

# WATER · POWER · PEOPLE

News for our business customers



## In this newsletter:

- Rate changes
- Planned water and electric projects

Investments made with your rates have allowed EWEB to deliver positive results for our customers and community, including:



One of the cleanest power portfolios in the nation, with 90% of our power coming from carbon-free resources.



A proactive drinking water source protection program that for decades has maintained exceptional water quality in the McKenzie River.



Development of emergency water stations and other infrastructure improvements to maintain high reliability, reduce storm-related outages and prepare for emergencies.



Energy-saving incentives, assistance programs for low-income customers, school grants and other programs to support quality of life in our community.

Valued EWEB Customer,

As a not-for-profit, publicly owned utility, we want to ensure you get high levels of value and service.

After five years of stable prices, the rising costs of operations and the need to replace or upgrade aging infrastructure requires an increase in the price of water and electric services in 2022.

This letter explains how your rates are being used to provide you with safe, reliable services, maintain utility infrastructure and invest in system improvements that make your services better.

### The following are price changes for 2022:

#### SMALL GENERAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS

Up to 30 kilowatts (kW) per month

Electric: +3.7%      Water: +5%

#### MEDIUM GENERAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS

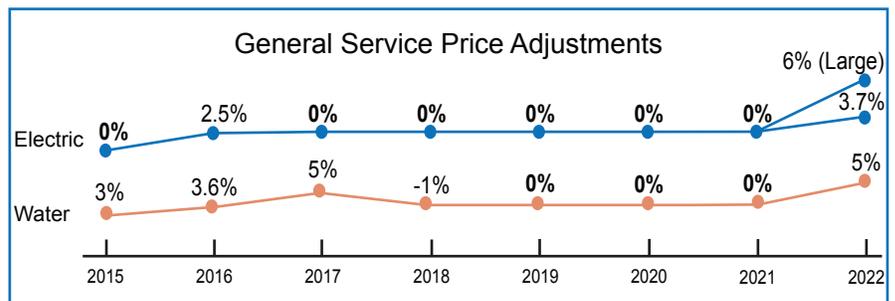
31-500 kilowatts (kW) per month

Electric: +3.7%      Water: +5%

#### LARGE GENERAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS

501-10,000 kilowatts (kW) per month

Electric: +6%      Water: +5%



*Electric and water prices have remained stable for several years despite inflationary pressures, BPA cost increases and stressed economic conditions.*

## Major projects we're planning and budgeting for in 2022 and beyond

### **BUILDING A SECOND WATER TREATMENT PLANT ON THE WILLAMETTE RIVER**

Of the 20 largest cities in the Northwest, Eugene is the only one with a single source of drinking water. While the McKenzie River will continue to be Eugene's primary water source, EWEB is in the early stages of developing the Willamette River as an additional water supply. The future water treatment plant will be built to modern seismic standards and designed to deliver water quality that is as good as or better than McKenzie River treated water.

### **UPGRADING THE CARMEN-SMITH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**

For more than 50 years, Carmen-Smith has reliably served our customers with low-cost, local hydropower. Relicensing the project includes upgrading much of the equipment first installed in 1963 when the project opened, campground improvements, and more fish-friendly operations.

### **WILDFIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION**

Wildfire prevention is increasingly important as climate, drought and a host of other issues increase the likelihood and severity of wildfires in our region. Investments in grid hardening include replacing power pole crossarms, replacing wood poles with metal poles in higher-risk areas, and undergrounding portions of power lines in forested areas of south Eugene and the McKenzie Valley.

### **UPGRADING AND DIVERSIFYING WATER STORAGE TANKS**

The three primary tanks that store drinking water for all of Eugene are nearing the end of their useful lives and do not meet modern seismic standards. In early 2020, EWEB began a multi-year project to replace the existing tanks with six smaller tanks. This distributed approach improves water quality and increases our resiliency to potentially disruptive events.

### **REBUILDING SUBSTATIONS TO INCREASE CAPACITY AND IMPROVE RELIABILITY**

EWEB substations connect a large number of customers and many built in the 1960s and 1970s are reaching end-of-life. Rebuilding old substations with modern, safer equipment will help maintain reliability, and ensure we can meet future electricity needs.

### **METER TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS**

Smart meter technology investments will enable more renewables on the grid, provide customers with information to make energy decisions and save money, and allow EWEB to pinpoint outage locations for faster service restoration in emergency outages.

### **REPAIRING LEABURG CANAL**

The Leaburg Canal has served our community with clean and reliable hydropower for nearly 100 years, but due to its age, it has structural deficiencies that must be addressed. While we are still assessing options for the future of the canal, we know that significant investment is required to ensure long term safe and reliable operation.