participate over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2633 090 8387 when prompted.

The customer hearing will be Wednesday, Oct. 18, to take testimony from customers and the public. The testimony will become part of the formal record. The hearing will begin at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time and conclude at

3:00 p.m. or after all testimony has been submitted, whichever comes first. It will be held at the Sandpoint Community Hall, 204 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Sandpoint, ID 83864. Those interested in listening to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2630 107 4654 when prompted. In-person attendance is required to submit testimony.

#### **Falls Water Company**

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULED ON WATER UTILITY'S APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES.

Idaho Public Utilities Commission staff will hold an online public workshop to share information on an application from Falls Water Company to change the rates it charges customers to provide service.

The utility's proposal, if approved, would decrease the difference in average bills per customer between the various rate classes. Falls Water also proposes increases in tiered rates for three different usage bands (or tiers) and a separate rate for secondary irrigation systems.

The workshop will be Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 6:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time and conclude after all questions have been answered. Staff with the Commission will provide an overview of the utility's application. To attend over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2630 606 3424 when prompted. To attend online, please visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2630 606 3424. Then click on the green "Join" button. At the next window, please enter your name, e-mail address and this password: FallsWorkshop. Next, click on the green "Join Webinar" button.

Written comments on the utility's application are being accepted until Oct. 12, 2023. Comments are required to be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To comment using the Commission's website, please visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the "Case Comment Form" link on the upper left side of the page. Use case number FLS-W-23-01 when filling out the form. If submitting comments using e-mail, comments must be sent to the Commission and Falls Water at the e-mail addresses listed below.

### CUSTOMER HEARING SCHEDULED ON WATER UTILITY APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will hold a customer hearing on Oct. 23 to take testimony on an application from Falls Water Co. to change the rates it charges customers for water service.

Falls Water is seeking an approximate 47.3 percent increase in revenue collected. The Commission can accept, deny or modify the utility's application.

Falls Water said the additional revenue would help recover increased operating expenses and costs associated with plant additions.

The customer hearing will be Monday, Oct. 23, in the Idaho Falls Public Library Conference Room, 457 West Broadway, Idaho Falls, ID 83402. It will start at 1:00 p.m. (MDT) and end at 3:00 p.m., or after all customer testimony has been taken, whichever comes first. Those attending the hearing in-person will have the opportunity to submit testimony for the record. Those interested in listening to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001, and enter meeting number 2634 378 1777 when prompted. In-person attendance is required to submit testimony.

Written comments on the utility's application are being accepted until Oct. 12, 2023. Comments are required to be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To comment using the Commission's website, please visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the "Case Comment Form" on the upper left side of the page. Use case number FLS-W-23-01 when filling out the form.

#### **Gem State Water**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE BEING ACCEPTED ON PROPOSED PURCHASE OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN NORTHERN IDAHO

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is accepting comments on an application that would allow Gem State Water to buy the assets of Valiant Idaho, LLC and TIC Utilities, LLC.

Gem State Water operates in Coeur d'Alene. Valiant Idaho and TIC Utilities own a water supply and distribution system that serves approximately 148 residential customers in or near Bonner County. If the application is approved by the Commission, Gem State Water will determine what, if any, capital investments are needed. These potentially could include the installation of meters or other projects.

The Commission is accepting written comments until June 22, 2023. Comments are required to be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To submit comments through the Commission's website, please visit puc.idaho.gov. Please click on the "Case Comment Form" link on the upper left side of the page, and use case number GSW-W-23-01 when filling out the form. To submit comments through e-mail, send them to the Commission secretary and the company at the e-mail addresses listed below.

For additional information, please visit: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6982.

#### COMMISSION APPROVES GEM STATE WATER APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved an application from Gem State Water to change the rates it charges customers.

Gem State Water asked for approval to change the monthly rates it charges to provide water service to customers based on the diameter of their water meter, how much water they use and the water system they belong to. For example, Spirit Lake East customers who have a one-inch meter (including customers formerly of the Lynnwood Estates Subdivision), will see a monthly increase from \$25.55 to \$35.00. Bar Circle "S" customers (including customers formerly of Diamond Bar), will see a decrease from \$41.00 per month to \$35.00 per month. Customers who have larger water meters will pay more than those with smaller meters.

The monthly charge covers the use of a certain number of gallons. If customers use additional water, their bill will increase. The amount of the increase depends on which water system customers are a part of.

Additional information is available at: https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6894.

### COMMISSION WILL HOST CUSTOMER AND PUBLIC HEARING ON JAN. 18 REGARDING GEM STATE WATER APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will host a hearing on Jan. 18 in Athol to take customer and public testimony regarding Gem State Water Company, LLC's application to change its rates.

Gem State Water is asking for approval to increase the monthly rates it charges to provide water service. If the application is approved by the Commission, rates for customers would change based on the diameter of their water meter and the water system they belong to. For example, Spirit Lake East customers (including customers formerly of the Lynnwood Estates Subdivision), would see a monthly increase from \$25.55 to \$35.00. Bar Circle "S" customers (including customers formerly of Diamond Bar), would see a decrease from \$41.00 per month to \$35.00 per month.

The public hearing is on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Pacific Time) at the Athol Community Center, 30355 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Those attending in-person will have an opportunity to provide testimony that will become part of the formal record. People also may listen to the live testimony at the hearing by calling 1-415-655-0001, and enter meeting number 2467 617 1016. Those who call in will not be able to submit testimony over the phone.

This is the first general rate case for Gem State Water. The utility consists of Bitterroot Water Company, Bar Circle "S" Water Company, Spirit Lake East Water, Happy Valley Water Systems, Troy Hoffman Water Corporation, Diamond Bar Estates and Lynnwood Estates Subdivision. Rate increases were approved for individual companies from 2006 through 2019.

Gem State Water requested an effective date of Sept. 1, 2022. This was suspended by Commission Order No. 35498, which said the proposed rate changes were suspended for 30 days plus five months or until the public utilities Commission issues an earlier order accepting, rejecting, or modifying the proposed rate changes. The rate changes would increase Gem State's revenue by \$402,000, which represents an increase of 69.9 percent. The public utilities Commission may approve, reject, or modify the proposed rates and charges and may find rates and charges different from those proposed are just, fair and reasonable.

Written comments on Gem State Water's application are being accepted until Jan. 20, 2023. Comments are required to be filed by e-mail unless e-mail is unavailable. To submit comments via e-mail, please visit the Commission's webpage at puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "Case Comment Form" link toward the top left of the page. Please use case number GSW-W-22-01 when filling out the form. Any comments should also be sent to Gem State Water at the e-mail addresses listed below.

For more information on Gem State Water's application, please visit: <a href="https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6894">https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6894</a>.

#### **Island Park Water Company**

## COMMISSION SCHEDULES SHOW CAUSE HEARING, CUSTOMER HEARING FOR ISLAND PARK WATER COMPANY

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is ordering the Island Park Water Company to appear before it and explain why the Commission should not impose penalties for the utility's alleged violations of regulatory requirements.

The purpose of the hearing is to allow Island Park Water to explain to the Commission why it should not impose penalties as permitted by Idaho law. The hearing will be on Wednesday, March 29, at 11:00 a.m. (MDT) at the Island Park Emergency Services Building, 4378 County Circle, Island Park, Idaho, 83429.

Those who would like to listen to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001, and enter meeting number 2458 419 2917.

A customer and public hearing will also be held on March 29 at the Island Park Emergency Services Building starting at 3:00 p.m. Those interested in submitting testimony for the record will have the opportunity to do so in-person. Those interested in listening to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2456 167 2001 when prompted. Those listening over the phone will not be able to provide testimony.

The utility is located in Fremont County, where it provides water service to over 300 customers.

Additional information regarding the show cause hearing and customer hearing can be found at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6978.

### EASTERN IDAHO WATER UTILITY FINED FOR VIOLATING IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITY LAWS

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has found that the Island Park Water Company (Company) has failed to provide its customers with safe, reliable, and adequate service.

The Company, which serves more than 300 customers in Fremont County, is being penalized \$434,000 for failure to provide safe and reliable service, improperly billing customers, retaliating against customers who contacted the utility with concerns about service and failing to respond to requests from the Commission for records, among other violations. The Commission provided the Company the opportunity to avoid the imposition of the penalty if it rectified each violation which resulted in a penalty within 21 days of the issuance of the Commission's Order.

At a customer hearing in late March, the Commission received testimony from customers who said the Company demanded additional payments to maintain water service, charged customers for prior owner's bills and failed to make repairs, among other concerns.

The Company consists of seven water systems. They are the Aspen Subdivision, Goose Bay Estates Public Water System, Shotgun Cherokee Subdivision 5, Shotgun Kickapoo Subdivision 6 Public Water System, Shotgun North Public Water System, Shotgun South Stevens Lane, and the Valley View Subdivision.

Additional potential penalties include the revocation of the Company's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of the Order.

Additional information is available at puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6978/.

#### Kootenai Heights Water System

#### PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED ON PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE

Idaho Public Utilities Commission staff will hold an online public workshop in mid-August to share information on an application from Kootenai Heights Water System to increase the rates it charges for water service.

The utility is proposing to increase the residential flat rate it charges customers from \$38.50 per month to \$57.65 per month.

At the workshop, Commission staff will present an overview of the utility's application and answer questions. The workshop will be Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 5:30 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time, 6:30 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time. To participate over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2633 940 2402 when prompted. To participate online, please visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2633 940 2402 (no spaces between numbers). Then, click on the green "Join" button. At the next window, please enter this password: TuesdayWorkshop. Next, please click on the green "Join Webinar" button. At the next window, please enter your name and e-mail address, and then click on the "Next" button. Then click on the green "Join Webinar" button.

Written comments on the utility's application are being accepted until Sept. 20, 2023. Comments are required to be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. If using the Commission's website, please visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the "Case Comment Form" link on the upper left side of the page. Please use case number KHW-W-23-01 when filling out the form. Those submitting comments using e-mail are

required to send them to the Commission secretary and Kootenai Heights Water at the e-mail addresses listed below.

For additional information on the application, please visit: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7017.

### CUSTOMER HEARING SCHEDULED TO TAKE TESTIMONY ON WATER UTILITY'S PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will hold a customer hearing to take testimony on an application from Kootenai Heights Water System to increase the rates it charges to offer water service.

The hearing will be Wednesday, Oct. 18, at the Sandpoint Community Hall, 204 S. 1st Avenue in Sandpoint. It will begin at 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Daylight Time) and conclude at 1:00 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time) or after all testimony has been taken, whichever comes first. Kootenai Heights Water is seeking Commission approval to increase the residential flat rate from \$38.50 per month to \$57.65 per month, an increase of \$19.15 per month. The Commission can approve, deny or modify the application.

Those interested in listening to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2631 521 2642 when prompted. In-person attendance is required to submit testimony for the record.

Additional information is available at <u>puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7017</u>.

#### **Sunbeam Water**

### COMMISSION SCHEDULES CUSTOMER WORKSHOP REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF EASTERN IDAHO WATER UTILITY

Staff with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission will hold a customer workshop in late June regarding Sunbeam Water.

The utility serves customers near American Falls.

The workshop will be Wednesday, June 28, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (MDT) at the American Falls School District Community Learning Center, Room #4, 827 Fort Hall, American Falls, ID 83211. It is being held to allow Commission staff, representatives from Sunbeam Water and its customers to meet, ask questions, receive information, potentially resolve disputed issues, and give utility customers an opportunity to hear from Commission staff.

Additional information is available at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6952.

#### Veolia Water Idaho

## COMMISSION WILL HOST CUSTOMER/PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON JAN. 31 REGARDING VEOLIA WATER IDAHO APPLICATION TO RAISE RATES

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will host a customer and public workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 31, to share information on an application from Veolia Water Idaho to increase rates for water service.

The workshop will start at 6:00 p.m. MST and end at 9:00 p.m. MST, or after all customer questions have been answered, whichever comes first. The workshop will provide the public with an overview of the application from

Veolia to increase rates. Commission staff will present information on the application, and be available to answer questions.

A formal customer/public hearing will be held at a later date to accept testimony that will become part of the formal record. At the workshop on Tuesday evening, staff will be available to answer questions. However, any comments submitted by attendees will not become formal testimony until the customer/public hearing is held at a later date.

To participate online, please visit idahogov.webex.com. At this window, please enter meeting number 2452 700 5741 when prompted. There are no dashes between the numbers. At the next window, please enter your name, email address and this password: VEOLIARATECASE. To participate over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2452 700 5741. There are no dashes between the numbers.

Veolia represents that if the Commission approves the request in full, customer bills would be adjusted by 24.1% and company revenues would increase by 23.4% or \$12.1 million per year. In its application to the Commission, Veolia says the proposed changes in rates and charges are just and reasonable. The requested rate of return under the revised rates and charges will be 7.77%, which Veolia says is a fair return on the utility's investment in property used to provide water service.

The revenue gathered by Veolia under its presently authorized rates produces a rate of return of 4.59% based on a historical year ending June 30, 2022. Veolia is asking the Commission for additional revenues to recover increased operating expenses and costs associated with plant additions. Veolia said the average residential bill would increase by \$0.25 a day or \$7.59 per month. The average commercial bill would increase by \$0.93 a day or \$27.92 each month, and the average public authority bill by \$0.85 a day or \$25.46 a month.

All of Veolia's retail rates and charges, both recurring and non-recurring, including those of special contract customers, are at issue, and every component of every existing and proposed rate and charge is at issue. The Commission may approve, reject, or modify the rates and charges proposed and may find that rates and charges different from those proposed by any party are just, fair, and reasonable.

In December of 2021, the Commission approved a settlement agreement that allowed SUEZ Water Idaho to acquire the assets of Eagle Water Company. Legacy Eagle Water Company area customer rates will continue to phase-in over time. Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, existing Eagle Water customers' rates will be set at 50 percent of SUEZ's approved rates. Each year thereafter on Jan. 1, existing customers' phase-in rates will increase by approximately 8.33 percent until their rates are 100 percent of SUEZ's approved rates. For additional information about Veolia's application, please visit: https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6908

### COMMISSION SCHEDULES CUSTOMER/PUBLIC HEARING, TECHNICAL HEARING REGARDING VEOLIA WATER IDAHO APPLICATION TO RAISE RATES

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will host a customer and public hearing on March 27 to take testimony on an application from Veolia Water Idaho to increase rates for water service.

The hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. (MDT) on Monday, March 27, in the Commission's hearing room, 11331 W. Chinden Boulevard, Building 8, Suite 201-A, Boise, ID, 83714. Those attending in person will have the opportunity to submit testimony for the record. Those interested in the hearing but do not wish to submit testimony can listen to the proceedings by calling 1-415-655-0001 and entering meeting number 2464 879 8267 when prompted. Testimony will not be accepted by phone.

In addition to the customer and public hearing, the Commission is holding a technical hearing starting on April 4 in the Commission's hearing room, 11331 W. Chinden Boulevard, Building 8, Suite 201-A, Boise, ID, 83714. A technical

hearing is an opportunity for parties to the case to present witnesses, testimony and exhibits. If the hearing does not conclude on April 4, it also is scheduled for April 5, April 6, and April 7 as needed.

The hearing on Tuesday, April 4, will begin at 9:00 a.m. (MDT) and last until 5:00 p.m. Those interested in listening online can visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2450 028 9817. At the next window, please enter your name, e-mail address and this password: April4Hearing. Those interested in listening over the phone to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2450 028 9817.

If needed, the hearing will continue on Wednesday, April 5, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. It may conclude earlier than 5:00 p.m. if the full day is not needed. Those interested in attending online can visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2455 300 2652. At the next window, please enter your name, e-mail address and this password: April5Hearing. Those interested in listening to the hearing can call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2455 300 2652.

If additional time is needed, the hearing will continue on Thursday, April 6, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. It may conclude earlier than 5:00 p.m. if the full day is not needed. To attend online, please visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2463 130 5116. At the next window, please enter your name, email address and this password: April6Hearing. To listen to the hearing, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2463 130 5116.

If additional time is needed, the hearing will continue on Friday, April 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. It may conclude earlier than 5:00 p.m. if the full day is not needed. To attend online, please visit idahogov.webex.com and enter meeting number 2452 246 0382. At the next window, please enter your name, e-mail address and this password: April7Hearing. To listen to the hearing, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2452 246 0382.

#### COMMISSION ISSUES DECISION IN VEOLIA WATER IDAHO RATE CASE

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission approved a rate increase of 7.06 percent on Friday in the rate case application submitted by Veolia Water Idaho.

Residential customer bills will increase by an average of \$2.21 per month, depending on how much water is used. The increase will take effect on May 1, 2023.

Veolia originally asked for a 24.1 percent increase when it filed its application in September of 2022.

In its ruling, the Commission established a rate base for Veolia of \$255,162,220, and a revenue requirement of \$56,157,933. The rate base for a utility is the total of the investor-funded plant, facilities, and other investments used by a utility to provide service. The revenue requirement is the total amount of money a utility needs to collect from customers to pay its costs, including a return on its investments.

The Commission also approved a 9.25 percent return on equity, and an overall 6.91 percent rate of return. The 6.91 percent rate of return represents an increase of \$2,756,227 for Veolia. This amount represents the 7.06 percent increase.

Veolia, which serves approximately 105,000 customers in Ada County, said it needed additional revenue to recover increased operating expenses and costs associated with plant additions.

#### COMMISSION APPROVES WATER MAIN INSTALLATION FOR UTILITY

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved a water main installation agreement between Ada County and Veolia Water Idaho that will serve residents in the southern part of the county.

Ada County has been given a federal grant as part of the American Rescue Plan Act to pay for the project. The residents will pay the same rates as other utility customers once their properties are connected. The water main will serve approximately more than 160 new customers, and construction will start close to the end of this year. Under the American Rescue Plan Act, funds are available to make necessary investments in water infrastructure. For a number of reasons, some wells in southern Ada County are not adequate to provide drinking water.