



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

PrSrt Std.  
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**PAID**  
Permit No.2  
San Diego CA



## **Notice of Public Hearing on Water and 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 PROPERTY OWNERS

This notice contains important information regarding water and sewer rates. Otay Water District provides service to your community. All property owners within the district's service area are being notified of proposed water and sewer rate increases, even if they do not have active service with the district.

The district is a revenue-neutral public agency meaning that only those charges sufficient to support service are billed to customers. Each end user pays their share of the cost of acquisition and delivery, as well as the construction, operation and maintenance of the public facilities to provide the required services.

An analysis of costs and revenues of the district shows an average 12.4% rate increase for water and recycled water and an average 4.6% for sewer services are needed. The rate increases for water and recycled water are necessary mainly due to higher water costs from our wholesale suppliers, the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA), the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), and the City of San Diego. The increases are also to maintain the high level of service customers receive, the integrity of the water and sewer systems, and a balanced budget. In addition, the district proposes to adopt a new tiered rate structure for all customer classes to promote conservation. If adopted, the new rate structure and tiers would go into effect on January 1, 2009.

If you oppose these actions, 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

## *About the Otay Water District -*

The Otay Water District is a water, recycled water, and sewer service agency: more specifically, a California special district authorized in 1956 by the State Legislature under the provisions of the Municipal Water District Act of 1911. Its ordinances, policies, taxes, and rates for service are set by five directors, elected by voters in their respective divisions to serve staggered four-year terms. The board of directors meets in open public session on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at district headquarters. The public is welcome to attend these meetings.

The district provides water service to customers within 125.5 square miles of southeastern San Diego County, California. Its facilities serve the water, recycled water, and sewer needs of approximately 191,500 people living in the communities of Spring Valley, La Presa, Rancho San Diego, Jamul, eastern Chula Vista, and Otay Mesa along the international border with Mexico. The potable water delivered by the district is purchased from the San Diego County Water Authority, which in turn, purchases this water from the region's primary importer, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Otay Water District owns and operates a wastewater collection system providing public sewer service to 15,200 sewer customers through 4,630 accounts to homes and businesses within the Jamacha drainage basin. At the heart of this system is the Ralph W. Chapman Water Recycling Facility. Each day, this facility treats wastewater and produces up to 1.3 million gallons of high-quality recycled water. Through a dedicated distribution system, the recycled water is transported to customers where it is used to irrigate golf courses, playing fields, public parks, roadside landscapes, and open space; conserving valuable potable water.

Due to drought in California and the Southwest, as well as court-ordered pumping restrictions in place in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Bay-Delta, along with higher energy prices, the cost of importing water to Southern California is increasing. As a revenue-neutral public agency, costs must be passed to customers in the form of higher rates for service.