

May 24, 2022

**RE: Customer Notice  
General Rate Case Filing with the Oregon Public Utility Commission**

This notice is to inform customers that Lakeshore Water Company (“Utility”) has filed a general rate revision with the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“PUC”). This notice provides general information regarding the proposed changes and the effect it will have on customers’ bills if approved by the PUC.

**Proposed Rate Adjustment**

Lakeshore Water Company prepared a general rate case filing based on PUC rate case methodology and submitted the rate case to the PUC on May 23, 2022. The 2022 rate case filing proposes increasing annual revenues for the Utility to \$31,685, representing an increase of \$9,192 above the revenue of \$22,493 collected in 2020. The proposed rate adjustment represents a 40.87% increase in revenue and is requested to go into effect on January 1, 2023.

We anticipate the proposed rate adjustment will change average monthly water service costs as follows:

<b>Service Size</b>	<b>Current Cost</b>	<b>Proposed Cost</b>
<b>Residential 3/4”</b>		
Base Rate (\$/month)	\$20.01	\$33.00
Volumetric Rate (\$/100 gal)	\$0.36	\$0.33
<b>Average Monthly Bill</b>	<b>\$39.05</b>	<b>\$55.01</b>

**Why the Proposed Rate Adjustment?**

Lakeshore Water Company has not increased water rates since 1999. Over that period, operating costs for the utility, such as labor costs, vendor costs, supply, and chemical costs, have increased in line with CPI inflation – or 73.5% over 23 years. In addition, Lakeshore Water Company has made a number of small capital investments into the system to improve system reliability and enhance customer service support. These capital improvements, combined with the increase in operating costs over the last 23 years, result in the need to adjust water rates to generate higher revenue for the utility.

## **Oregon PUC Rate Case Process & Customer Participation**

Lakeshore Water Company hosted an Open House in 2021 to discuss the water system, recent capital investments, operating cost increases, lack of rate increase since 1999, and the need to adjust rates to provide for financial viability of the Utility. As discussed at that Open House, we encourage customers to participate in the PUC rate case process. We anticipate the PUC rate case process may require 6 months to complete.

Copies of the Utility's application, testimony, and exhibits are available at Lakeshore Water Company's main office. To receive a copy, please write to or email:

Lakeshore Water Company  
PO Box 6620  
Portland, OR 97228  
[customerservice@puttman.com](mailto:customerservice@puttman.com)

The calculations and statements contained in the Utility's filing and this notice are not binding on the PUC.

Customers may request to receive notice of the time and place of any hearing on the proposed rate adjustment by contacting the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Administrative Hearings Division, at 503-378-6678.

Lakeshore Water Company is glad to provide additional information about the proposed rate adjustment filing. If you are interested, please contact customer service at 971-703-4242 or email [customerservice@puttman.com](mailto:customerservice@puttman.com).

Sincerely,  
**Lakeshore Water Company**

Copies to:

1. PUC Administrative Hearings Division, PO Box 1088, Salem OR 97308-1088
2. City of Veneta, 88184 8<sup>th</sup> St, Veneta, OR 97487