

Tiered Rate Water Billing System Fact Sheet

The water billing system has a fixed charge of \$74.26 to cover the depreciation of the water system plus a variable charge for any water used. A new treatment plant infrastructure fixed charge, currently \$ 16.97, was also added to all bills in 2013 to build a reserve of funds to reduce borrowing for the treatment plant which is expected to begin construction in 2016.

1. The tiered water system exists for residential customers to promote water conservation. The higher the water consumption the higher the charge per cubic metre of water used.
2. Commercial customers require their water to operate and have limited ability to cut their consumption. Therefore a conservation rate structure will not have the desired impact on this sector. Commercial customers will be charged a flat fee of \$1.782 per cubic metre for any water used. The fixed charges in #1 above will also apply to all commercial accounts.
3. For very high water users (over 400 cubic metres) the rate drops to \$1.782/cubic metre. Large agriculture and commercial operations that require large amounts of water to operate their business would have seen very large billing increases if the rate was just left at the \$3.18/cubic metre rate for all consumption over 400 cubic metres.
4. Total annual residential water revenues for 2015 are estimated at \$2.23 million. Total commercial revenues are estimated at \$953,000 for a total annual billing of almost \$3.22 million.

Residential and Commercial Water Rates and Base Fee

2014/15	Base	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Base Consumption	-	0 - 60	61 - 120	121 - 160	161 - 400	>400
Rate per m ³		\$0.636	\$1.273	\$2.12	\$3.18	\$1.782
Base Rate	\$91.23	\$38.19	\$76.38	\$84.86	\$763.78	

How to read the table

The above table shows that for each billing period properties will be charged a fixed base charge of \$91.23. For the first 60 cubic metres of water a charge of 0.636 cents per cubic metre is applied. For the cubic metres used between 61 and 120 there is an additional charge of \$1.273/cubic metre. For the next 40 cubic metres the charge is \$2.12/cubic metre and so on.

For additional information, please contact:

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