# **RESOLUTIONNO**. 141-15

# A RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE UTILITIES RULES AND REGULATIONS OF COLORADO SPRINGS UTILITIES

- **WHEREAS,** Colorado Springs Utilities (Utilities) has proposed modifications to the Utilities Rules and Regulations section of its tariff; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, adding clarifying tariff language around the Electric Plan Review Fee; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, changing the address for dispute resolution to the general Utilities address; and
- **WHEREAS,** Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, allowing totalization of primary and secondary meters when meters reside on the same campus; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, increasing the amounts collected through Contributions in Aid of Construction in the Electric and Natural Gas distribution system; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, changing language regarding Water and Wastewater permit fees to be consistent with each other; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, adding clarifying tariff language on applicable Development Charges regarding multi-family and master metered multi-family charges; and
- WHEREAS, Utilities proposes, and City Council approves, adding tariff language to allow a limited transfer of unused Development Charge Credits from a vacant parcel to another parcel under the same ownership; and
- **WHEREAS,** Utilities has provided public notice of the proposed changes and has complied with the requirements of the City Code for changing its Utilities Rules and Regulations; and
- **WHEREAS,** the proposed Utilities Rules and Regulations changes shall be effective January 1, 2016; and
- WHEREAS, specific rates, policy changes, and changes to any terms and conditions of service are set out in the attached tariffs for adoption with the final City Council Decision and Order in this case.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1: That Colorado Springs Utilities Tariff, City Council Volume No. 5, Utilities Rules and Regulations shall be revised as follows:

Effective January 1, 2016:

City Council Vol. No. 5				
Sheet No. Sheet Title Cancels Sheet N		Cancels Sheet No.		
Third Revised Sheet No. 12	General	Second Revised Sheet No. 12		
Second Revised Sheet No. 30	General	First Revised Sheet No. 30		
Second Revised Sheet No. 39	Electric	First Revised Sheet No. 39		
First Revised Sheet No. 46	Electric	Original Sheet No. 46		
First Revised Sheet No. 46.1	Electric	Original Sheet No. 46.1		
First Revised Sheet No. 47	Electric	Original Sheet No. 47		
First Revised Sheet No. 58	Natural Gas	Original Sheet No. 58		
Second Revised Sheet No. 64	Wastewater	First Revised Sheet No. 64		
Third Revised Sheet No. 65	Wastewater	Second Revised Sheet No. 65		
Third Revised Sheet No. 66	Wastewater	Second Revised Sheet No. 66		
Second Revised Sheet No. 67	Wastewater	First Revised Sheet No. 67		
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 69	Wastewater	Third Revised Sheet No. 69		
Sixth Revised Sheet No. 69.1	Wastewater	Fifth Revised Sheet No. 69.1		
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 81	Water	Third Revised Sheet No. 81		
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 82	Water	Third Revised Sheet No. 82		
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 83	Water	Third Revised Sheet No. 83		
Third Revised Sheet No. 83.1	Water	Second Revised Sheet No. 83.1		
Third Revised Sheet No. 83.2	Water	Second Revised Sheet No. 83.2		
Second Revised Sheet No. 94	Water	First Revised Sheet No. 94		

Section 2: The attached tariff sheets, City Council Decision and Order, and other related matters are hereby approved and adopted.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 8th day, of December, 2015.

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson.

City Council President



#### **GENERAL**

# 3. **DEVELOPMENT FEES**

A. The following fees will be assessed for development review, water system modeling and fire flow analysis, electric line extension design, gas line extension design, Recovery Agreement initiation and Recovery Agreement payment processing conducted by Utilities.

FEE	AMOUNT	PAYABLE AT TIME OF:
City of Colorado Springs major development application review	• \$479.00 per application	Plan submittal to City Land Use Review
City of Colorado Springs minor development application review	• \$111.00 per application	Plan submittal to City Land Use Review
City of Manitou Springs development application review	\$61.00 per application	Review of submittal
El Paso County     development application     review	• \$54.00 per application	Review of submittal
All other jurisdictions' development application review	• \$45.00 per application	Review of submittal

<sup>\*</sup>De minimus reviews are not charged development application fees for the above reviews

Electric and/or gas line extension design	<ul> <li>Electric residential - \$166.00 per extension contract plus \$33.00 per lot</li> <li>Electric commercial - \$398.00 per building or transformer</li> </ul>	Submittal of extension contract, except electric commercial to be submitted at time of service contract
	Gas - \$166.00 per extension contract plus \$33.00 per service stub	

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#### **GENERAL**

#### 14. RESTORATION OF SERVICE - cont'd

D. A field visit fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) will be assessed to a Customer when Utilities' personnel are required to visit a Customer's Premises in order to perform credit and collection activities as defined by Utilities.

# 15. DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

A. Any Customer's or user's dispute with Utilities concerning the Customer's or user's utility service or proposed utility service, except as otherwise provided herein, including, without limitation, billing errors and omissions, termination of service, line extensions or alleged violations of regulations or ordinances, shall be reviewed and determined by the following procedure, unless otherwise provided for in ordinances or resolutions. The process consists of a mandatory first step of an Informal Review and, if the Customer or user is dissatisfied with the Informal Review, a Formal Review. A Customer or user is required to complete the dispute resolution procedure, which results in a final decision, before seeking any judicial action.

Only disputed amounts will be excluded from credit and collection activity until the dispute is resolved. Credit and collection activity will continue on any or all other amounts due.

#### 1. Informal Review

As provided below, the Customer or user shall proceed with the required Informal Review in one of two methods: (a) the Customer or user shall seek an informal review with Utilities or, in lieu thereof, (b) seek informal review through the Colorado Springs Better Business Bureau (BBB). The purpose of the informal review process is to review whether Utilities properly applied its ordinances, Tariffs, regulations, policies or procedures with regard to a particular situation. In no event is the informal review process to be utilized to negotiate a settlement of the amounts due for utility services.

- a. Request for Informal Review
  - i. A request for an informal review must be in writing addressed to: Colorado Springs Utilities

Customer and Corporate Services Attn: Dispute Resolution P.O. Box 1103, MC 1025 Colorado Springs, CO 80947-1025

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#### **ELECTRIC**

# 18. ELECTRIC SERVICE STANDARDS - cont'd

#### 2. Secondary Service

This type of service is alternating current, 60 hertz, single or three phase.

Available secondary service nominal voltage classifications will depend upon a Customer's location and proximity to existing facilities as follows:

- a. Single-phase, three wire, 120/240 volts;
- b. Single-phase, two wire, 120 volts;
- c. Single-phase, three wire, 120/208 volts;
- d. Three-phase, four wire, 120/208 volts wye;
- e. Three-phase, four wire, 277/480 volts wye.

Totalized Service is available upon request at the rates and conditions provided for in the Totalization Service charge in the Electric Rate Schedules.

#### B. Customer Provisions

The Customer will provide, at the Customer's expense, a suitable mounting space or enclosure in an acceptable location for the installation of the metering equipment in accordance with the *Line Extension & Service Standards* for Electric. The Customer, as a condition of service, agrees to the original as-built location for those portions of the facilities on the Customer's Premise that are outside of a public utility easement or right of way. Any changes in location of the facilities will be at the sole expense of the Customer.

# 1. Primary Service

All wiring, pole lines, conductors, transformers and other electric substation and distribution equipment beyond the point of metering, except Utilities' metering equipment, will be provided, owned, installed, and maintained at the Customer's expense.

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#### **ELECTRIC**

# 19. ELECTRIC LINE EXTENSIONS AND SERVICES - cont'd

be cancelled outside the time frame set out in Utilities' policies or the service installation itself may not comply with Utilities' *Line Extension & Service Standards* when it is inspected. For those events the following fees shall apply on and after April 1, 2007:

Return Trip Single Service: \$299.98

Return Trip Joint Service: \$491.89

#### 5. Cancellation Fees

In certain instances under Utilities' policies, a reduced fee may be charged for cancellation of inspection and connection appointments. In that circumstance, the following fees shall apply on and after April 1, 2007:

6. Electric Distribution Charge (Electric Only)

The contributions-in-aid of construction will be determined as the sum of the following:

- \$15.79 per linear foot of (underground) single-phase primary distribution line required to serve such Customer;
- \$10.66 per circuit foot of three-phase main line distribution line in excess of twenty-two(22) but nor more than seventy-five (75) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served;
- \$21.35 per circuit foot of three-phase main line distribution line in excess of seventy-five (75) but not more than one hundred seventy-five (175) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served; and

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#### **ELECTRIC**

# 19. ELECTRIC LINE EXTENSIONS AND SERVICES - cont'd

- \$51.73 per circuit foot of underground three-phase main line distribution line in excess of one hundred seventy-five (175) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served.
- 7. Electric Distribution Charge (Joint Trench with Gas)

The contributions-in-aid of construction will be determined as the sum of the following:

- \$12.10 per linear foot of (underground) single-phase primary distribution line required to serve such Customer;
- \$10.66 per circuit foot of three-phase main line distribution line in excess of twenty-two (22) but not more than seventy-five (75) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served;
- \$21.35 per circuit foot of three-phase main line distribution line in excess of seventy-five (75) but not more than one hundred seventy-five (175) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served; and
- \$51.73 per circuit foot of underground three-phase main line distribution line in excess of one hundred seventy-five (175) circuit feet of mainline per Customer to be served.
- b. Underground Electric Service Commercial and Industrial

The Customer will provide, at no cost to Utilities, trenching, backfilling, compaction and restoration of property for the primary and secondary trenches; installation of primary conduit from the primary source to the transformer pad; and installation of secondary conduit, conductor and terminations from the transformer pad to the meter.

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#### **ELECTRIC**

# 19. ELECTRIC LINE EXTENSIONS AND SERVICES - cont'd

The contributions-in-aid of construction will be determined as the sum of the following:

- \$10.66 per circuit foot of primary mainline distribution line in excess of six (6) but not more than twenty (20) circuit feet of primary and mainline lines per kVA of transformer capacity required to serve the Customer as estimated by Utilities;
- \$21.35 per circuit foot of primary mainline distribution line in excess of twenty (20) but not more than fifty (50) circuit feet of primary and mainline lines per kVA of transformer capacity required to serve the Customer as estimated by Utilities; and
- \$51.73 per circuit foot of underground primary mainline distribution line in excess of fifty (50) circuit feet of primary and mainline lines per kVA of transformer capacity required to serve the Customer as estimated by Utilities.

# A. Extensions for Electric Temporary Service

Electric Temporary Service may be provided for construction needs, circuses, bazaars, fairs, fireworks stands, Christmas tree sales, concessions and similar enterprises, or to non-permanent ventures upon application for service for a period not to exceed eighteen (18) months, on the Electric Rate Schedule applicable to the particular class of service.

Utilities will provide a temporary power pedestal (in an underground service area) when distribution facilities exist and upon payment of the Temporary Service Connection Fees. Service loop supports must be supplied by the Customer in overhead service areas and Temporary Service will be provided when distribution facilities exist and upon payment of the charges below.

Electric Temporary Service Connection Fee - A non-refundable fee for the total cost of all labor, material, equipment and supplies required by Utilities to establish and disconnect service to include the removal and return of the pedestal.

Electric Temporary Service Connection Fee	\$	Ľ	3(	).	U	)(	,
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#### **NATURAL GAS**

# 32. EXTENSION OF NATURAL GAS MAINS AND SERVICES - cont'd

The Applicant will execute an Extension Contract for installation of all new facilities necessary to serve the development. Contracts for economically feasible extensions, as determined by Utilities, under one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) in total estimated extension cost will be required to pay eighteen percent (18%) of the estimated extension cost in addition to the specified design fee, as a non-refundable payment.

All other Applicants will advance one hundred percent (100%) of the estimated cost of construction to Utilities in addition to the specified non-refundable design fee. As an alternative, the Applicant may advance fifty percent (50%) of the estimated cost of construction and provide adequate assurance acceptable to Utilities for the remaining fifty percent (50%). This assurance will be irrevocable and may be in the form of a letter of credit, cash escrow, set-aside letter, or other forms acceptable to Utilities which will allow Utilities to receive the second fifty percent (50%) immediately after construction. After completion of construction, Utilities will determine the actual costs of construction and will charge (or refund without interest) the contract holder the difference between the estimated and actual costs of construction. Utilities may refuse to make connections until all amounts due to Utilities have been paid. After all the amounts due to Utilities are paid, the Applicant will be entitled to execute a Refund Contract.

#### C. Refunds

#### 1. Refund Contracts

Advance payments for extension of facilities that are eligible for refunds will be completed under one (1) of the following Refund Contracts:

a. Single Parcel Refund Contract - This contract is intended to cover the cost of installing mains and Service Stubs to serve a parcel and may include allocated costs for Oversized Distribution Mains. This contract includes provisions for refunding all or part of the advance payment. Refunds of advance payments will be based on estimated or actual revenue. The term of this contract will be ten (10) years.

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#### WASTEWATER

# 33. WASTEWATER PERMIT FEE

Wastewater Permit fees are due upon receipt of invoice or prior to issuance of a Wastewater Permit. A Wastewater Permit fee will be assessed for:

- new connection to Utilities' wastewater treatment system;
- repair or alteration of each existing wastewater service line; and/or
- disconnection from Utilities' wastewater treatment system.

All construction must strictly conform to the Utilities' *Line Extension and Service Standards* – Wastewater.

#### A. New Connection

For each residential single-family Premise on a single platted lot (including t	ownhomes
and mobile homes)	\$80.00
For each multi-family residential Premise, per service line	\$100.00
For each nonresidential Premise without grease trap	\$100.00
For each nonresidential Premise with grease trap or interceptor, and/or sand	or oil
interceptor	\$175.00

# B. Additional Installation, Repair or Alteration

For each residential single-family Premise on a single platted lot (includin	g townhomes
and mobile homes)	\$100.00
For each multi-family residential Premise, per service line	\$120.00
For each nonresidential Premise without grease trap	\$120.00
For each nonresidential Premise with grease trap or interceptor, and/or sar	nd or oil
interceptor	\$195.00
•	

# C. Disconnection ......\$80.00

# D. Emergency and After Hours Inspections

All fees listed above in subsections A, B and C are for non-emergency inspections conducted during Utilities' normal business hours. Emergency and after hours inspections will be billed on a time and materials basis.

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#### WASTEWATER

# 34. WASTEWATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE

A Wastewater Development Charge (WWDC) is assessed for each new connection to Utilities' wastewater treatment system. The charge is based on type of building, facility or unusual wastewater characteristics of the new connection and assists the ratepayer by partially defraying the costs of capital improvements of the system. The applicable WWDC is shown below.

A. For each Single Family Residential connection – with a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch water meter.

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Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area	\$1,868.00
JCC Wastewater Service Area – Sludge Treatment and Conveyance	\$445.00

#### **Outside City Limits**

Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area	\$2,802.00
JCC Wastewater Service Area - Sludge Treatment and Conveyance	\$667.00

The initial cost of liquid treatment capacity in the JCC Wastewater Service Area is the responsibility of property developers. Properties that develop in the JCC Wastewater Service Area will be responsible for any reimbursements to developers for funding of liquid treatment capacity as provided for in any outstanding advance recovery agreements or recovery agreements.

B. For each Multi-Family Premise connection for each dwelling unit within a Multi-Family Residential Premise with individual ¾ inch water meters.

# **Inside City Limits**

Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area	\$1,213.00
JCC Wastewater Service Area – Sludge Treatment and Conveyance	\$289.00

#### **Outside City Limits**

Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area\$	1,820.00
JCC Wastewater Service Area - Sludge Treatment and Conveyance	\$433.00

Individually metered Multi-Family Premise connections shall pay the rate in section 34.B. multiplied by the number of dwelling units, while Master Meter Multi-Family Premise connections shall pay the WWDC per meter size in section 34.D.

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#### WASTEWATER

#### 34. WASTEWATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

The initial cost of liquid treatment capacity in the JCC Wastewater Service Area is the responsibility of property developers. Properties that develop in the JCC Wastewater Service Area will be responsible for any reimbursements to developers for funding of liquid treatment capacity as provided for in any outstanding advance recovery agreements or recovery agreements.

# C. Large Non-Residential Service

Large nonresidential service is defined as estimated wastewater flow of 9,125,000 gallons or more per year, or where wastewater flow does not result from service received through metered water sources or services provided through 6 inch or greater meters. The WWDC will be determined based upon the potential annual usage and peak requirements of that Customer. Specifically, charges will be assessed at the proportionate rate levels established in the latest WWDC Study.

D. Small Non-Residential Service, Single-Family Residential (1" or larger water meter), Multi-Family or Mixed Use

Small Non-Residential, Single-Family Residential (1" or larger water meter), Multi-Family or Mixed-Use service is defined as estimated wastewater flow of less than 9,125,000 gallons per year.

# **Inside City Limits**

Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area based on water meter size:

3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	
1 inch	\$8,712.00
1-1/2 inch	
2 inch	
3 inch	\$42,432.00
4 inch	\$77,977.00

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#### WASTEWATER

# 34. WASTEWATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

**Inside City Limits** 

JCC Wastewater Service Area – Sludge Treatment and Conveyance, based on water meter size

3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	\$445.00
1 inch	\$1,488.00
1-1/2 inch	
2 inch	\$4,544.00
3 inch	
4 inch	

## **Outside City Limits**

Excluding JCC Wastewater Service Area, based on water meter size

3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	\$3,906.00
1 inch	\$13,069.00
1-1/2 inch	
2 inch	
3 inch	
4 inch	

#### **Outside City Limits**

JCC Wastewater Service Area – Sludge Treatment and Conveyance, based on water meter size

3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	\$667.00
1 inch.	
1-1/2 inch	
2 inch	
3 inch	\$10,869.00
4 inch	

Mixed-Use Premises shall pay the rate per water meter under section 34. D. when one water meter is requested. If more than one water meter is requested, the non-residential use shall pay the rate per water meter under section 34. D. and the Multi-Family use shall pay the rate per water meter under section 34. B. multiplied by the number of dwelling units for individually metered connections provided the metering configuration is approved by Utilities.

The initial cost of liquid treatment capacity in the JCC Wastewater Service Area is the responsibility of property developers. Properties that develop in the JCC Wastewater Service Area will be responsible for any reimbursements to developers for funding of liquid treatment capacity as provided for in any outstanding advance recovery agreements or recovery agreements.

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#### WASTEWATER

## 34. WASTEWATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

G. Credit for Prior WWDC Payment

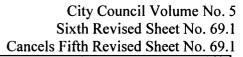
Credit for the WWDC paid for a prior development may be given for reuse of existing connections, when reuse occurs within twenty (20) years or for new connections to a land parcel where the WWDC charge was paid. Credit for Multi-Family Residential dwelling units and nonresidential service must be determined by inspection by Utilities before any remodeling, moving or demolition of the structure occurs. No refund for excess credit will be given.

Credit for the WWDC may only be transferred between Premises if all of the conditions listed below are met to Utilities' satisfaction. Any sale of credit for the WWDC is expressly prohibited. Credit for a WWDC can only be transferred one time. Any paid recovery agreement charges shall remain with the donor Premises and are not eligible to be transferred. No refund of excess credits, if any, will be given.

#### Conditions:

- 1. There must be common ownership of the donor Premises and recipient Premises; the party requesting the transfer of credit for the WWDC must provide Utilities with proof of common ownership, which may include, but is not limited to evidence of common ownership at a parent company level;
- 2. Both the donor Premises and the recipient Premises must be Nonresidential, Multi-Family or Mixed Use;
- 3. The donor Premises must be a vacant parcel without structure(s);
- 4. The recipient Premises must meet and comply with all then current infill descriptions and/or criteria established by City of Colorado Springs;
- 5. The recipient Premises must have an approved development plan, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, prior to Utilities' approval of a transfer of the WWDC credit;
- All inactive or abandoned service line ordinances, regulations, and policies shall apply
  to transferred WWDC credits and any applicable Reconnection Charges shall be paid;
- 7. The party requesting the credit transfer shall pay to Utilities a fee of \$100.00 and shall commit to be responsible for all costs associated with the transfer, including but not limited to, title commitment, processing, and recording fees.

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#### WASTEWATER

#### 34. WASTEWATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

Upon the completion of a transfer of credit for the WWDC, the transfer will be effectuated by recording a notice to the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder for both the donor Premises and the recipient Premises, which recording fees shall be paid by the owner of the donor and recipient Premises. The notice shall include the credits transferred and remaining, and applicable service dates associated with each Premises.

# H. Request for WWDC Refund

Requests for a refund of the WWDC for connections not constructed must be made in writing to Utilities within two (2) years of payment of the WWDC. No refunds of any such charges will be made unless a request is received by Utilities within two (2) years of payment and no service has been connected. Any charges which are not refunded are retained by Utilities as a contribution-in-aid of construction. Payments for WWDC may be applied within twenty (20) years as a credit towards the payment of the WWDC for connection of the same land parcel, which may become due thereafter.

In any event, no credit will be given after twenty (20) years or more from the date of discontinuance of use of the existing connection or payment of the unused WWDC.

#### I. Inactive Wastewater Service

In the event that a service line is not used for a continuous period of five (5) years, a Reconnection Charge must be paid by the property Owner(s) or developer to re-establish the service. The Reconnection Charge must be paid after five (5) years, through nineteen (19) years, that the service is inactive and is not currently paying the Per Day Access and Facilities or Service Charges. The Reconnection Charge shall be calculated using the current Wastewater Service Charge per meter size and rate class for each day after five (5) years the service line is inactive, up to a Maximum Reconnection Charge. The Maximum Reconnection Charge shall be equal to fifteen (15) years of the current Wastewater Service Charge, not to exceed one-half (1/2) of the current Development Charge per meter size and rate class. If a service was previously deemed abandoned by ordinance or is inactive for twenty (20) years or longer, payment of the Maximum Reconnection Charge is required to be paid prior to reconnection. The Reconnection Charge for Wastewater Services outside of the city shall be at one and one-half (1 ½) times the inside city rate.

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A.2.

#### UTILITIES RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### WATER

# 41. WATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE

A Water Development Charge (WDC) is assessed for each new connection to Utilities' supply system except for those Customers receiving service under the Augmentation Water Service Rate Schedule. The applicable WDC is shown below.

A.1. For each Single-Family Residential Connection with a ¾ inch water meter:

Inside City Limits	
Less than 3,000 square foot lot	
Between 3,000 and 4,999 square foot lot	\$6,533.00
Between 5,000 and 6,999 square foot lot	\$7,956.00
Between 7,000 and 8,999 square foot lot	\$9,292.00
Between 9,000 and 10,999 square foot lot	\$10,197.00
Between 11,000 and 14,999 square foot lot	
15,000 square foot or larger lot	\$12,913.00
Outside City Limits	**
Less than 3,000 square foot lot	
Between 3,000 and 4,999 square foot lot	
Between 5,000 and 6,999 square foot lot	
Between 7,000 and 8,999 square foot lot	
Between 9,000 and 10,999 square foot lot	
Between 11,000 and 14,999 square foot lot	
15,000 square foot or larger lot	\$19,369.00
For each Non-Residential, Single-Family Residential (1" or la	rger meter), Multi-
Family or Mixed-Use connection based on meter size:	
Inside City Limits	
3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	
1 inch	-
1-1/2 inch	
2 inch	
3 inch	\$92,920.00

4 inch.....\$154,867.00

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#### WATER

# 41. WATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

Outside City Limits	
3/4 inch or less (excludes Single-Family Residential)	\$13,938.00
1 inch	\$23,230.00
1-1/2 inch	\$46,460.00
2 inch	\$74,336.00
3 inch	\$139,380.00
4 inch	\$232,300.00

Mixed-Use Premises shall pay the rate per water meter under section 41.A.2. when one water meter is requested. If more than one water meter is requested, the non-residential use shall pay the rate per water meter under section 41.A.2., and the Multi-Family use shall pay the rate per water meter in section 41.B. multiplied by the number of dwelling units for individually metered connections provided the metering configuration is approved by Utilities.

B. For each Multi-Family Residential Premises connection or for each additional 3/4 inch Residential connection on a Single Platted Lot:

Inside City Limits	\$5,295.00
Outside City Limits	\$7,942.00

Individually metered Multi-Family Premise connections shall pay the applicable WDC in section 41.B. multiplied by the number of dwelling units, while Master Metered Multi-Family Premise connections shall pay the WDC per meter under section 41.A.2.

C. For Non-potable Water Connection Based on Meter Size:

2 inch or less	\$10,714.00
3 inch	
4 inch	
6 inch	

Upon approval of Utilities, payment of the WDC for a new non-potable point of service is not required if there will be an offsetting reduction in potable water consumption from an existing potable water service. Requests for new or additional water demands will be required to pay the non-potable WDC.

D. For Meter Sizes Greater Than Four (4) Inches
The WDC will be determined based upon the potential average daily usage and peak
day demand of that Customer. Specifically, charges will be assessed at the
proportionate rate levels established in the last WDC filing.

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#### WATER

#### 41. WATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

#### E. Additional WDC Due

An additional WDC charge is applicable to:

- 1) any increase in size of an existing meter, or
- 2) any increased consumption that results in damage to Utilities' facilities or exceeds the capacity of the meter. The Customer shall pay the cost to upgrade the service and replace the meter and applicable water development charge, or
- 3) any increased water consumption that occurs because of changes in operations, the remodeling or moving of existing buildings or structures, or the construction of additional buildings or structures, if the WDC was originally computed pursuant to section 41.D (or prior similar provision).

The additional WDC charge will be assessed for any such increase in meter size or water consumption in an amount representing the difference between the charge which would be imposed for the existing meter size and the charge which would be imposed for the size of the proposed meter or the increased water consumption. Payment for the additional WDC charge will be collected prior to issuance of a building or nonpotable permit or as provided in section 41.K or when the increased water consumption begins. Any request for a change in water service shall be administered as a new application for service and subject to all requirements of the City Code and tariffs. If the service is not applicable to section 41.D and change in use does not result in an increase in meter size, no additional WDC is due.

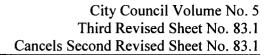
#### F. Non-waiver of the WDC

The applicable WDC will not be waived for any governmental, quasi-governmental or nonprofit organization or any other entity requesting connection to Utilities' supply system.

# G. WDC Deferral for Community Gardens

A Community Garden established on a Premise within the Exclusive Water Service Territory may be eligible for deferral of the WDC.

Approval Date:	<u>December 8, 2015</u>
Effective Date:	January 1, 2016
Resolution No.	





#### WATER

# 41. WATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

A non-profit entity may submit an application to Utilities for WDC deferral for the purposes of a Community Garden. The WDC may be deferred for qualifying Community Gardens until such time as use of the service line is no longer solely for a Community Garden or is not for non-profit use. Upon a change of use from a Community Garden, if the Premise requires a permanent water service connection, the WDC shall be due in accordance with the then current Tariffs for a new connection.

# H. Credit for Prior WDC Payment

Credit for the WDC paid for a prior development may be given for reuse of existing connections, when reuse occurs within twenty (20) years or for new connections to a land parcel where the WDC charge was paid. Credit for Multi-Family Residential dwelling units and nonresidential service must be determined by inspection by Utilities before any remodeling, moving or demolition of the structure occurs. No refund for excess credits will be given.

Credit for the WDC may only be transferred between Premises if all of the conditions listed below are met to Utilities' satisfaction. Any sale of credit for the WDC is expressly prohibited. Credit for a WDC can only be transferred one time. Any paid recovery agreement charges shall remain with the donor Premises and are not eligible to be transferred. No refund of excess credits, if any, will be given.

#### **Conditions:**

- 1. There must be common ownership of the donor Premises and recipient Premises; the party requesting the transfer of credit for the WDC must provide Utilities with proof of common ownership, which may include, but is not limited to evidence of common ownership at a parent company level;
- 2. Both the donor Premises and the recipient Premises must be Nonresidential, Multi-Family or Mixed Use;
- 3. The donor Premises must be a vacant parcel without structure(s);
- 4. The recipient Premises must meet and comply with all then current infill descriptions and/or criteria established by City of Colorado Springs;
- 5. The recipient Premises must have an approved development plan, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, prior to Utilities' approval of a transfer of the WDC credit;

Approval Date:	December 8, 2015
Effective Date:	January 1, 2016
Resolution No.	



#### WATER

#### 41. WATER DEVELOPMENT CHARGE - cont'd

- 6. If the donor Premises will be left without any remaining WDC credits, the Owner shall remove the water service line to the donor Premises in accordance with City Code and Utilities' Water Line Extension & Service Standards;
- 7. All inactive or abandoned service line ordinances, regulations, and policies shall apply to transferred WDC credit and any applicable Reconnection Charges shall be paid; and
- 8. The party requesting the credits transfer shall pay to Utilities a fee of \$100.00 and shall commit to be responsible for all costs associated with the transfer, including but not limited to, title commitment, processing, and recording fees.

Upon the completion of a transfer of credit for the WDC, the transfer will be effectuated by recording a notice to the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder for both the donor Premises and the recipient Premises, which recording fees shall be paid by the owner of the donor and recipient Premises. The notice shall include the credits transferred and remaining, and applicable service dates associated with each Premises.

# I. Request for WDC Refund

Requests for a refund of the WDC for connections not constructed must be made in writing to Utilities within two (2) years of payment of the WDC. No refunds of any such charges will be made unless a request is received by Utilities within two (2) years of payment and no service has been connected. Any charges which are not refunded are retained by Utilities as a contribution-in-aid of construction. Payment for WDC may be applied within nineteen (19) years as a credit towards the payment of the WDC for connection of the same land parcel, which may become due thereafter.

In any event, no credit will be given after nineteen (19) years or more from the date of discontinuance of use of the existing connection or payment of the unused WDC.

Approval Date:	December 8, 2015
Effective Date:	January 1, 2016
Resolution No.	-



#### WATER

# 46. WATER SERVICE PERMIT FEES

- A. Water service permits are required for: 1) each connection of a Service Line to the Water Distribution Main, (tap), 2) each repair or alteration to a Service Line (only when a Wastewater Permit is not required), or 3) each disconnection of a Service Line from the Water Distribution Main, or 4) for Temporary Service-Hydrant Use. Water Permit fees are due upon receipt of invoice or prior to issuance of Water Permit.
- B. Any connection of a Service Line to the Water Distribution Main, any repair or alteration to a Service Line, or any disconnection of a Service line from the Water Distribution Main, may only be performed by private contractors as provided within the Utilities' Line Extension & Service Standards Water.
- C. Connection, repair, alteration, or disconnection of Service Lines.
  - 1. New, developer-installed Water Distribution Mains.
    - a. For residential and non-residential Customers with new construction and with Service Lines of 2 inches or less in diameter that are tapping into new, developer-installed Water Distribution Mains.
      - 1. All construction will be performed by the Customer's, the Owner's or the developer's private contractor. The private contractor must comply with all contractor requirements of the Utilities' *Line Extension & Service Standards Water*. All construction by the private contractor must strictly conform to the Utilities' *Line Extension & Service Standards Water*.
      - 2. Utilities must inspect and must approve all such construction. If the construction does not comply with the Utilities' *Line Extension & Service Standards Water*, then Utilities must re-inspect the construction until it may be approved. The following fees apply to Utilities inspection and approval process:

Water Service Permit Fee for Initial Inspection.......\$80.00 (This fee includes the initial inspection and one return trip to the Premise.)

Approval Date:	December 8, 2015
Effective Date:	January 1, 2016
Resolution No.	-

# BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVISION	)	
OF THE UTILITIES RULES AND	)	DECISION & ORDER 15-04 (URR)
REGULATIONS OF COLORADO	)	
SPRINGS UTILITIES	)	

- 1. Colorado Springs Utilities, an enterprise of the City of Colorado Springs ("City"), a Colorado home-rule city and municipal corporation, ("Utilities"), conducted a review of its Utilities Rules and Regulations ("URR"). During that review, Utilities identified needed changes. Utilities' rate case filing contains all of these revisions and changes.
- 2. Utilities is proposing changes to the Electric, Natural Gas, and Water Rate Schedules and Utilities Rules and Regulations ("URR") in the 2016 Rate Case Filing.
- 3. The proposed effective date for the rate increases and all proposed changes to the URR is January 1, 2015.
- 4. Utilities' URR are a part of the collective Tariffs that govern Utilities in accordance with the Colorado Springs City Code. The URR establishes terms and conditions for all Utilities Customers across all utility services and also provides service specific terms and conditions. Utilities is proposing the following URR changes in the filing:
- 5. Electric Plan Review Fee: This change adds the word "transformer" to the description of the fee to provide clarification that the cost is applied per building or transformer. The fee amount is unchanged; however, there is a more complete recovery of cost by capturing staff review time in circumstances where multiple transformers per building site exist. (Utilities Rules and Regulations, Section 3 (A), Sheet 12).
- 6. Dispute Resolution Correction: This change corrects Utilities' address currently shown in the URR for submitting a dispute. The current incorrect address in the URR results in lost mail and processing delays. The new address will no longer be tied to an individual employee or work team, but to a general Utilities' address. Internal process will direct the mail to the attention of the Dispute Resolution group. (Utilities Rules and Regulations, Section 15 (A), Sheet 30).
- 7. Totalization Service: This change will allow customers served at both primary and secondary voltage levels to totalize meters when all the meters reside on the same campus setting. Currently, the tariff prohibits totalizing primary and secondary meters. There are no negative impacts to Utilities and this provides customers greater availability to totalize. (Utilities Rules and Regulations Section 18, Sheet 39).
- 8. Electric Line Extensions and Services and Extension of Natural Gas Mains and Services: This change will update the current contribution in aid of construction fee amounts

collected through Electric Line Extensions and Services and Natural Gas Mains and Services, moving the recovery more closely to the current costs. The current Electric Line Extensions and Services fees are proposed to increase ten percent (10%). (*Utilities Rules and Regulations Section 19, Sheet 46, 46.1, 47*). The current Natural Gas Mains and Services rate of sixteen percent (16%) will increase to eighteen percent (18%). (*Utilities Rules and Regulations Section 32, Sheet 58*).

- 9. Water & Wastewater Permit Fees: This change creates consistency between the Water and Wastewater payment process for permit fees. The current Wastewater payment process was changed several years ago to provide developers a choice to facilitate payment of the permit fee at the time of application, or to request a bill. Utilities' bill will reflect a single permit fee, or will aggregate multiple permit fees in a bill cycle, which will benefit customers who make a single payment. This change will align the payment process for Wastewater permit fees with that of Water permit fees, and the language will be uniform for both services. (Utilities Rules and Regulations, Section 33, Sheet 64 (Wastewater) & Section 46, Sheet 94 (Water)).
- 10. Water & Wastewater Development Charges Clarification: This change clarifies the language on applicable Development Charges associated with individually metered multi-family premises and master metered multi-family premises. Master metered multi-family premises pay the Development Charge correlated with meter size while individually metered multi-family premises are charged per the specific rates listed for that circumstance. There are no changes to the applicable Development Charges, and the change reflects the current practice and intent of the current language. (Utilities Rules and Regulations, Section 34, Sheet 65 (Wastewater) & Section 41, Sheet 81 (Water)).
- 11. Limited Water & Wastewater Development Charge Credit Transfers: This change will allow the limited transfer of unused Development Charge Credits (also referred to as Meter Credits) from a vacant parcel to another parcel under the same ownership, subject to program compliance. The City Code currently prohibits the transfer. Both City Code and URR changes are required for this revision. (Utilities Rules and Regulations Section 34 (G), Sheet 69 (Wastewater) & Section 41 (H), Sheet 83.1 (Water)).
- 12. In addition to the proposed URR revisions, Utilities proposes changes to the Electric, Natural Gas, and Water Tariffs.
- 13. Utilities filed its cost-of-service study supporting the Electric, Natural Gas, and Water services base rate and Tariff changes and the URR changes with the City Auditor, Mr. Denny Nester, and with the City Attorney, Ms. Wynetta Massey, on August 21, 2015. Utilities then filed the enterprise's formal proposals on September 22, 2015, with the City Clerk, Ms. Sarah Johnson, and a complete copy of the proposals was placed in the City Clerk's Office for public inspection. Notice of the filing was published on-line at www.csu.org on September 23, 2015, in *The Gazette* on September 29, 2015, and mailed as required on September 29, 2015. These various notices and filings comply with the requirements of §12.1.107 of the City Code and the applicable provision of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Copies of the published and mailed notices are contained

- within the record. Additional public notice was provided through Utilities' website, www.csu.org and a complete copy of the proposals was placed on that website for public inspection.
- 14. The information provided to the City Council and held open for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office was supplemented by Utilities on November 19, 2015. The supplemental material contained revised resolutions, administrative corrections to tariff sheets, copies of the publications of required legal notice, and public outreach information.
- 15. Prior to the public hearing, Utilities provided a copy of the complete rate filing to the City Auditor and to the City Attorney for review. The City Auditor issued his findings on the proposed rate and tariff changes on November 12, 2015. A copy of that report is contained within the record.
- 16. On November 24, 2015, the City Council held a public hearing concerning the proposed changes to the Electric, Natural Gas, and Water Tariffs and to the URR. This hearing was conducted in accordance with §12.1.107 of the City Code, the procedural rules adopted by City Council, and the applicable provisions of state law.
- 17. President of the Council Merv Bennett commenced the rate hearing by providing a summary of the rate hearing agenda and explaining the rate hearing procedure.
- 18. The presentations started with Mr. Christopher Bidlack of the City Attorney's Office, briefing the City Council on its power to establish rates, charges, and regulations for Utilities' services. In setting rates, charges, and regulations for Utilities' services, the City Council is sitting as a legislative body because the setting of rates, charges, and regulations is necessary to carry out existing legislative policy of operating the various utility systems. However, unlike other legislative processes, the establishment of rates, charges, and regulations is quasi-judicial and requires a decision based upon evidence in the record and the process is not subject to referendum or initiative. Mr. Bidlack provided information on the statutory and regulatory requirements on rate changes. Rates for Electric and Gas service must be just, reasonable, sufficient, and not unduly discriminatory, City Code §12.1.107(E). Rates for water service must be reasonable and appropriate in light of all circumstances, City Code § 12.1.107(F).
- 19. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Bidlack polled the City Council Members concerning any *ex parte* communication that they may have had during the pendency of this proceeding. City Council indicated there were no *ex parte* communications.
- 20. Mr. Bidlack also provided an excerpt of the Utilities Board Finance Committee minutes from the October 28, 2015, meeting to the City Clerk for inclusion in the record as an *ex parte* communication.
- 21. Utilities then began the presentation of the enterprise's proposals.

- 22. The first speaker was Ms. Sonya Thieme, Utilities' Rates Manager. Ms. Thieme provided background on the actions taken by Utilities in preparing the 2016 Rate Case. Utilities presented preliminary proposals to the Utilities Board: explaining fuel rate changes that (1) Combine ECA and Supply Charge rates into one ECA rate, (2) Combine GCA and Gas Supply Charge rates into one GCA rate, and (3) Create a new Gas Capacity Cost (GCC) rate; and noting base rate changes and changes to the URR. Utilities also presented the Utilities Board Finance Committee with the same information, as well as information on Natural Gas and Water Allocation reviews, Electric base/non-fuel and Water rate increases, the URR, and Electric and Gas Line Extension Standards.
- 23. Ms. Thieme then noted Utilities' rate case procedural compliance, stating that (1) the preliminary cost of service study was provided to Office of City Auditor and City Attorney on August 21, 2015, (2) the hearing date was presented to and approved by City Council on September 22, 2015, (3) the formal rate filing was filed with the City Clerk on September 22, 2015, (4) rate case documents were posted online on September 23, 2015, and (5) legal notice was published and mailed on September 29, 2015.
- 24. Ms. Thieme explained that the September 22, 2015, filing included documentation for Electric, Natural Gas, Water, and the URR, and included several appendices.
- 25. Ms. Thieme then addressed Electric Service. She noted that the Electric Cost of Service was prepared following industry standards and practices and in compliance with rate design guidelines. The Total Base (non-fuel) Electric Revenue is \$329.7 million, which is \$15.7 million higher than revenue under current rates. This represents an overall system increase 5.0% higher than current rates, based on 2016 Sources & Uses proposed budget ordinances. Within the overall system base rate increase of 5.0%, there is a 4.6% increase for Residential and Small Commercial customers and a 6.0% increase for Large Commercial and Industrial customers. This proposed change continues Utilities transitioning of rate classes to be closer to the Cost of Service. Additionally, the changes include a 5.0% increase for Industrial TOU 500 KW Minimum (E8T) and Large Power and Light customers and a 5.0% increase for Contract Services DOD customers.
- 26. Ms. Thieme noted that that the rate increase drivers are capital costs and the financial metrics required to maintain a "AA" credit rating.
- 27. Rate design of the Industrial Service Time of Day 1,000 kWh/Day Min (ETL) rate was addressed. It was explained that the ETL is a small diverse industrial class and that ETL revenue was less than anticipated for 2012 2014. Utilities is currently studying the disparity and the root cause analysis will be completed by March 31, 2016. Additionally, any potential under collection does not shift to other rate classes. Utilities proposes to manage the service under collection in collaboration with Utilities Board through expenditure reductions and financial metrics. Utilities will provide a Revenue Shortfall Contingency Plan in December 2015 to Utilities Board.
- 28. Ms. Thieme explained the rate design components. The rate design continues to combine the Residential (E1R) and Small Commercial (E1C) Rate Classes because the demand per

kWh costs and energy per kWh continue to be related and the cost to serve the classes is closely associated. The optional Residential Time of Use rate is modified through the proposed changes to (1) better align with demand side management and peak shaving long-term goals, (2) increase the On-Peak per kWh rate from \$0.1450 to \$0.2017, (3) shorten the On-Peak time period from 7 hours to 4 hours, and (4) decrease the Off-Peak per kWh rate from \$0.0580 to \$0.0576. Lastly, the fixed daily charge is increased to enhance financial stability and align with other Front Range electric providers.

- 29. Next, Ms. Thieme provided a fuel rate overview. She explained that the proposed changes combine the Electric Cost Adjustment ("ECA") and Supply Charge rates into one ECA rate. The proposed revisions also include a reduced ECA rate of \$0.0249 with Typical Bill Impacts: of Residential (1.2)%, Commercial (1.7)%, and Industrial (2.1)%.
- 30. To conclude her presentation on Electric service, Ms. Thieme reviewed the additional proposed changes to the Electric tariff.
  - a) United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Direct Solar: This change adjusts the payment table to reflect contract payment changes as contractually executed with the customer.
  - b) Removal of USAFA Construction Services Language: This change removes the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 related to USAFA specific construction services contract due to the completion of all applicable work and payment obligations as contractually executed with the customer.
  - c) Optional Contract Termination Rights: This change revises customer termination rights, enabling customers to cancel contract service and revert to the applicable rate at any time upon providing 30 days' notice once the initial 12-month contract period is reached.
  - d) Community Solar Garden (CSG) Pilot Program Bill Credit: This change updates the CSG Pilot Program blended Bill Credit to reflect the proposed Electric service rate increases and takes the credit rate out to four decimal places. Per Utilities Board direction, Program garden capacity sunset was established (June 30, 2015) and the tariff change allows a single developer to own up to 1.5 MW.
  - e) CSG Non-Pilot Bill Credit: This change updates the rates on the CSG Non-Pilot Bill Credit table based on the proposed Electric service rates. This change also modifies the tariff language to calculate the Bill Credit as: (Non-fuel) + (Capacity) + (ECA).
  - f) Clarify Terms and Conditions for Totalization Service: This change clarifies the terms and conditions of aggregating multiple meters of the same service voltage for billing purposes to allow customers to totalize when premises are served with a mix of primary and secondary voltages.
  - g) Renewable Energy Certificates (REC): This change reflects the completion of the REC program.
  - h) Kilowatcher Rate Options: This change reflects the end of the Kilowatcher Rate Options. Existing contracts will complete the current term, but will not be renewed in April 2016.

- i) Woody Biomass Pilot Program: This change reflects the conclusion of the Woody Biomass Option Pilot Program on June 30, 2016 as supported by the applicable customer.
- j) Update the Reserved Capacity Charge (RCC) for Enhanced Power Service: This change modifies the charge for reserve capacity. In order to balance recovery of costs and stabilization of rates, Utilities proposed and City Council approved in the 2013 Electric Rate Filing to phase in the rate increase over a five year period. For 2016, the rate will be increased to \$0.0396 per kW per day.
- 31. Ms. Thieme then addressed Natural Gas service. The main proposed Natural Gas service change is the reconfiguration of the Gas Cost Adjustment ("GCA") and Gas Supply rates into a single GCA rate. The proposed change is revenue neutral and results in a new Gas Capacity Cost ("GCC"), which is calculated for each rate class. The proposed changes also include a new GCA rate of \$0.2126 per Ccf, with typical bill reductions of: Residential (5.2)%, Commercial (10.6)%, and Industrial (10.9)%.
- 32. To conclude her presentation on Natural Gas service, Ms. Thieme reviewed the additional proposed changes to the Natural Gas tariff.
  - a) Commercial Service Seasonal Option: This change clarifies availability to customers with at least 30 percent of annual usage occurring during the months of May through October. This change also revises customer termination rights, enabling customers to cancel contract service and revert to the standard option at any time upon providing 30 days' notice once the initial 12-month contract period is completed.
  - b) Industrial Service Interruptible Sales: This change revises customer termination rights, enabling customers to cancel contract service and revert to the standard option at any time upon providing 30 days' notice once the initial 12-month contract period is completed.
  - c) Industrial Service Interruptible Sales Daily Index Option: This change removes the Daily Index Option that is unused by customers.
  - d) Industrial Service and Contract Service Monthly Index Option: This change improves consistency between Monthly Index Options defining Index as the first of month index gas price as published in "Inside FERC's Gas Market Report" for the average between Colorado Interstate Gas Company (Rocky Mountains) and Cheyenne Hub.
  - e) Removal of USAFA Construction Services Language: This change removes the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 related USAFA specific contract construction services due to the completion of all applicable work and payment obligations as contractually executed with customer.
  - f) Industrial Transportation Service Firm (G4T): This change adds a fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) nomination cycle and adjusts the times for all other nomination cycles to align with regional pipeline and national standards that will become effective April 1, 2016.

- 33. Ms. Thieme then presented Utilities proposed changes for Water Service. The proposed changes to the Water rates are based on a Cost of Service Study prepared following industry standards and practices and in compliance with rate design guidelines. The total Water Revenue is \$188.0 million which is \$9.0 million higher than revenue under current rates. The proposed changes include an overall system increase 5.0% higher than current rates based on 2016 Sources & Uses proposed budget ordinances. The overall system base rate increase of 5% includes the following: 4.3% increase for Residential, 6.0% increase for Nonresidential, 6.5% increase for Contract Services DOD, 0.0% increase for Large Nonseasonal, and 6.0% increase for Nonpotable and Augmentation.
- 34. She then noted that the rate increase drivers are the maintenance and replacement of infrastructure and the financial metrics required to maintain "AA" credit rating.
- 35. Ms. Thieme then addressed the proposed \$1 million surplus included in the Water rate filing. The final use of the undesignated planned surplus expense will be determined by Utilities Board no later than August 2016.
- 36. The rate design components for the proposed water rate changes focus on increased fixed daily charges to enhance financial stability and maintain conservation signals in a manner consistent with other Front Range water providers.
- 37. To conclude her presentation on Water service, Ms. Thieme reviewed the additional proposed changes to the Water tariff.
  - a) Large Nonseasonal Service: This change omits pilot language and renames the permanent rate option Large Nonseasonal Service. This change also revises customer termination rights, enabling customers to cancel contract service and revert to Nonresidential Service at any time upon providing 30 days' notice once the initial 12-month contract period is completed.
  - b) Large Potable Irrigator Water Conservation Rate Pilot Program: This change removes the Large Potable Irrigator Water Conservation Rate Pilot Program, which was withdrawn by City Council on July 10, 2012, effective August 1, 2014.
- 38. Next, Ms. Thieme provided a summary of typical bill impacts for Residential, Commercial, and Industrial customers across Electric, Natural Gas, Water and Wastewater service. The typical Residential customer bill will increase \$2.04 or 1.0% with the proposed changes. The typical Commercial customer bill will decrease \$48.16 or 3.3% with the proposed changes. The typical Industrial customer bill will decrease \$55.98 or 0.1% with the proposed changes.
- 39. Ms. Thieme then concluded the substantive portion of her presentation by summarizing the proposed changes to the URR.
  - a) Electric Plan Review Fee: This change adds the word "transformer" to the description of the fee to provide clarification that the cost is applied per building or transformer. The fee amount is unchanged; however, there is a more complete

- recovery of cost by capturing staff review time in circumstances where multiple transformers per building site exist.
- b) Dispute Resolution Correction: This change corrects Utilities' address currently shown in the URR for submitting a dispute. The current incorrect address in the URR results in lost mail and processing delays. The new address will no longer be tied to an individual employee or work team, but to the general Utilities' address. Internal process will direct the mail to the attention of the Dispute Resolution group. In response to a request from the Utilities Board, Utilities examined whether the proposed address change would create any unintended consequences. The review of potential consequences determined that while the proposed address could limit some types of correspondence, it would not result in any customers being unable to provide Utilities with the necessary documentation. The proposed change also provides enhanced Utilities security. Consequently, Utilities determined that the proposed change was properly vetted and does not create significant unintended consequences.
- c) Totalization Service: This change will allow customers served at both primary and secondary voltage levels to totalize meters when all the meters reside on the same campus setting. Currently, the tariff prohibits totalizing primary and secondary meters. There are no negative impacts to Utilities and this provides customers greater availability to totalize.
- d) Electric Line Extensions and Services and Extension of Natural Gas Mains and Services: This change will update the current contribution in aid of construction fee amounts collected through Electric Line Extensions and Services and Natural Gas Mains and Services, moving the recovery more closely to the current costs. The current Electric Line Extensions and Services fees are proposed to increase ten percent (10%). The current Natural Gas Mains and Services rate of sixteen percent (16%) will increase to eighteen percent (18%).
- e) Water & Wastewater Permit Fees: This change creates consistency between the Water and Wastewater payment process for permit fees. The current Wastewater payment process was changed several years ago to provide developers a choice to facilitate payment of the permit fee at the time of application, or to request a bill. Utilities' bill will reflect a single permit fee, or will aggregate multiple permit fees in a bill cycle, which will benefit customers who make a single payment. This change will align the payment process for Wastewater permit fees with that of Water permit fees, and the language will be uniform for both services.
- f) Water & Wastewater Development Charges Clarification: This change clarifies the language on applicable Development Charges associated with individually metered multi-family premises and master metered multi-family premises. Master metered multi-family premises pay the Development Charge correlated with meter size while individually metered multi-family premises are charged per the specific rates listed for that circumstance. There are no changes to the applicable Development Charges, and the change reflects the current practice and intent of the current language.
- g) Limited Water & Wastewater Development Charge Credit Transfers: This change will allow the limited transfer of unused Development Charge Credits (also referred to as Meter Credits) from a vacant parcel to another parcel under the

same ownership, subject to program compliance. The City Code currently prohibits the transfer. Both City Code and URR changes are required for this revision.

- 40. Ms. Thieme then described the customer outreach provided to Utilities customers informing them of the contents of the proposed rate changes and the Utilities' programs currently in place to assist customers.
- 41. Ms. Thieme concluded her presentation by explaining the steps that will follow the rate hearing: City Council will be presented with draft Decisions and Orders at the City Council Work Session on December 7, 2015, and will be asked to approve final Decisions and Orders and resolutions at the City Council Meeting on December 8, 2015.
- 42. City Auditor, Mr. Denny Nester then presented his report. Mr. Nester stated that the Auditor's review is focused on the accuracy and consistency of the methodology used to develop the proposed rate changes; and compliance with rate development guidance approved by the Utilities Board. The audit scope includes: (1) using Utilities' Revenue Requirements, including the Operating and Capital budget, to review Utilities' allocation that determines cost by customer class; (2) recalculating the cost of service study mathematically; (3) reviewing forecasts for reasonableness to prior forecasts; and (4) comparing the filing to Board approved rate guidance. The audit scope does not include a review of the submitted budget or capital plan that drives the rate case.
- 43. In relation to the proposed Water Service Rate changes, the audit concluded that the cost of service study and proposed rates were prepared accurately using consistent methodology. However, the proposed Waster Service surplus does not have supporting documentation in the rate case, as filed. The audit recommends that Utilities' management work with City Council to ensure Utilities 2016 appropriation includes a resolution related to the Surplus.
- 44. In relation to the proposed Electric Service Rate changes, the audit concluded that the revenues based on the proposed rates will not support the full recovery of the cost of service due to inaccuracies within the data used to forecast the ETL rate. The audit recommends that (1) Utilities should continue to research the root cause of the significant shortfall between forecast and actual revenues in the ETL rate class; (2) Utilities management should report results to the Utilities Board and propose appropriate forecast and rate changes, if needed; and (3) City Council should determine if the rate case should be approved as submitted, or if additional rate increases are warranted for this class; alternatively, City Council could consider rate changes after March 31, 2016 when root cause analysis is scheduled to be complete. Mr. Nester noted that doubling the Electric Rate increase for ETL customers from 6% to 12% would result in an overall bill impact of 2% instead of 1%.
- 45. In relation to the ECA and GCA realignments and adjustments, the audit concludes that proposed ECA and GCA collected balances are not consistent with current Enterprise Scorecard guidance because Utilities has proposed an increase in collected balances

outside of current guidelines. The adjustment results in an over collection that should be reduced faster than proposed. In Mr. Nester's opinion, he ECA and GCA rates should be further reduced than what is currently proposed. Mr. Nester noted that this issue has been previously discussed by the Utilities Board. The audit recommends that (1) City Council should decide whether ECA and GCA will be a pass through or a rate stabilization tool, if it is not to be used as a rate stabilization tool, the rates should be adjusted down so the projected balance approaches \$0 at some point in 2016; (2) Council could instruct Utilities to comply with current guidance, in which case, refunds to customers should be increased to reduce collected balances; and (3) based on Council's decision, Utilities Board should provide formal guidance and enterprise scorecard measures for ECA and GCA collected balances.

- 46. Councilmember Keith King presented on the proposed Utilities rate increases and his position on the proposal. Councilmember King provided his review of Utilities' rate changes between 2004 and 2014, concluding that Residential customers have been subject to disproportionally higher rate increases, when compared to Industrial and Commercial customers. Councilmember King asserted that the Cost of Service Studies performed have furthered the disparity between rate classes and that the consequences is that Utilities has failed to maintain competitive pricing for Residential customers as required by Utilities' mission statement.
- 47. Councilmember King next stated that since 2012, there have been increases to Electric Rates in 2013, 2014, 2015, and the proposed increases for 2016. He indicated that the Electric Rate increases are making Utilities less competitive and will result in Utilities failing to maintain a regional cost advantage. Councilmember King then provided a rate comparison of Residential, Commercial, and Industrial rates between Colorado Springs and Denver, Aurora, Lakewood, Pueblo, and Ft. Collins.
- 48. Councilmember King stated that rates for Commercial customers are competitive for electric and natural gas rates, but not for water and wastewater rates. He stated that rates for Industrial customers are competitive.
- 49. Councilmember King then explained his contention that rates for Residential customers create a competitive disadvantage for Residential rates compared to regional providers and that Residential rates are carrying more than their fair share of the rate increase burden. He stated that the rate structure is neither just nor reasonable and in fact discriminatory to Residential customers, specifically low income customers.
- 50. To conclude, Councilmember King provided several solutions to the concerns he addressed:
  - a) The ECA and GCA must be changed to eliminate significant over collections and ensure that collections are maintained within the bounds of Utilities' energy score card.
  - b) Rate increases must be balanced between rate classes and Residential rates should not be increased at a higher percentage than Commercial and Industrial rates.

- c) Industrial rate classes must pay their full cost of service and forecasts for Industrial rate classes must be more accurate.
- d) \$100,000 of the proposed Water Service surplus should be allocated to Utilities Board in order to maintain a research staff, independent of Utilities, to address the Utilities Board's questions.
- e) Cost of Service methodologies should be modified to eliminate inequitable Residential rates.
- 51. After Utilities' presentation, President Bennett opened the floor for public comment. President Bennett explained that the questions would be collected, both from the public and the Council, and then Utilities would have a short break to formulate responses.
- 52. A single citizen spoke. The citizen asked whether the materials presented by Councilmember King would be made public and what accountability measures would be put in place to make sure that any surplus funds paid from Utilities to the City would be used as intended.
- 53. Following public comment, President Bennett opened the floor to questions from the City Council.
- 54. Councilmember Tom Strand started by asking several questions:
  - a) What are the criteria for customers to participate in Utilities' low income program and how many people are involved in the program?
  - b) In relation to the ETL Electric rate, what evidence is available in relation to the forecasted revenues and actual revenues and what is the impact of the difference on Utilities?
  - c) In relation to the discussion on the ECA and GCA, has the annual audit report addressed the ECA and GCA as a pass through mechanism or a means of rate stabilization?
  - d) In relation to Councilmember King's presentation, is the disparity between the rate increases for Residential and Commercial/Industrial rates a result of previously overpriced Commercial/Industrial rates and/or is the difference an incentive to bring Commercial and Industrial customers to Colorado Springs?
  - e) In relation to Councilmember King's presentation, is the proposed Water surplus intended as a transfer to the City or is it intended as a reserve account for Utilities to use on City related issues as needed?
  - f) In relation to Councilmember King's presentation, have research staff been provided by Utilities and will that be the case in the future?
- 55. President Bennett then asked whether the City is receiving a fair and equitable rate for street light service given that street lights are generally used during off-peak times?
- 56. Councilmember Don Knight then asked (1) what will happen if the 2016 Rate Case is not approved before the end of December and (2) what will happen if Utilities' budget is not approved before the end of December?

# 57. Councilmember Bill Murray then asked two questions:

- a) In relation to the discussion of the ECA and GCA and whether they should be a pass through mechanism or a tool for rate stabilization, what is the turn over for Utilities' customers and what class of customer is negatively impacted if the ECA and GCA are used as rate stabilization tools?
- b) Please provide a formal reconciliation between the rate change information from Councilmember King and Utilities.
  - i. In response, Councilmember King noted that he received his numbers from Utilities.

# 58. Councilmember King then asked several questions:

- a) In relation to the fixed rate daily charges, why are Residential customers subject to disproportionate increases?
- b) What can be done to make ECA and GCA practice consistent with the requirements of Utilities' score cards?
- c) In relation to the GCC, why is the cost higher for Residential customer than it is for Commercial and Industrial customers?
- d) How will the under collection of Industrial classes be remedied?
- 59. After the conclusion of City Council comment, President Bennett recessed the rate proceeding to allow Utilities to formulate answers to the City Council questions.
- 60. Following the recess, President Bennett reconvened the hearing.
- 61. Utilities then presented its response to the comments and questions.
- 62. Mr. William Cherrier, Utilities' Chief Planning and Finance Officer led Utilities' responses, first asking Mr. Nester to answer the questions directed at him.
- 63. Mr. Nester addressed his questions as follows:
  - a) In relation to the request for additional information concerning the Electric ETL rate, Mr. Nester explained that in 2010 and 2011, Utilities collected more revenue than was initially forecasted for the ETL rate, but has since collected less revenue than has been forecasted. He explained that Utilities is currently analyzing the situation to determine the best solution.
  - b) In relation to the ECA and GCA changes, Mr. Nester noted that ECA and GCA collections were historically more extreme, but that since the required collection bands were established by the Utilities Board, no ECA or GCA proposal has presented a forecasted collection outside of the established collection bands.
- 64. Ms. Kathleen Solano, Utilities General Manager of Customer Services next addressed Councilmember Strand's question concerning Utilities' low income program. Ms.

Solano explained that the program, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program ("LEAP"), is a federally funded program open to low income utility customers to address winter heating costs. To be eligible a customer must pay heating costs directly to Utilities or as part of their rent. The amount of assistance available to a customer is dependent on the number of eligible residents living in a premises. During the 2013-2014 LEAP season, approximately \$3.3 million was distributed from the Federal program to benefit approximately 8,100 homes. During the 2014-2015 LEAP season, more than \$4 million was distributed from the Federal program to benefit nearly 7,800 homes.

- 65. Mr. Cherrier then addressed the remainder of the questions posed to Utilities. The questions and responses were addressed as follows.
- 66. Mr. Cherrier explained that fixed electric charges increase at a different rate for Residential customers than those for Commercial and Industrial customers because the charges are distinct and determined based on the nature and requirements of each rate class. As a result, the charges are not easily compared as they incorporate the different components and needs of each rate class. The overall rate increases are proportionate across rate classes.
- 67. Mr. Cherrier then addressed the questions concerning the over collection of the ECA and GCA. He stated that the collection should remain in line with the collection bands established by the Utilities Board and that Utilities has worked to maintain those metrics, discussing the issue regularly with the Utilities Board Finance Committee and Utilities Board. He stated that with fuel volatility, there is regular need for balance between prompt price changes and rate stabilization. Additionally, rate decreases are planned for the near future and at the November Utilities Board meeting, the Utilities Board sent the issue to the Finance Committee for additional study.
- 68. In relation to the question of why the proposed GCC impacts Residential customers differently than Commercial and Industrial customers, Mr. Cherrier explained that the different impact is intentional and is based on accurately placing the costs of serving each rate class on that rate class. He explained that much of this cost is based on costs imposed by gas pipelines and that prior rates did not fully match each rate class' charges with the cost to serve that rate class.
- 69. Mr. Cherrier then explained that Utilities is actively addressing the concerns surrounding the Electric ETL rate, having previously discussed the issue with both the Utilities Board Finance Committee and the Utilities Board; Utilities is committing to understanding the situation fully by the end of March 2016. Mr. Cherrier stated that the proposed rate increase for the ETL rate is 6% which is in-line with similar rates. The decision was made to treat the ETL rate in a manner consistent with similar rates until the forecasting issue is fully understood.
- 70. Next, Mr. Cherrier explained that the City Council and Utilities Board have, and have consistently had, full access to Utilities' staff for support and research. Utilities' staff works diligently to be responsive to any and all questions received from

Councilmembers. Any change to this practice is ultimately a decision for City Council. Mr. Jerry Forte, Utilities' Chief Executive Officer noted that much of Utilities' staff support comes through the Utilities Board committee process, where Utilities dedicates significant staff resources.

- 71. Mr. Cherrier then addressed the provision of street light service to the City. He explained that the City does receive a fair and equitable rate. He noted that a full study was performed in 2008 and that the City Auditor has regularly reviewed the rate.
- 72. Then, Mr. Cherrier addressed Councilmember Knights questions about the consequences of the City Council's failure to approve the rate case and budget. Mr. Cherrier explained that if the rate case was not approved by the end of December 2015, the existing rates would continue in effect and Utilities would consequently fail to meet the proposed financial metrics. Utilities would have to make significant changes to its expenditures. Utilities is currently working on contingency plans for 2016 revenue short falls of \$5 million, \$10 million, and \$20 million. Mr. Cherrier then explained that if Utilities' budget was not approved by the end of December 2015, Utilities would not have the authorization to expend any funds and could not practically operate. Mr. Cherrier emphasized that approving both a budget and rate case is critical for Utilities.
- 73. Mr. Cherrier then returned to the ECA and GCA, explaining that the tools are pass throughs but that there are currently over collections. He noted that all customers are treated equally and that all customers receive the same rate adjustments. It is true that a customer may have a net gain or loss depending on the times when they commence and/or terminate service, but that is generally true across the utility industry. He also explained that customer turnover is low and that customers often move within Utilities service territory as opposed to completely leaving Utilities' service territory.
- 74. Mr. Cherrier concluded by addressing the request for a reconciliation between the information presented by Councilmember King and Utilities. He explained that this issue was previously referred to the Strategic Planning Committee and that Utilities will follow up to ensure that it is addressed there.
- 75. President Bennett then concluded the discussion and explained that an executive session is not needed.
- 76. Councilmember Knight then addressed the City Council in his role as the Chair of the Finance Committee, providing additional perspective on the proposed rate case. He started by explaining that there are confusions within Utilities filing that need to be addressed and noting that some complexities within the Utilities rate/budget process can be improved upon in a manner similar to improvements made within the City budget process.
- 77. Councilmember Knight explained that while the proposed Utilities budget and rate case are not perfect, both should be approved. He noted that the Electric rate increase is driven by federal environmental requirements and that the failure to receive the necessary

- funds would create a significant risk that Utilities would fail to meet the federal mandates. He also explained that the Water rate increase is a result of the Southern Delivery System, but is significantly lower than was initially forecasted.
- 78. Next, Councilmember Knight addressed the three points of concern from the City Auditor's report. In relation to the Water surplus, he explained that the funds will remain unallocated and that as part of the rate filing it was required that they be listed as applying to parks watering. The Finance Committee is working on contingency plans for lower than forecasted revenues. Councilmember Knight explained that the Utilities Board needs to revisit the ECA and GCA philosophy to properly avoid over collections while addressing the intervals appropriate for changes. He said that this issue should not hold up the rate case process. Lastly, in relation to the Electric ETL rate, Councilmember Knight stated that the issues presented should not prevent passage of the rate case, but that a solution should be expedited as quickly as possible.
- 79. President Bennett then made clear that City Council would not be taking a vote on the rate case until the December 8, 2015, City Council meeting.
- 80. Councilmember King then asked an additional question, whether the proposed Utilities budget reflects the ECA and GCA over collections. Mr. Cherrier responded that the budget does reflect those over collections.
- 81. At the conclusion of questions by the public and City Council, Utilities' responses, and discussion by City Council, Mr. Kenneth Burgess, Division Chief Rates and Regulatory, City Attorney's Office, polled Council Members regarding the issues central to the Electric, Natural Gas, and Water services and the URR.
- 82. The following are the proposed changes and the votes by City Council addressing the URR:
  - a) Should Utilities add clarifying tariff language around the Electric Plan Review Fee?
    - The City Council held that Utilities shall add clarifying tariff language around the Electric Plan Review Fee.
  - b) Should Utilities change the address for dispute resolution to the general Utilities address?
    - The City Council held that Utilities shall change the address for dispute resolution to the general Utilities address.
  - c) Should Utilities allow totalization of primary and secondary meters when meters reside on the same campus?

The City Council held that Utilities shall allow totalization of primary and secondary meters when meters reside on the same campus.

d) Should Utilities increase the amounts collected through Contributions in Aid of Construction in the Electric and Natural Gas distribution system?

The City Council held that Utilities shall increase the amounts collected through Contributions in Aid of Construction in the Electric and Natural Gas distribution system.

e) Should Utilities change language regarding Water permit fees to be consistent with the Wastewater permit fees?

The City Council held that Utilities shall change language regarding Water permit fees to be consistent with the Wastewater permit fees.

f) Should Utilities add clarifying tariff language on applicable Development Charges regarding multi-family and master metered multi-family charges?

The City Council held that Utilities shall add clarifying tariff language on applicable Development Charges regarding multi-family and master metered multi-family charges.

g) Should Utilities add tariff language to allow a limited transfer of unused Development Charge Credits from a vacant parcel to another parcel under the same ownership?

The City Council held that Utilities shall add tariff language to allow a limited transfer of unused Development Charge Credits from a vacant parcel to another parcel under the same ownership.

83. President Bennett then concluded the 2016 Rate Case Hearing.

#### **ORDER**

# THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

The URR sheets as attached to the Resolution are adopted and will be effective on and after January 1, 2016. Such tariff sheets shall be published and held open for public review and shall remain effective until changed by subsequent Resolution duly adopted by the City Council.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

**Council President**