



Illinois Commerce Commission

NEWS

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Illinois Commerce Commission Approves Significantly Lower Rate Increase than Requested by Utility Services, Inc.

Chicago, IL...On Monday, September 24, 2018, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) issued an order approving approximately \$1,863,814 in additional revenue for Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. for the delivery of water service and approximately \$535,236 in additional revenue for sewer service.

While this order results in a 24.96% rate increase for water service and a 26.10% increase for sewer, the amount approved represents a significant reduction in dollars requested originally by the company. The ICC trimmed back the original water service request of \$3,118,320 by 40.23% and the sewer service request of \$609,884 by 12.24%.

Factors considered in the decision included Utility Services' rising costs of providing water and wastewater service, in addition to the company's ongoing system upgrades throughout its service territory.

The ICC made adjustments to Utility Services' original proposed costs associated with unaccounted for water, rate of return on common equity, engineering studies, unused ground storage and hydro pneumatic tanks, meter reading and chemical expenses. Additionally, the Commission reduced Utility Services' revenue requirement to reflect recent changes to the federal corporate income tax rate, ensuring that Utility Services' federal tax savings are passed onto customers.

As a result of Monday's action, a residential water customer will pay approximately \$11.70 more per month, but the impact on an individual customer's bill will vary depending on the meter size and amount of water consumed. The new rates went into effect on September 25, 2018.

The Commission issued its decision in the case (Docket No. 17-1106) after consideration of evidence compiled during a ten-month review process, which began with a rate filing by the company on November 30, 2017. That evidence included detailed technical analysis by Commission staff, as well as input from consumer advocates including the Citizens Utility Board and the Office of the Attorney General; the Lake Wildwood Association, Inc.; the Galena Territory Association, Inc.; Apple Canyon Lake Property Owners' Association, Inc.; Lake Holiday Property Owners Association; the Village of Johnsburg, Illinois; and Westlake Village Master Homeowners Association, Inc. and comments from ratepayers. A public hearing was held on May 7, 2018 at Johnsburg High School.

Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. is a public utility that provides water and sewer service to customers in 12 counties throughout Illinois, including: DuPage, Jo Daviess, Kane, Lake, LaSalle, Marshall, McHenry, Peoria, Stephenson, Vermillion, Will and Winnebago.

More information regarding the rate case may be found [here](#) on the ICC website.

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click [here](#). If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint [here](#). For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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