



NOTICE OF MAJORITY PROTEST HEARING

PROPOSED INCREASE OF WATER RATES

In accordance with West Kern Water District's Resolution 22-03, adopted September 27, 2022, and Article XIID, Section 6 of the California Constitution, commonly referred to as Proposition 218, please be advised of the following:

Majority Protest Hearing

The District will hold a majority protest hearing at **5:30 p.m.** on **December 20, 2022** at the District office located at **800 Kern Street, Taft, California 93268**. This hearing will address proposed increases to District's current water rate schedule.

***THE PROPOSED RATE CHANGES ARE DETAILED IN THE ENCLOSED
"PROPOSED RATE SHEET."***

At this hearing, the District's Board of Directors will accept oral and written testimony, as well as written protests, regarding the proposed rate changes. If a majority of account holders fail to file a written protest with the District prior to the hearing's conclusion, the District will adopt the proposed increases, as reflected in the enclosed "Proposed Rate Sheet." All District account holders who pay the charges herein mentioned shall have the right to file a protest. Only one protest may be recorded from each service address and/or parcel.

***IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PROTEST THE PROPOSED RATE CHANGES,
YOU DO NOT NEED TO TAKE ANY ACTION.***

If, however, you wish to protest the proposed rate changes, you must submit a written protest during or before the conclusion of the hearing. For a written protest to be considered valid, it must include: (1) the identity of the parcel represented by the protest; (2) the name and address of the protestant; (3) a statement illustrating the protestant's legal relationship to the parcel (i.e., owner, lessee, renter., etc.); and (4) a signed statement containing an original signature, indicating that the writing is to be considered a written protest on behalf of the parcel. An oral protest will not be counted at the hearing unless such protest is accompanied by a written protest. *As a courtesy, a protest form is enclosed.*

You may mail or deliver your written protest to the Board of Directors of the West Kern Water District located at 800 Kern Street, P.O. Box 1105, Taft, California 93268. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays.

Reasons for Change

Over the past several years, the District has faced considerable increases in the costs associated with providing water services to its customers. These increases are largely due to the reduction in historical water supplies, the escalating costs of replacement water, the need to maintain the reliability and integrity of the District’s facilities and systems, and the volatility of energy prices. For these reasons, the District proposes an increase to its existing water rate schedule.

Basis for Proposed Water Rates

The proposed rates were calculated by the District to evenly spread costs among water users according to the costs of providing service to that user. For more detailed information, the District has prepared a “Rate Study,” copies of which are available on the District’s website and at the District’s office.

Effective Date of Proposed Charges

If adopted, the District will begin charging the new rates, at earliest, on December 20, 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact the District by telephone at 661-763-3151 or by email at wkwd@wkwd.org. Protest may be mailed or delivered to the Board of Directors of the West Kern Water District located at 800 Kern Street, P.O. Box 1105, Taft, California 93268-1105. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays.

Dated: _____

Greg Hammett, General Manager

WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT
PROPOSITION 218 WRITTEN PROTEST

I, _____, protest the District’s proposed adoption of future increases
(print your name)
for water rates. I am the _____ of real property
(owner, trustee, tenant etc.)
located at _____
(full property address including apartment number, or APN number)

Date

Signature

COMMENTS, IF ANY:

HEARING: A majority protest hearing to consider the proposed water rate changes will be held:

5:30 p.m. on December 20, 2022, at 800 Kern Street, Taft, California 93268.

DEADLINE: Written protests must be received by the District during or before the conclusion of the hearing. Written protests may be mailed, or hand delivered to the District’s main office, located at 800 Kern Street, Taft, California 93268.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For more detailed information, the District has prepared a “Rate Study,” copies of which are available on the District’s website and at the District’s office.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT: This document is considered a public record, which may be reviewed by members of the District’s Board of Directors, and which the District may be required to disclose upon request.

**WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT
PROPOSED RATES**

Effective February 2023 Billing Cycle

RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL/PUBLIC ENTITY RATE

BILLED MONTHLY

	<u>1/2023</u>	<u>1/2024</u>	<u>1/2025</u>	<u>1/2026</u>	<u>1/2027</u>
<u>Water Use Rates (PER METER):</u>					
First 1500 cu. ft. or less, per 100 cu. ft.	\$1.30	\$1.38	\$1.45	\$1.53	\$1.60
Over 1500 cu. ft., per 100 cu. ft.	\$1.55	\$1.64	\$1.73	\$1.81	\$1.90
<u>Minimum Charge:</u>					
For 3/4-inch meter	\$9.50	\$11.88	\$14.25	\$16.63	\$19.00
For 1-inch meter	\$15.87	\$19.83	\$23.80	\$27.76	\$31.73
For 1-1/2-inch meter	\$31.64	\$39.54	\$47.45	\$55.36	\$63.27
For 2-inch meter	\$50.64	\$63.29	\$75.95	\$88.61	\$101.27
For 3-inch meter	\$95.00	\$118.75	\$142.50	\$166.25	\$190.00
For 4-inch meter	\$158.37	\$197.96	\$237.55	\$277.14	\$316.73
For 6-inch meter	\$316.64	\$395.79	\$474.95	\$554.11	\$633.27
For 8-inch meter	\$506.64	\$633.29	\$759.95	\$886.61	\$1,013.27

Board has discretion to not implement full increase each year based upon financial review and inflation rate.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE

(Billed Monthly - Charge per Connection)

	<u>1/2023</u>	<u>1/2024</u>	<u>1/2025</u>	<u>1/2026</u>	<u>1/2027</u>
<u>Rates</u>					
For 2-inch connection or smaller	\$6.55	\$7.21	\$7.86	\$8.52	\$9.18
For 3-inch connection	\$12.29	\$13.52	\$14.75	\$15.97	\$17.20
For 4-inch connection	\$20.48	\$22.53	\$24.58	\$26.62	\$28.67
For 6-inch connection	\$40.96	\$45.06	\$49.15	\$53.25	\$57.34
For 8-inch connection	\$65.54	\$72.09	\$78.64	\$85.20	\$91.75
For 10-inch connection	\$94.21	\$103.63	\$113.05	\$122.47	\$131.89
For 12-inch connection	\$176.13	\$193.74	\$211.35	\$228.97	\$246.58
For 14-inch connection	\$262.14	\$288.36	\$314.57	\$340.79	\$367.00
For 16-inch connection	\$375.19	\$412.71	\$450.23	\$487.75	\$525.27

Board has discretion to not implement full increase each year based upon financial review and inflation rate.

(Turn Page Over for Additional Rates)

**WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT
PROPOSED RATES**

Effective February 2023 Billing Cycle

INDUSTRIAL METERED SERVICE

BILLED MONTHLY

	<u>1/2023</u>	<u>1/2024</u>	<u>1/2025</u>	<u>1/2026</u>	<u>1/2027</u>
<u>Water Use Rates (per 100 cu. ft. per meter):</u>					
Schedule IW - General Industrial	\$3.27	\$3.65	\$4.02	\$4.40	\$4.78
<u>Minimum Charge Per Meter Per Month:</u>					
For 3/4-inch meter	\$9.50	\$11.88	\$14.25	\$16.63	\$19.00
For 1-inch meter	\$15.87	\$19.83	\$23.80	\$27.76	\$31.73
For 1-1/2-inch meter	\$31.64	\$39.54	\$47.45	\$55.36	\$63.27
For 2-inch meter	\$50.64	\$63.29	\$75.95	\$88.61	\$101.27
For 3-inch meter	\$95.00	\$118.75	\$142.50	\$166.25	\$190.00
For 4-inch meter	\$158.37	\$197.96	\$237.55	\$277.14	\$316.73
For 6-inch meter	\$316.64	\$395.79	\$474.95	\$554.11	\$633.27
For 8-inch meter	\$506.64	\$633.29	\$759.95	\$886.61	\$1,013.27

Board has discretion to not implement full increase each year based upon financial review and inflation rate.

INDUSTRIAL METERED RAW WATER SERVICE

(Direct service from Aqueduct within District Boundaries)

	<u>1/2023</u>	<u>1/2024</u>	<u>1/2025</u>	<u>1/2026</u>	<u>1/2027</u>
<u>Quantity Rates:</u>					
Per 100 cu. ft	\$2.07	\$2.33	\$2.58	\$2.84	\$3.10

Board has discretion to not implement full increase each year based upon financial review and inflation rate.

OTHER NEGOTIATED INDUSTRIAL METERED SERVICE

Quantity Rates:

Increased uniformly with other base rate increases
