# Information & Discussion on Rate Proposal

Jeffrey Stewart, Director

CELEBRATING

125
YEARS

August 24, 2022



#### **Presentation Team**



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Burns & McDonnell
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Director, Finance & Rates



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Senior Project Manager



## **Burns & McDonnell**



#### Where We Are



#### **Key Industries and Markets We Serve**





## **Agenda**

- Overview
- Process
- Financial Overview & Grants
- New Rate Class Proposals
- Rate Overview

"As a publicly owned utilities system, we provide high quality, competitively priced services that exceed our customers' expectations and contribute to the Consolidated Government to support other community needs."



#### **Overview**

- Cost of Service/Rate Study began June 2021
  - Completed July 2022
  - Revised August 2022
- Data included audited financials, adopted budget, and projected revenue requirements for capital and operating needs
- Water Sector Program Funding requires a Cost of Service study to retain the funding
- State Bond Commission requires a Cost of Service study
- Component of RP<sup>3</sup> designation

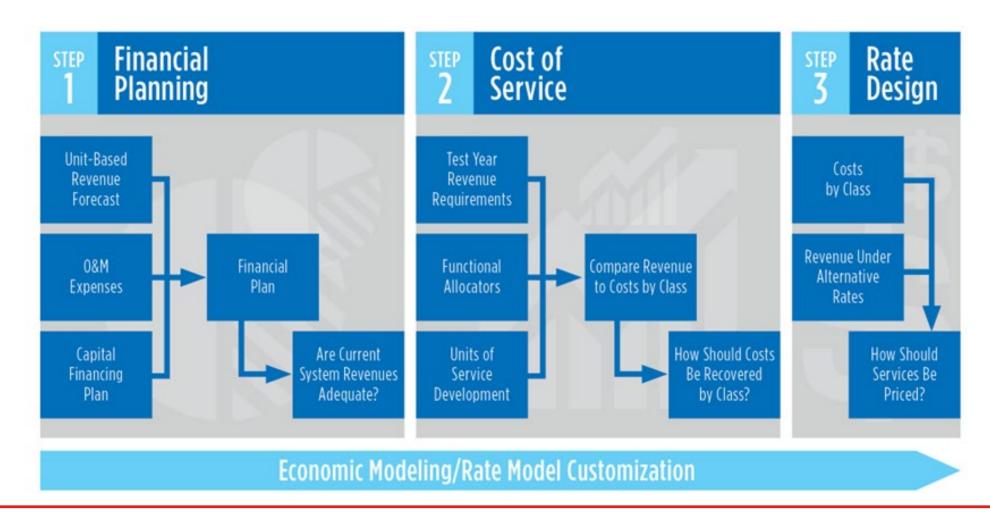




# Process



## **Cost of Service & Rate Proposal Process**





## Rate Design

- Rate proposals are developed to meet cost of service evaluation to align costs and revenues
- All rate classes were reviewed
- Rate design changes and levels were reviewed with LUS staff
- Each utility's retail rate changes were analyzed for the impact to an average customer's bill
- Followed best utility practices

Proposed rate change effective on November 1, 2022





# **Current Challenges**

- Scarcity of supplies, materials, and vendors
- Workforce shortages and increased labor costs
- Increased material costs and lead times
  - Example transformer costs:
    - FY 2021 \$1,370,569
      - Lead time 3-4 months
    - FY 2022 \$2,210,500
      - Lead time 25 months
- Regulatory compliance
  - CMOM
  - Lead and Copper
  - NERC
- Investing in aging infrastructure
- Volatile fuel markets









# **LUS Fuel Adjustment Charge History**





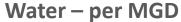
# **Benchmarked Operating Costs - Electric**

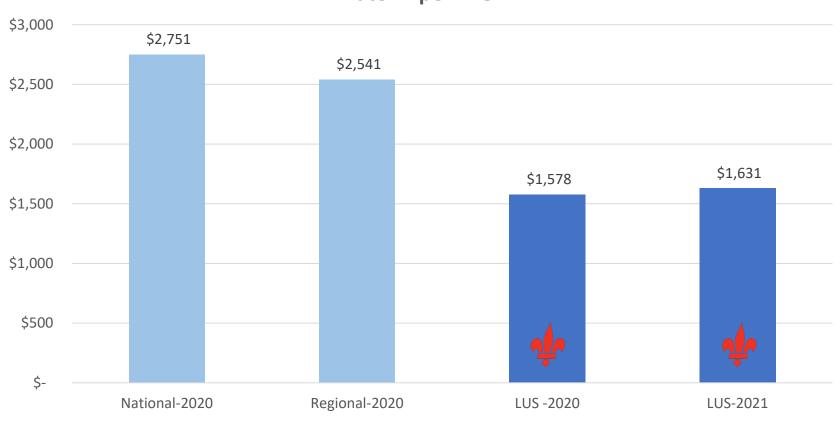






# **Benchmarked Operating Costs - Water**







# **Benchmarked Operating Costs - Wastewater**





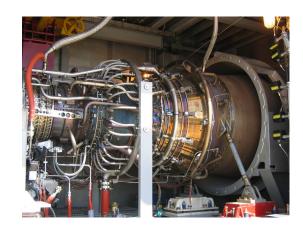


## **Proposed Base Rate Revenue Changes**

• Electric: +3.0% per year in FY 24 & 25

• Water: +8.0% per year in FY 23, 24, & 25

Wastewater: +9.5% per year in FY 23, 24, & 25



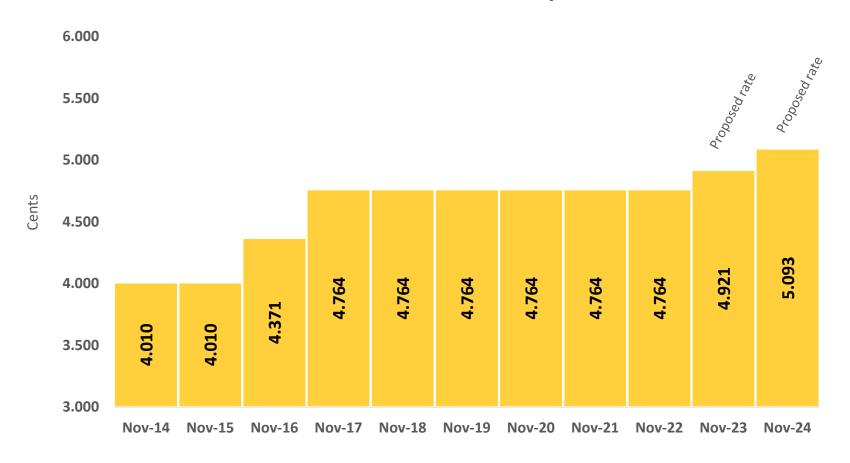






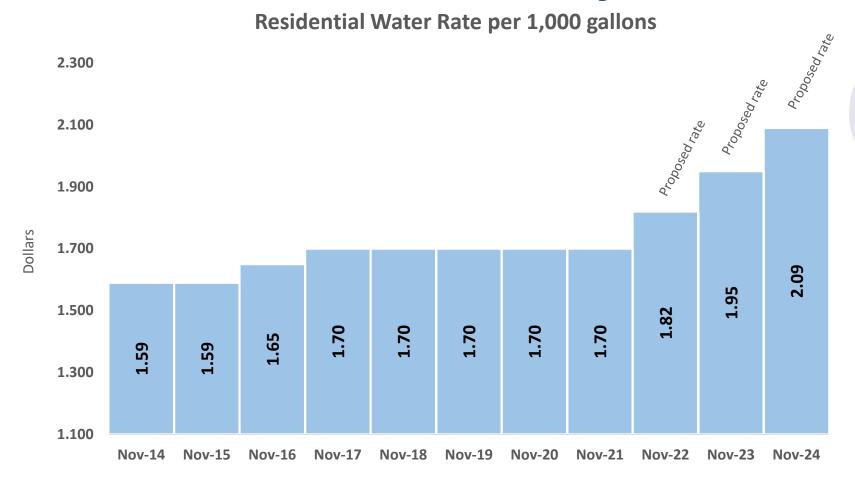
# **LUS Electric Base Rate History**

Residential Base Rate - Cents per kWh





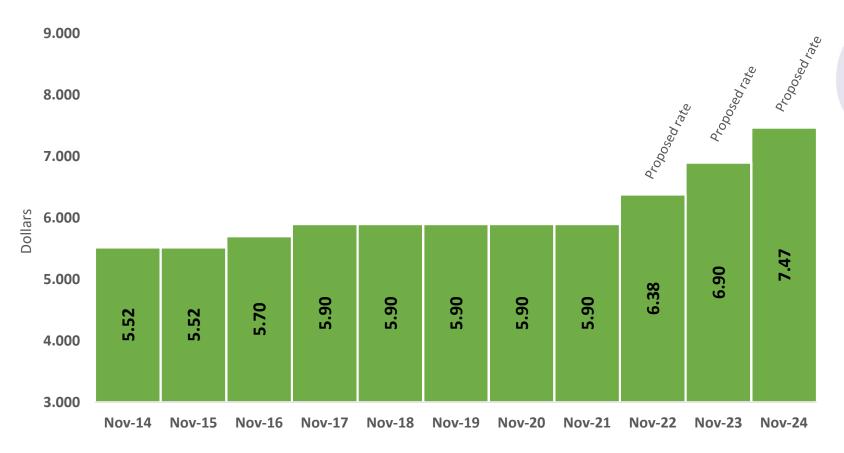
# **LUS Water Volumetric Rate History**





# **LUS Wastewater Volumetric Rate History**

Residential Wastewater Rate per 1,000 gallons





# Financial Overview & Grants



## **Combined Cash Flow – without rate increase**

	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
Total Operating Revenue	257,277,431	260,755,699	263,743,726	267,267,200
Total Operating Expenses	194,901,246	201,422,860	210,106,147	219,194,868
Balance Available for Debt Service	62,376,185	59,332,839	53,637,579	48,072,332
Total Debt Service: Cash Basis	23,650,100	23,632,550	23,624,300	24,114,250
Debt Service Coverage Ratio (before ILOT)	2.64	2.51	2.27	1.99
Total Other Income (Expenditures)	(34,687,595)	(32,664,827)	(32,651,784)	(32,638,223)
Balance Available for Retained Earnings & Capital	4,038,490	3,035,462	(2,638,505)	(8,680,141)
Capital Expenditures	32,880,000	20,775,000	23,125,000	31,875,000
Change in Cash	(28,841,510)	(17,739,538)	(25,763,505)	(40,555,141)



## **Combined Cash Flow – with rate increase**

	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26
Total Operating Revenue	262,051,216	273,788,419	284,772,383	288,011,876
Total Operating Expenses	194,901,246	201,422,860	210,106,147	219,194,868
Balance Available for Debt Service	67,149,970	72,365,559	74,666,236	68,817,008
Total Debt Service: Cash Basis	23,650,100	23,632,550	23,624,300	24,114,250
Debt Service Coverage Ratio				
(before ILOT)	2.84	3.06	3.16	2.85
Total Other Income (Expenditures)	(34,687,595)	(32,664,827)	(32,651,784)	(32,138,223)
Balance Available for Retained				
Earnings & Capital	8,812,275	16,068,182	18,390,152	12,564,535
Capital Expenditures	32,880,000	20,775,000	23,125,000	31,875,000
Change in Cash	(24,067,725)	(4,706,818)	(4,734,848)	(19,310,465)



# **Water Sector Program Grants**

LUS was awarded approximately \$9.5 million from the Water Sector Program (WSP).

	WSP Grant	LUS	Project Total
Water	\$4,669,867	\$3,561,360	\$8,231,227
Ambassador Caffery Sewer Treatment Plant	\$1,841,063	\$1,407,529	\$3,248,592
East Sewer Treatment Plant	\$1,314,800	\$993,151	\$2,307,951
Northeast Sewer Treatment Plant	\$1,677,424	\$1,267,568	\$2,944,992
Total	\$9,503,154	\$7,229,608	\$16,732,762



## **Additional Grant Applications**

LUS has requested \$5 million in Federal funding for sewer expansion projects.

- Downtown Lift Station
- Downtown Force Main

LUS will be applying for additional grants during the second application session of the Water Sector Program.

## Capital Budget – FY 2023 to 2027

Electric: \$ 33,770,000

Water: \$ 17,505,000

Sewer: \$ 64,135,000

General: \$ 10,945,000

Total: \$126,355,000









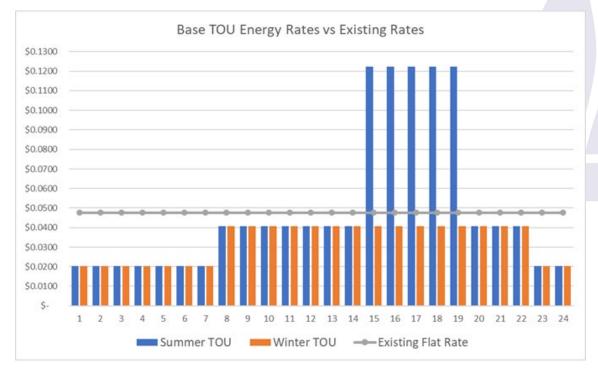
# New Rate Class Proposals



## Time of Use Pilot – Effective FY 22-23

Rate structure of time-varying rates to incentivize customers to consume energy when demand is lower, and costs are lower, to balance energy demand throughout the day.

- Residential customers only Optional
- Ability for customers to change their habits and potentially save money
- TOU rate for low-cost, off-peak EV charging
- Time of Use Periods
  - On-Peak hours: 8 a.m. 10 p.m.
  - Super Peak hours: 2 p.m. 7 p.m. (Summer only)
  - Off-Peak hours: 10 p.m. 8 a.m.





## **Transmission Service Rate**

Charge	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24
Customer Charge	-	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Energy Charge	-	\$0.02055	\$0.02076
Demand Charge	-	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.02



# Rate Overview



## **Comparative Residential Rates**

August 2022 Rates

	New Orleans	New Iberia	<b>Baton Rouge</b>	Shreveport	<b>Lake Charles</b>	LUS	Alexandria
Electricity <sup>1</sup>	\$125.41	\$154.81	\$141.10	\$112.37	\$141.10	\$130.64	\$140.49
Water <sup>2</sup>	\$68.52	\$39.68	\$31.58	\$26.56	\$27.05	\$18.45	\$22.32
Wastewater <sup>2</sup>	\$86.93	\$37.89	\$50.35	\$79.44	\$32.15	\$49.90	\$27.02
Total	\$280.86	\$232.38	\$223.02	\$218.37	\$200.30	\$198.99	\$189.83

- 1 1,000 kWh
- 2 7,000 gallons



## **Proposed Comparative Residential Rates**

Based on August 2022 Rates

	New Orleans	New Iberia	Baton Rouge	Shreveport	LUS FY 22-23	Lake Charles	Alexandria
Electricity <sup>1</sup>	\$125.41	\$154.81	\$141.10	\$112.37	\$130.64	\$141.10	\$140.49
Water <sup>2</sup>	\$68.52	\$39.68	\$31.58	\$26.56	\$19.65	\$27.05	\$22.32
Wastewater <sup>2</sup>	\$86.93	\$37.89	\$50.35	\$79.44	\$54.70	\$32.15	\$27.02
Total	\$280.86	\$232.38	\$223.02	\$218.37	\$204.99	\$200.30	\$189.83

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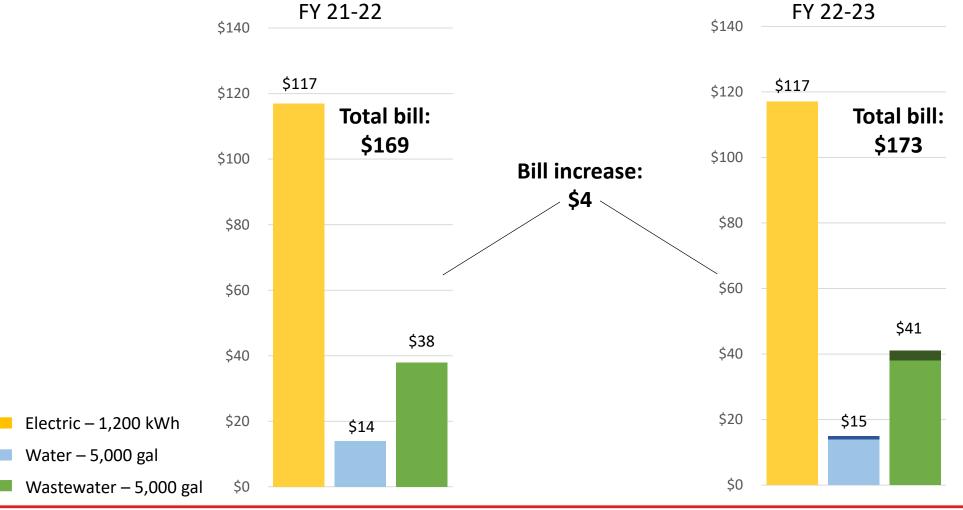


# Regional Residential Electric Base Rate Comparison

Utility	Average Rate (\$/kWh)*	LUS FY 23-24	LUS FY 24-25
Entergy	\$0.04092		
Alexandria	\$0.04420		
LUS	\$0.04764	\$0.04921	\$0.05093
Slemco	\$0.06005		
Cleco	\$0.06977		
Entergy New Orleans	\$0.07956		

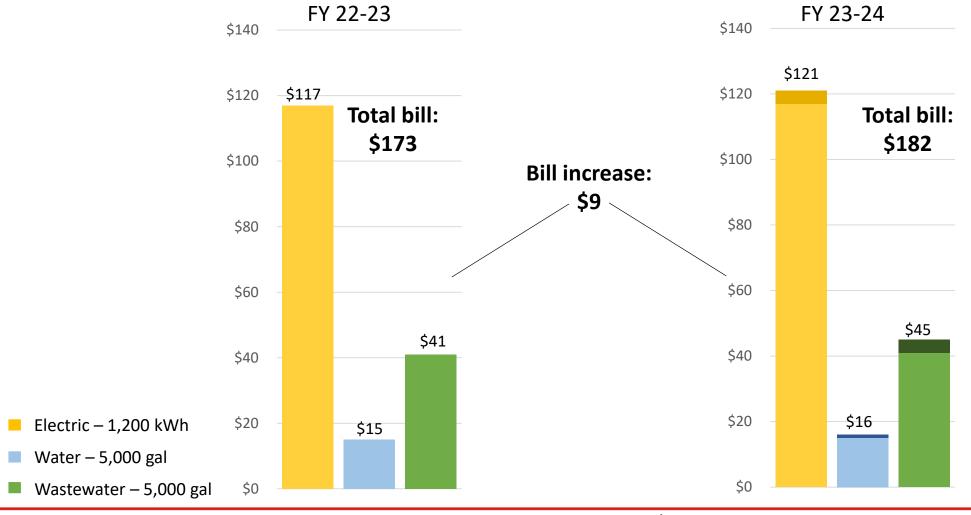
Source: Rates as of August 2022 \*Excluding Fuel Adjustment Charge





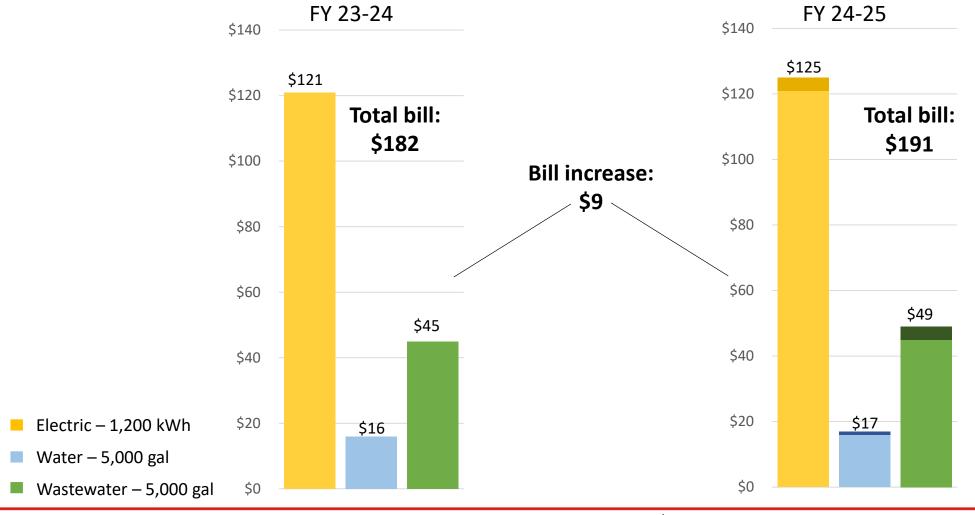
















# **Upcoming Meetings**

- Final Adoption
  - Tuesday, September 6, 2022
- Rates Effective
  - Tuesday, November 1, 2022



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# **THANK YOU!**



# Appendix



# **Benchmarked Operating Costs**

	National	Regional	LUS	LUS
	2020	2020	2020	2021
Electric - per kWh sold	\$0.0910	\$0.0750	\$0.0584	\$0.0659
Water - per MGD	\$2,751	\$2,541	\$1,578	\$1,631
Wastewater - per MGD	\$4,045	\$2,228	\$3,328	\$3,039



					Proposed		
		FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27
Electric (1,200 kWh usage)	\$/month	\$117	\$117	\$121	\$125	\$125	\$125
Water (5,000 Gal. usage)	\$/month	\$14	\$15	\$16	\$17	\$17	\$17
Wastewater (5,000 Gal. usage)	\$/month	<u>\$38</u>	<u>\$41</u>	<u>\$45</u>	<u>\$49</u>	<u>\$49</u>	<u>\$49</u>
Total Bill	\$/month	\$169	\$173	\$182	\$191	\$191	\$191
Total Increase	\$/month		\$4	\$9	\$9	\$ -	\$ -



<sup>\*</sup>Electric fuel charge held constant for analysis

# Residential Existing & Proposed Rates

Rate Class	Charge	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Electric	Customer Charge	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.00
	Energy Charge	\$ 0.04764	\$ 0.04764	\$ 0.04921	\$ 0.05093
Water – In-city	Customer Charge – ¾ in	\$ 5.55	\$ 5.99	\$ 6.47	\$ 6.99
	Winter	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.09
	Summer (Tier 1/Tier 2)	\$ 1.70/\$ 2.70	\$1.82/\$ 2.89	\$ 1.95/\$ 3.09	\$ 2.09/\$ 3.31
Water – Non-city	Customer Charge – ¾ in	\$ 11.10	\$ 11.98	\$ 12.94	\$ 13.98
	Winter	\$ 3.40	\$ 3.64	\$ 3.90	\$ 4.18
	Summer (Tier 1/Tier 2)	\$ 3.40/\$ 5.40	\$ 3.64/\$ 5.78	\$ 3.90/\$ 6.18	\$ 4.18/\$ 6.62
Wastewater – In-city	Customer Charge	\$ 8.60	\$ 9.42	\$ 10.31	\$ 11.29
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 5.90	\$ 6.38	\$ 6.90	\$ 7.47
Wastewater – Non-city	Customer Charge	\$ 10.30	\$ 11.28	\$ 12.35	\$ 13.52
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 7.10	\$ 7.68	\$ 8.30	\$ 8.99



# **Commercial Existing & Proposed Rates**

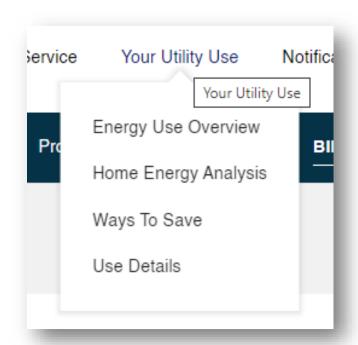
Rate Class	Charge	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Electric – Small	Customer Charge	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 14.00
	Energy Charge	\$ 0.06176	\$ 0.06176	\$ 0.06157	\$ 0.06157
Electric – Large	Customer Charge	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
	Energy Charge	\$ 0.02098	\$ 0.02098	\$ 0.02119	\$ 0.02140
	Demand Charge	\$ 8.50	\$ 8.50	\$ 8.60	\$ 8.70
Water – In-city	Customer Charge - ¾ in	\$ 5.55	\$ 5.99	\$ 6.47	\$ 6.99
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.13	\$ 2.32	\$ 2.53
Water – Non-city	Customer Charge - ¾ in	\$ 11.10	\$ 11.98	\$ 12.94	\$ 13.98
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 3.90	\$ 4.26	\$ 4.64	\$ 5.06
Wastewater – In-city	Customer Charge	\$ 16.15	\$ 17.68	\$ 19.36	\$ 21.20
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 6.15	\$ 6.83	\$ 7.58	\$ 8.41
Wastewater – Non-city	Customer Charge	\$ 24.20	\$ 26.49	\$ 29.01	\$ 31.77
	Volumetric Charge	\$ 7.40	\$ 8.22	\$ 9.12	\$ 10.12



#### **Customer Tools**

#### **MyAccount**

- Customers can see their daily use, monthly (billing cycle) use, and yearly use for electric, water, and wastewater
- Customers can access their cost/energy use (kWh) on an hourly and daily basis with information such as daily temperatures
- Customers can compare their kWh use from last year and the previous 12 months





# **MyAccount**

#### 12 Month View of Energy Cost





# **MyAccount**

# 24-Hour View of Energy Consumption

