

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: CITY OF WOONSOCKET WATER DIVISION
TARIFF FILING TO IMPLEMENT A FIRE PROTECTION
SERVICE CHARGE AND AMEND CUSTOMER CHARGE

DOCKET NO. 4309

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of the RI General Laws §§ 39-1-1 and 39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) will conduct a hearing on **Thursday, January 26, 2012 @ 9:30 A.M.** in Hearing Room A of the Public Utilities Commission, located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island.

In this docket, the Commission will examine the propriety of a filing by the Woonsocket Water Division seeking approval to implement a new Fire Protection Service Charge based on meter and billed to all ratepayers who reside in the City of Woonsocket. Recently enacted legislation prohibits the Woonsocket Water Division from charging the City of Woonsocket for hydrant fees. Through this filing, Woonsocket Water seeks to recover hydrant revenue of approximately \$567,698 that was previously paid by the City of Woonsocket by re-allocating the City’s hydrant fees to all ratepayers in the City of Woonsocket. Woonsocket Water proposes to collect the revenues through the quarterly customer charge. The Commission will review whether this is the appropriate treatment of a fire service protection charge.

If approved, the bill impact on a residential customer with an annual consumption of 100 HCF is an increase of \$54.30 per year or 12.06% from \$450.30 to \$504.60. The bill impact on other customers would range from 2.31% to 16.336% based on meter size and consumption. The Commission can approve rates that are different than those proposed by Woonsocket Water.

The proposed quarterly rate impact for each meter size is as follows:

Meter Size	Fire Protection	Current Service Charge	Total Proposed Service Charge
5/8 inch	\$13.58	\$14.57	\$28.15
3/4 inch	\$19.29	\$17.39	\$36.68
1 inch	\$23.88	\$19.67	\$43.55
1.5 inch	\$44.28	\$29.77	\$74.05
2 inch	\$62.14	\$38.62	\$100.76
3 inch	\$85.56	\$50.23	\$135.79
4 inch	\$130.06	\$72.27	\$202.33
6 inch	\$229.53	\$121.55	\$351.08
8 inch	\$401.47	\$206.73	\$608.20
10 inch	\$575.86	\$293.12	\$868.98

The proposal may be examined at the Commission's office and at the office of the Woonsocket Water Division, 169 Main Street, Woonsocket, Rhode Island. The filing can also be accessed under the Commission Docket Menu at www.ripuc.org, Docket No. 4309. Reference is made to R.I.G.L. Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35.

The Public Utilities Commission is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk's office at 941-4500, seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
January 15, 2012