



**Otay Water District**  
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.  
Spring Valley, CA 91978-2096  
[www.otaywater.gov](http://www.otaywater.gov)  
(619) 670-2777



## **Notice of Public Hearing on Commercial Sewer Rates**

**Monday, December 15, 2008**  
**3:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room**  
**2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.**  
**Spring Valley, CA 91978**

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMERCIAL SEWER CUSTOMERS

This notice contains important information regarding commercial sewer rates. The Otay Water District provides sewer service to your community. All customers within the district's service area are being notified of a proposed rate increase.

The Otay Water District is a revenue-neutral public agency, meaning that each end user pays a fair share of the cost of sewer collection and disposal, as well as the construction, operation, and maintenance of the public sewer system. Only those charges needed to support service are billed to customers.

An analysis of costs and revenues indicates a proposed 4.6% rate increase effective January 1, 2009, is needed due to the higher cost for sewage treatment, energy, labor, and materials. If adopted, the new rate structure would maintain the integrity of the sewer collection and treatment system, and a balanced budget.

If you oppose this action, you may attend the public hearing on Monday, December 15, 2008, at 3:30 p.m. and deliver your written protest. You may also mail your written protest. Please include your name and the address of the affected property. To be considered, your protest must be received prior to the close of the public hearing. Immediately following the hearing, the Board of Directors will consider adoption of the proposed rates. Mail written objections to:

**Board Secretary**  
Otay Water District  
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.  
Spring Valley, CA 91978



## How commercial sewer rates are calculated -

To meet State of California requirements, customers must pay their fair share of sewer costs. The Otay Water District is required to determine sewer rates in accordance with the State's Revenue Program Guidelines. The formula takes into consideration the cost associated with daily flow, chemical oxygen demand (COD) and the removal of suspended solids (SS). The COD and SS determine whether the strength factor is high, medium, or low, consistent with the State Water Resources Control Board guidelines.

Monthly bills are calculated based on Assigned Service Units (ASU). One ASU is equal to the demand placed on the system by a residential unit. ASUs are calculated by multiplying the daily flow by the strength factor.

### **Daily Flow x Strength Factor = Assigned Service Unit**

#### **Strength Factors**

1.0	Churches
1.0	Low Strength Commercial
1.238	Medium Strength Commercial
2.203	High Strength Commercial

The sewer bill is then calculated by multiplying ASUs by the rate per ASU. The rate per ASU is increasing by \$1.53 per ASU, from \$33.26 to \$34.79. If approved, the proposed 4.6% rate increase will become effective January 1, 2009.

A \$54 per ASU assessment is collected on the property tax bill to repay a state sewer loan. It is anticipated that the loan will be paid in full by 2012.