

Agenda Report

June 17, 2013

TO:

City Council

FROM:

Water and Power Department

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE

PURCHASED WATER ADJUSTMENT CHARGE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1. Find that the proposed changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge are statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15273 (Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges);
- 2. Open a Public Hearing to receive public comment on the proposed water rate adjustments to:
 - (a) Increase the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge ("PWAC") by 10¢ per billing unit effective October 2013 and by an additional 10¢ per billing unit effective October 2014:
 - (b) Approve the implementation of the PWAC formula as defined in the Water Rate Ordinance to pass-through additional purchased water costs for a total period not to exceed five years (as provided by Government Code Section 53756);
- 3. Direct the City Clerk or department representative to report on timely written protests received:
- 4. Close the Public Hearing; and
- Approve the proposed aforementioned PWAC rate increases and formula implementation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On April 8, 2013, the City Council established the date of June 17, 2013 to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed changes to the PWAC.

MEETING OF06/17/2013 AGENDA ITEM NO19	MEETING OF _	06/17/2013	AGENDA ITEM NO19
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Proposed Changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge June 17, 2013 Page 2 of 6

Pursuant to the requirements of Proposition 218, public notices were mailed on April 25, 2013 to all property owners/tenants and ratepayers of record regarding the date and time of the public hearing for the proposed changes to the PWAC. The notice included the process by which written protests to the proposed PWAC changes may be submitted. A copy of the public notice is attached. Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") also posted the public notice and related information on the PWP website and in two local newspapers.

One written protest per parcel, filed by an owner or tenant of the parcel, shall be counted in calculating a majority protest for purposes of Proposition 218. Receipt of written protests by a majority of property owners or ratepayers would prevent the implementation of the proposed changes to the PWAC.

BACKGROUND

Proposition 218 Requirements

In November 1996, Proposition 218 was approved by California voters with the intent to ensure that all taxes and most charges to property owners are subject to voter approval and to further limit the use of assessments and property-related fees to pay for general governmental services rather than property-related services. In July 2006, the California Supreme Court ruled that water rates are property-related fees for Proposition 218 purposes. This ruling requires that water rate increases are subject to specific notification and public hearing requirements.

In 2009 and further amended in 2012, the California Supreme Court ruled, through Assembly Bill (AB) 2567, to provide water agencies an alternative procedure to authorize automatic rate adjustments to pass through changes in wholesale charges for water without a further separate hearing process for a period not to exceed five years.

Purchased Water Adjustment Charge ("PWAC")

Pasadena's water rates include an adjustment to reflect changes in the prices paid by PWP to procure water for its customers. This adjustment is defined as the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge in Pasadena's Water Service Rate Ordinance. It authorizes PWP to set the rate by formula as purchased water costs change.

In April 2012, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD"), which provides approximately 60% of PWP's water, approved two rate increases of 5% each, effective January 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014. As a result, it is necessary for PWP to adjust its PWAC accordingly to offset increases in the cost of water.

PWP is proposing to increase the PWAC by 10¢ per billing unit effective October 2013 and by another 10¢ per billing unit effective October 2014. A billing unit is equivalent to 748 gallons of water. If approved, the monthly bill for a typical residential customer using 12 billing units per month will increase approximately \$1.20 for each proposed adjustment.

PWP is also proposing to authorize the General Manager to make adjustments to the PWAC for a period of up to five years. This proposal is in accordance with the existing Water Service Rate Ordinance Section 13.20.110 and the requirements of Proposition 218.

Any future adjustments to the PWAC will result only from direct increases to the cost of purchased water, primarily in response to rate increases from MWD. The impact of MWD increases (if any) during the five year period following adoption of the proposed action will be assessed on a per billing unit basis as defined by formula in the Water Service Rate Ordinance. For example, if the recommendation is adopted with an effective date of July 1, 2013, the five year period for future PWAC adjustments would be from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018.

If it is determined that an adjustment to the PWAC is necessary to recover additional costs, the results will be communicated to the Municipal Services Committee and/or City Council for information although no action will be required. A notice of at least 30 days will also be provided to customers before any future adjustments take effect. The notice will be provided by a separate mailing or bill insert to all property owners/tenants and customers of record. Notice will also be included on PWP's website and other City publications such as InFocus.

The five-year pass through adjustments would apply only to the PWAC. Any adjustments to the Distribution and Customer or Capital Improvements Charge will continue to include the full public notification and hearing process as required by Proposition 218.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge are statutorily exempt from CEQA. Section 15273 of the State CEQA Guidelines identifies a statutory exemption for "Rates. Tolls. Fares. and Charges" and states (in part) that:

- (a) CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or their charges by public agencies which the public agency finds are for the purpose of:
 - (1) Meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits.
 - (2) Purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials,
 - (3) Meeting financial reserve needs and requirements,
 - (4) Obtaining funds for capital projects, necessary to maintain service within existing service areas, or
 - (5) Obtaining funds necessary to maintain such intra-agency transfers as are authorized by city charter.

The proposed changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge are modifications of charges for the purpose of purchasing water supplies.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Based on projected billing unit sales, this action is projected to generate additional revenues of about \$730,000 to the Water Operating Fund (402) in fiscal year ("FY") 2014, and additional revenues of \$1,980,000 in FY 2015. When both increases are fully implemented in FY 2016, the combined revenue impact will be approximately \$2,500,000 per year.

The following table presents a summary of the fiscal impact year over year.

PWAC Increase	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
October 2013	\$730,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
October 2014	N/A	\$730,000	\$1,250,000
Cumulative Impact	\$730,000	\$1,980,000	\$2,500,000

The additional revenues will be sufficient to cover the higher costs for purchased water from MWD, estimated at \$2 million to \$3 million annually.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis E. Currie General Manager

Pasadena Water and Power

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Shari M. Thomas

Samurationes

Assistant General Manager

Pasadena Water and Power

Approved by:

Michael J. Beck

⊈itv Manager

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Attachment:

Notice of Public Hearing - Proposed Changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge



City of Pasadena

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PURCHASED WATER ADJUSTMENT CHARGE

Hearing Date and Time: June 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Hearing Location: 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, California 91109, Room S228

Dear Property Owner/Customer:

The Pasadena City Council will hold a public hearing on June 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91109 to receive public comments regarding adoption of the proposed water rate adjustments to:

- 1) Increase the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge ("PWAC") by \$0.10 per billing unit effective October 2013 and by an additional \$0.10 per billing unit effective October 2014, and;
- 2) Approve the implementation of the PWAC formula as defined in the Water Rate Ordinance to pass-through additional purchased water costs for a total period not to exceed five years (as provided by Government Code Section 53756).

One billing unit of water is equivalent to one hundred cubic feet ("HCF"), or 748 gallons of water.

This notification is provided in compliance with Article XIIID of the California State Constitution, the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act, and California Government Code Section 53756. These are proposed changes only; final rate adjustments adopted by the Pasadena City Council may differ.

Why are the proposed October 2013 and October 2014 changes to PWAC necessary?

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD"), which provides approximately 60% of the City of Pasadena Water and Power Department's ("PWP") water supply, implemented a 5% water rate increase on January 1, 2013 and has approved an additional 5% increase to become effective January 1, 2014. The proposed changes to the PWAC are necessary to offset the incremental costs of water purchased by PWP from the MWD.

The proposed increases affect only the PWAC. No increases are being proposed at this time for the Distribution and Customer Charge or the Capital Improvement Charge.

What is the purpose of implementing the PWAC formula to pass-through incremental purchased water costs for a five-year period?

PWP has been experiencing periodic water rate increases from MWD over the past decade and anticipates such increases to continue over the next five years. Implementation of the PWAC formula, as defined in the Water Rate Ordinance, will allow PWP to pass-through future water rate increases from MWD without holding separate Proposition 218 hearings for a total period of five years from the date of approval. Future PWAC changes will be implemented only if future increases in purchased water costs actually occur over the period beyond the increases being proposed for October 2013 and 2014.

This proposal complies with the provisions of Assembly Bill 2567, which provides for automatic adjustments to pass through increases in wholesale water charges for a period not to exceed five years without a hearing process for each adjustment.

How much would my monthly water bill increase?

The monthly bill for a typical residential customer using 12 billing units will increase by approximately \$1.20 or 2.7% as a result of the proposed October 2013 PWAC change as shown in Table A below. The monthly bill will further increase by approximately \$1.20 or 2.6% with the implementation of the October 2014 adjustment.

Table A
Sample impact for residential customer using 12 billing units per month
Effective October 2013

Current Rate Structure				Proposed Rate	Structure with 10	PWAC increase in	October 2013
	Rate per BU	Usage per Block	Charge Amount		Rate Per BU	Usage per Block	Charge Amount
Block 1	\$1.12537	8	\$ 9.00	Block 1	\$1.22537	8	\$ 9.80
Block 2	\$2.71851	4	\$10.87	Block 2	\$2.81851	4	\$11.27
Total Water Used		12	\$19.87	Total Water Used		12	\$21.07
Distribution and C	ustomer Charge	arge \$17.51 Distribution and Customer Charge				\$17.51	
Capital Improvement Charge		\$ 7.49	Capital Improvement Charge			\$ 7.49	
Total Bill Before Tax		\$44.87	Total Bill Before To	αx	\$46.07		

Who would be affected by the proposed PWAC changes?

All PWP water customers would be affected by the proposed PWAC adjustments. The price for each billing unit of water would increase by \$0.10 in October 2013 and by an additional \$0.10 in October 2014.

The current water rates and the new water rates with the proposed PWAC adjustments are shown below.

Table B
Current Water Rates

		Current Rates per Billing Unit	k	
Area of Service	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
Summer Rates: Water	delivered April 1st — Septem	ber 30th:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.12537	\$2.71851	\$3.21921	\$3.97026
B (Outside City)	\$1.35296	\$3.34438	\$3.97026	\$4.90908
Winter Rates: Water de	livered October 1st — March	31st:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.09885	\$2.64559	\$3.13171	\$3.86089
B (Outside City)	\$1.31981	\$3.25323	\$3.86088	\$4.77236

^{*} One billing unit is equivalent to one hundred cubic feet (HCF), or 748 gallons of water

Water Rates with Proposed PWAC Adjustments

-	1 st Increase: Rates	per Billing Unit* with Propose Effective October 2013	sed PWAC Adjustment	
Area of Service	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
Summer Rates: Water o	lelivered April 1st — Septeml	oer 30th:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.22537	\$2.81851	\$3.31921	\$4.07026
B (Outside City)	\$1.45296	\$3.44438	\$4.07026	\$5.00908
Winter Rates: Water de	livered October 1st — March	31st:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.19885	\$2.74559	\$3.23171	\$3.96089
B (Outside City)	\$1.41981	\$3.35323	\$3.96088	\$4.87236

	2nd Increase: Rate	s per Billing Unit* with Propo Effective October 2014	sed PWAC Adjustment	-
Area of Service	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
Summer Rates: Water de	livered April 1st — Septembe	er 30th:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.32537	\$2.91851	\$3.41921	\$4.17026
B (Outside City)	\$1.55296	\$3.54438	\$4.17026	\$5.10908
Winter Rates: Water de	livered October 1st — March	31st:		
A (Inside City)	\$1.29885	\$2.84559	\$3.33171	\$4.06089
B (Outside City)	\$1.51981	\$3.45323	\$4.06088	\$4.97236

^{*} One billing unit is equivalent to one hundred cubic feet (HCF), or 748 gallons of water

How can I participate?

Any property owner, customer, or interested person may appear and be heard on any matter relating to the proposed changes to PWAC.

Written protests to the proposed changes to PWAC will be considered if submitted prior to the public hearing. Written protests must be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on June 17, 2013, to the Office of the City Clerk, 100 N. Garfield Ave. Room S228, Pasadena, California 91109. Please include the parcel address and write "Proposed Changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge" on the written comments.

How can I get more information?

Information regarding the proposed changes to PWAC is available at the Office of the City Clerk or online at WWW. PWPweb.com.



Ciudad de Pasadena

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA SOBRE LOS CAMBIOS PROPUESTOS AL AJUSTE DE CARGOS DE LA COMPRA DE AGUA

Hora y fecha de la Audiencia: 17 de junio de 2013 a las 7:00 p.m.

Lugar de la Audiencia: 100 N. Garfield Ave., Pasadena, California 91109, Salón S228

Estimado Propietario/Cliente

El Consejo de la Ciudad de Pasadena tendrá una audiencia pública el 17 de junio de 2013 a las 7:00 p.m. en la Sala del Consejo de la Ciudad ubicada en el 100 N. Garfield Ave., Pasadena, CA, 91109 para recibir comentarios del público relacionado con la adopción de los ajustes propuestos al precio del agua para:

- 1) Aumentar el cobro al ajuste de la compra de agua ("PWAC") por sus iniciales en inglés de \$ 0,10 por unidad facturada a partir de octubre de 2013 y \$ 0.10 más por unidad facturada a partir de octubre de 2014, y;
- 2) Aprobar la implementación de la fórmula del PWAC tal como lo define la Ordenanza de Tarifas de Agua para pasar los costos incrementales sin recargo de la compra de agua por un periodo total que no exceda los cinco años (según lo dispuesto por la Sección 53756 del Código de Gobierno).

Una unidad facturada de agua es equivalente a cien pies cúbicos ("HCF"), o 748 galones de agua.

Esta notificación se provee en cumplimiento con el artículo XIIID de la Constitución del Estado de California, la Proposición 218 la ley General de Implementación y la Sección 53756 del Código de Gobierno de California. Estos son sólo los cambios propuestos; los ajustes finales adoptados por el Consejo de la Ciudad de Pasadena podrían ser diferentes.

¿Por qué son necesarios los cambios propuestos de octubre 2013 y octubre 2014 para PWAC?

El Distrito Metropolitano de Agua del Sur de California ("MWD") por sus siglas en inglés, que proporciona aproximadamente el 60% del suministro de agua al Departamento de Agua y Energía de la Ciudad de Pasadena ("PWP") por sus siglas en inglés, aplicó un aumento del 5% al precio del agua el 1ro. de enero de 2013 y aprobó un aumento adicional del 5% para entrar en vigor a partir del 1ro. de enero de 2014. Los cambios propuestos por el PWAC son necesarios para compensar los costos incrementales de agua adquiridas por PWP del MWD.

Los aumentos propuestos sólo afectan a PWAC. Al momento no hay aumentos propuestos por la distribución y cargo al cliente o por los cobros de la Mejoras Capitales.

¿Cuál es el propósito de implementar la fórmula PWAC para pasar los costos incrementales sin recargo de la compra de agua por un período de cinco años?

El PWP ha experimentado aumentos periódico en el precio del agua de MWD durante la última década y anticipa que dichos aumentos continúen en los próximos cinco años. Aplicación de la fórmula PWAC, tal como se define en la Ordenanza de la Tarifa de Agua, permitirá que PWP pase los costos sin recargo de aumentos de agua del MWD en el futuro sin tener otra audiencia de la Proposición 218 por separado, por un período total de cinco años desde la fecha de aprobación. Los futuros cambios de PWAC se implementarán sólo si hay un aumento en los costos de la compra de agua y si verdaderamente ocurren más alla del período del aumentos que se propone para octubre de 2013 y 2014.

Esta propuesta está en conformidad a las disposiciones de la propuesta de Ley 2567 de la Asamblea, que prevé ajustes automáticos para costos sin recargos y aumentos en las tarifas de agua al por mayor por un periodo que no excederá los cinco años sin un proceso de audiencia para cada ajuste.

¿Cuánto aumentará mensualmente mi factura de agua?

La factura mensual para un cliente de una vivienda promedio que utiliza 12 unidades facturadas aumentará aproximadamente \$1.20 o 2.7% como resultado del cambio propuesto para octubre 2013 de PWAC, tal como se muestra a continuación en la gráfica A. Su factura mensual seguirá aumentado aproximadamente \$1.20 o 2.6% con la implementación del ajuste de octubre del 2014.

Gráfica A Ejemplo del impacto para un cliente residencial promedio quien utiliza 12 unidades facturadas por mes A partir de octubre de 2013

Estructura de precio actual						o propuesto con u /AC en octubre de	
	Precio por BU	Uso por Bloque	Cantidad facturada		Precio por BU	Uso por Bloque	Cantidad facturada
Bloque 1	\$1.12537	8	\$ 9.00	Bloque 1	\$1.22537	8	\$ 9.80
Bloque 2	\$2.71851	4	\$10.87	Bloque 2	\$2.81851	4	\$11.27
Total de agua usada		12	\$19.87	Total de agua usada		12	\$21.07
Distribución y cargo al cliente \$17.51			\$17.51	Distribución y carç	jo al cliente		\$17.51
Cargo a la mejora capital		\$ 7.49	Cargo a la mejora capital			\$ 7.49	
cargo a la mojora capitar			\$44.87	Total de la factura antes de los impuestos			\$46.07

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Pasadena, Ca Permit #484

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

¿Quién se vería afectado por cambios propuestos de PWAC?

Todos los dientes de agua PWP se verán afectados por los ajustes propuestos de PWAC. El precio de cada unidad facturada de agua se incrementará por \$ 0,10 en octubre de 2013 y \$ 0,10 más en octubre de 2014.

El precio actual del agua y el precio del agua con los nuevos ajustes propuestos por PWAC se muestran a continuación.

Gráfica B Precios actuales del agua

Precio actual por unidad facturada*						
Área de servicio	Bloque 1	Bloque 2	Bloque 3	Bloque 4		
Tarifa del veran	o: Agua que se d	istribuye desde el 1ro	de abril - 30 de septie	mbre :		
A (Dentro de la ciudad)	\$1.12537	\$2.71851 \$3.21921		\$3.97026		
B (Fuera de la Ciudad)	\$1.35296	\$3.34438	\$3.97026	\$4.90908		
Tarifa en el invi	erno: aqua que s	e distribuye desde el 1	ro de octubre - 31 de	marzo:		
A (Dentro de la aiudad)	\$1.09885	\$2.64559	\$3.13171	\$3.86089		
B (Fuera de la Ciudad)s	\$1.31981	\$3.25323	\$3.86088	\$4.77236		

^{*} Una unidad facturada equivale a 100 pies cúbicos (HCF), o 748 galones de agua

Precios del agua con los ajustes propuestos por PWAC

1er Aumento	o: Precio por unida a po	d facturada* con los c artir de octubre de 20	ajustes propuestos po 13	or PWAC
Área de Servicio	Bloque 1	Bloque 2	Bloque 3	Bloque 4
Tarifa del verano:	Agua que se distr	ribuye desde el 1 ro de	abril- 30 de septiem	bre :
A (Dentro de la ciudad)	\$1.22537	\$2.81851	\$3.31921	\$4.07026
B (Fuera de la Gudad)	\$1.45296	\$3.44438	\$4.07026	\$5.00908
Tarifa en el invie	mo: agua que se o	distribuye desde el 1 r	o de octubre -31 de n	narzo:
A (Dentro de la ciudad)	\$1.19885	\$2.74559	\$3.23171	\$3.96089
B (Fuera de la Ciudad)	\$1.41981	\$3.35323	\$3.96088	\$4.87236

2do Aument	o: Precio por unido a po	nd facturada* con los artir de octubre de 201	ajustes propuestos po 4	or PWAC
Área de Servicio	Bloque 1	Bloque 2	Bloque 3	Bloque 4
Tarifa del verano	: Agua que se dist	ribuye desde el 1ro de	abril- 30 de septiem	bre:
A (Dentro de la ciudad)	\$1.32537	\$2.91851	\$3.41921	\$4.17026
B (Fuera de la Gudad)	\$1.55296	\$3.54438	\$4.17026	\$5.10908
Tarifa en el invie	rno: agua que se	distribuye desde el 1 ro	de octubre -31 de n	narzo:
A (Dentro de la ciudad)	\$1.29885	\$2.84559	\$3.33171	\$4.06089
B (Fuera de la Gudad)	\$1.51981	\$3.45323	\$4.06088	\$4.97236

^{*} Una unidad facturada equivale a 100 pies cúbicos (HCF), o 748 galones de agua

¿cómo puedo participar?

Cualquier dueño de propiedad, cliente o persona interesada puede presentarse y ser escuchado en cualquier asunto relacionado a los cambios propuestos por el PWAC.

Las protestas por escrito a los cambios propuestos de PWAC serán consideradas si se presentan antes de la audiencia pública. Las protestas por escrito deben ser presentadas el 17de junio de 2013 antes de las 5:00 p.m. o, a la oficina de la secretaría de la Ciudad, 100 N. Garfield Ave. Sala S228, Pasadena, California 91109. Favor de induir la dirección de la parcela y escriba "cambios propuestos a los ajustes a los cargos de la compra de Agua". en los comentarios por escrito

Si la parcela o la dirección de la factura de este aviso no recibe los servicios de agua de la Ciudad de Pasadena este aviso no es para usted.

¿cómo puedo obtener más información?

Información relacionada a los cambios propuestos del PWAC están disponibles en la Oficina de la Secretaría de la Ciudad o en la página WWW. PWPweb.com.

Office of the City Clerk, Pasadena City Board Members

REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO PURCHASED WATER RATES:

ABSOLUTELY NO INCREASES TO WATER RATES SHOULD BE ALLOWED!!

This city has allowed and fostered so much apartment and multi-family housing as well as numerable high rise office buildings that the living quality of Pasadena is no longer acceptable.

- 1. There are several tall "business" buildings near the West Pasadena mall that appear to be unused or certainly not filled. Macy's in that mall is closing.
- 2. The high rise apartments in central Pasadena along Colorado and Green streets and other nearby streets are built so close to the sidewalks that a major earthquake would be disastrous for anyone walking near them plus they RADIATE HEAT, NOISE, AND BLOCK, and block the view of the mountains.
- 3. The TRAFFIC AND NOISE from the freeways, and streets adjacent to homes that lead to them, such as Michillinda and Sierra Madre Villa are suffering EXCESSIVE amounts of dirt, dust, filth and noise, and residents ANYWHERE near these streets are being awakened at 5 in the morning! Churches built on Sierra Madre Blvd. beam tall lights into the backyards of neighboring houses because there are no height restrictions on their parking lot lighting and their use also encourages traffic near homes.
- 4. The city has HUGE grassy areas in the west Pasadena Rosebowl area that require huge amounts of water at my expense as a taxpayer.

- 5. Why should homeowners give up their yards, and quality of life because of the overbuilding in the central city areas? There need to be restrictions and a MORATORIUM on ALL NEW HOUSING, AND MULTIFAMILY HOUSING IN PASADENA!!
- 6. NO WATER RATE INCREASES!! The citizens have a right to a cleaner, quieter and higher quality of life than is being experienced here!!!

HOMEOWNERS WHO HAVE HAD IT WITH PASADENA AND RATE INCREASES!!!!!

Re: "Proposal Changes to the Purchased Water Adjustment Charge"

Office of the City Clerk May 6, 2013

First of all I must say I am disgusted by the audacious frequency of these increases in water charges. Not all homeowners are in financial position to constantly pay more. Many are on fixed incomes and out work with no income. I personally have cut back so much in the past 4 yrs. that it could only mean never watering another plant and or not taking showers or washing my clothes. I already just wet myself down in the shower and shut the water off to lather up, then rinse. Same with my dishes. Also several of my trees and bushes have died due to lack of water. I would take out the last of my lawn, but do not have the resources or physical strength to dig it up. Still my summer water bills are \$120.00 or more. Am I not supposed to eat? I am not one of the lucky water district employees to be fortunate enough to get increases in pay. Neither are the many homeowners on SSI.

What justifies these increases? What programs have been put in place to save our rain and runoff waters? Give me **proof** of what has been done with our past 3 increases. How is this increase going to help us, the homeowner??? Please don't tell me you are going to put more chemicals in our water like Floride-a known carcinogen, because we have to just buy more filters to get this garbage out our water.

Let's get realistic here and look at the times we are living in. We do **not** need yearly or more increases. I will stop here because I could go on and on. Quite simply I cannot afford another increase.

Sincerely, Haline Rybicki 3623 Mountain View Ave. Pasadena, 91107