



## ***Water Rate Increase Approved for Marshfield Utilities*** New rates take effect in January

**For Immediate Release**

**December 21, 2015**

(Marshfield, WI) – The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) has approved a requested increase in water rates for [Marshfield Utilities](#). The decision this week followed a Rate Case Hearing (December 9) where three residents spoke out against the increase. Seven other MU customers submitted online comments to the PSCW.

The 15 percent increase approved by PSCW means the average residential bill for water consumption will increase less than \$3 per month to about \$22, and the public fire protection charge will increase less than \$1 on a property valued at \$100,000.

“The Rate Case Hearing was a good opportunity for MU customers to let us know what’s on their minds and what they think about our upcoming projects and system investments,” said MU General Manager Bob Trussoni. “The input from customers is valuable, including concerns about the impact of the water rate increase on low-income residents.”

MU requested the rate increase to cover the costs of several projects to ensure a safe and reliable supply of drinking water for its customers. Recent and upcoming investments for Marshfield Utilities include:

- Purchase of [new water meters](#)
- A new water tower
- Replacement of a forced draft aerator at the Water Treatment Facility
- A new well
- Testing pipes for lead and copper
- Replacement and lining of water mains

The projects that have been completed have increased the utility’s investment in the water system infrastructure by more than 20 percent since 2011.

“These are all significant long-range investments to help us maintain a water system that will be safe and dependable for many years to come,” Trussoni added.

The new water rates will be effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, with the new rates reflected on February bills.

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*Since 1904, **Marshfield Utilities** has been providing customers in the Marshfield, Wisconsin area with high-quality service while managing rates to enhance the service area's economy. With more than 13,800 electrical customers and 8,300 water customers, [Marshfield Utilities](#) maintains a rate of operating profit that provides adequate funds to meet current and future operational needs.*

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