

# **Montana Consumer Counsel**

## **STATUS OF CASES**

**October 29, 2025**

### **NORTHWESTERN ENERGY (NWE)**

**NWE Gas Tracker**, Docket [2024.07.076](#).

- August gas tracker filed 7/15/24.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.857 to \$2.508
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.955 to \$6.606
- September gas tracker filed 8/15/24.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.508 to \$2.481
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.606 to \$6.579
- October gas tracker filed 9/13/24.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.481 to \$2.437
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.579 to \$6.535
- November gas tracker filed 10/15/24.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.437 to \$2.451
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.535 to \$6.549
- December gas tracker filed 11/15/24.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.451 to \$2.337
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.549 to \$6.435
- January gas tracker filed 12/16/24.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.245 to \$2.249
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.357 to \$7.361
- February gas tracker filed 1/15/25.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.249 to \$2.269
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.361 to \$7.381
- March gas tracker filed 2/14/25.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.269 to \$2.448
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.381 to \$7.561

- April gas tracker filed 3/14/25.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.448 to \$2.185
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.561 to \$7.297
- May gas tracker filed 4/15/25.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.185 to \$2.157
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.297 to \$7.269
- June gas tracker filed 5/21/25.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.157 to \$2.707
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.269 to \$7.819
- *Annual Gas Tracker Application* filed 5/30/25.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.707 to \$3.105
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.819 to \$8.216
- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 6/26/25.
- *Interim Order 8019* issued 7/1/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 7/11/25.
- *Procedural Order 8019a* issued 7/24/25.

**NWE Gas Tracker, Docket [2025.07.052](#).**

- August gas tracker filed 7/15/25.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$3.105 to \$2.664
  - o Residential Rate from \$6.955 to \$7.775
- September gas tracker filed 8/15/25.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.664 to \$2.458
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.775 to \$7.570
- October gas tracker filed 9/16/25.
  - o Gas supply rate increase from \$2.458 to \$2.479
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.570 to \$7.591
- November gas tracker filed 10/15/25.
  - o Gas supply rate decrease from \$2.479 to \$2.420
  - o Residential Rate from \$7.591 to \$7.494

**NWE Annual PCCAM Application, Docket [2024.09.090](#), filed 8/29/24.**

NWE calculates a net deferred over-collection of \$1,482,277 associated with incremental electric supply costs during the 2023-2024 tracking period.

- Quarterly Q1 adjustment filed 8/30/24.
  - o Deferred electric supply rate decrease from \$(0.000235) to \$(0.000319)
  - o Residential Rate from \$0.13297 to \$0.13289
- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 9/27/24.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 10/15/24.
- *Procedural Order 7975* issued 10/22/24.
- Quarterly Q2 adjustment filed 12/3/24.
  - o Deferred electric supply rate increase from \$(0.000319) to \$0.000447
  - o Residential Rate from \$0.13289 to \$0.13367
- Quarterly Q3 adjustment filed 2/28/25.
  - o Deferred electric supply rate increase from \$0.000447 to \$0.004198
  - o Residential Rate from \$0.12551 to \$0.12925
- *Notice of Additional Issues and Schedule* issued 3/11/25 identifying recovery of costs related to CU4 being offline in January 2024 as an additional issue.
- Quarterly Q4 adjustment filed 5/30/25.
  - o Deferred electric supply rate increase from \$0.004198 to \$0.016245
  - o Residential Rate from \$0.12925 to \$0.14135

**NWE Annual PCCAM Application, Docket [2025.09.063](#) filed 8/29/25.**

NWE calculates a net deferred under-collection of \$5,448,705 associated with incremental electric supply costs during the 2024-2025 tracking period.

- *NWE Motion for Temporary Waiver of Tariff Provisions* filed 8/29/25 requesting full recovery through the PCCAM tracker mechanism of \$18M in fixed and variable O&M costs associated with the 222MW share of Colstrip Units 3 & 4 to be acquired from Avista on 1/1/26, including O&M costs associated with satisfying three new “long-term market sales contracts” with Big Horn Electric Cooperative (8MW, fixed price, 3-year term) and Energy Keepers (two contracts totaling 50MW, variable price, 1-year term); to exclude fuel costs and sales revenues associated with these new market sales contracts, acknowledging sales revenues may not fully offset additional O&M costs (or any particular share of additional O&M costs), 100% of which would be recovered from retail customers through the PCCAM; to delay any crediting of sales revenues associated with these new market sales contracts until the next rate case, and only begin crediting sales revenues if they exceed \$18M.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 9/30/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 10/15/25.

**NWE PCCAM Quarterly Compliance Filings**, Docket [2025.09.064](#).

- Quarterly Q4 adjustment filed 8/29/25.
  - o Deferred electric supply rate increase from \$0.000854 to \$0.0013482 per kWh.

**NWE Townsend Propane Annual Adjustment Filing**, Docket [2025.05.032](#), filed 4/30/25.

NWE proposes propane supply rates of \$1.10452 per therm from 6/1/25 to 9/30/25, \$1.34365 per therm from 10/1/25 to 3/31/26, and \$1.12730 per therm from 4/1/26 to 5/31/26.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 5/28/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 6/13/25.
- *Procedural Order 8018* issued 6/24/25.
- *Interim Order 8018a* issued 6/26/25.
- *Default Order 8018b* issued 9/3/25.

**Hayre Pipeline Co. Annual Tracker Application**, Docket [2025.08.057](#), filed 7/31/25.

HPC requests a rate decrease for rural farmstead gas customers from \$1.0661 to \$0.7415 per Mcf effective 10/1/25.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 8/18/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 9/2/25.
- *Procedural Order 8028* issued 9/5/25.
- *Default Order 8028a* issued 10/22/25.

**NWE Electric and Gas Rate Case**, Docket [2024.05.053](#), filed 7/10/24.

NWE requests an electric revenue requirement increase of \$69,391,520 and a gas revenue requirement increase of \$28,875,417, which would result in an increase of \$9.11 per month or 8.28% for a typical residential electric customer and an increase of \$8.84 per month or 17.04% for a typical residential gas customer.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 7/23/24.
- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 8/7/24 finding NWE's Application inadequate under the Commission's minimum filing standards; giving NWE two weeks to make supplemental filings to comply and adjusting the filing date accordingly.
- *NWE Response and Supplemental Filing* filed 8/9/24.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 8/14/24.

- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 8/21/24 finding NWE's supplemental filings remedy all but one deficiency related to the justification of classification and allocation methods used; giving NWE two weeks to make supplemental filings to comply and adjusting the filing date accordingly.
- *NWE Response and Second Supplemental Filing* filed 8/23/24.
- *Notice of Filing Date and Intervention Deadline* issued 9/3/24 finding Application as twice supplemented to be adequate and establishing a filing date of 8/23/24.
- *Notice of Deadline for Interim Rate Adjustment Responses* issued 9/5/24.
- *Procedural Order 7968* issued 9/18/24; hearing set 4/22/25.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7968b* issued 10/31/24.
- *Interim Order 7968e* issued 11/26/24.
- *NWE Motion for Reconsideration of Interim Order 7968e* filed 12/6/24.
- *NWE Supplemental Direct Testimony and Exhibits* filed 12/9/24.
- *Notice of Additional Issues* issued 1/3/25.
- *Order on Reconsideration 7968h* issued 1/3/25.
- *MCC Direct Testimonies of [Ralph C. Smith](#), [John A. Krajewski](#), [David E. Dismukes](#), and [David J. Garrett](#)* filed 1/17/25.
- *NWE Rebuttal Testimony* filed 3/11/25.
- *[MCC Cross-Answering Testimony](#) of David E. Dismukes* filed 3/14/25.
- *Natural Gas Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* filed 3/24/25.
- *[MCC Gas Utility Settlement Testimony](#) of David E. Dismukes and Ralph C. Smith* filed 3/24/25
- *Notice of Public Hearing* issued 4/2/25.
- *Electric Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* filed 4/14/25.
- *[MCC Partial Settlement Electric Utility Revenue Requirement](#)* filed 04-15-25
- *Amended Procedural Order 7968n* issued 4/16/25.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7968o* issued 4/23/25; hearing set 6/9/25.
- *Notice of Public Hearing* issued 5/20/25.
- *Hearing* held 6/9-6/18/25.

**NWE & Black Hills Corp. Application for Approval of Merger**, Docket [2025.10.078](#), filed 10/20/25.

NWE and Black Hills propose that NorthWestern Group become a direct subsidiary of Black Hills through a 0.98% stock-for-stock transaction; that Black Hills shareholders own 56% and NWE shareholders 44% of the combined company; that the board of directors consist of 6 Black Hills and 5 current NWE directors; that Brian Bird of NWE become CEO of the

combined company; that NWE remain a direct subsidiary of NorthWestern Group, subject to existing ring-fencing provisions relating to NorthWestern Group.

# MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES COMPANY (MDU)

**MDU Electric Tracker (Rate 58)**, Docket [2025.06.046](#), filed 6/17/25.

- July electric rate adjustment:
  - o Decrease of \$0.00490 per kWh secondary.
  - o Total fuel and purchased power is \$0.01910 per kWh.
- *Interim Order 8020* issued 7/1/25.
- August electric rate adjustment filed 7/17/25:
  - o Decrease of \$0.00165 per kWh secondary.
  - o Total fuel and purchased power is \$0.01745 per kWh.
- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 8/1/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 8/15/25.
- September electric rate adjustment filed 8/15/25:
  - o Increase of \$0.00449 per kWh secondary.
  - o Total fuel and purchased power is \$0.02194 per kWh.
- *Procedural Order 8020a* issued 8/22/24.
- October electric rate adjustment filed 9/17/25:
  - o Increase of \$0.00543 per kWh secondary.
  - o Total fuel and purchased power is \$0.02737 per kWh.
- November electric rate adjustment filed 10/17/25:
  - o Increase of \$0.00055 per kWh secondary.
  - o Total fuel and purchased power is \$0.02792 per kWh.

**MDU Gas Tracker Filings (Rate 88)**, Docket [2024.09.092](#).

- October gas tracker filed 9/9/24.
  - o Decrease of \$0.201 per Dkt for residential and general service.
  - o Total residential rate \$5.027/Dkt.
- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 9/18/24.
- *Interim Order 7917* issued 10/1/24.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 10/2/24.
- November gas tracker filed 10/8/24 – no adjustment requested.
- *Procedural Order 7971a* issued 10/16/24.
- December gas tracker filed 11/8/24.

- Increase of \$0.513/Dkt for residential and general service.
  - Total residential rate \$5.540/Dkt.
- January gas tracker filed 12/6/24.
  - Increase of \$0.801/Dkt for residential and general service.
  - Total residential rate \$6.341/Dkt.
- February gas tracker filed 1/8/25 – no adjustment requested.
- *Default Order 7971b* issued 2/6/25.
- March gas tracker filed 2/7/25 – no adjustment requested.
- April gas tracker filed 3/7/25 – no adjustment requested.
- May gas tracker filed 4/8/25.
  - Decrease of \$0.336/Dkt for residential and general service.
  - Total residential rate \$6.005/Dkt.
- June gas tracker filed 5/8/25 – no adjustment requested.
- July gas tracker filed 6/6/25 – no adjustment requested.
- August gas tracker filed 7/8/25 – no adjustment requested.
- September gas tracker filed 8/8/25 – no adjustment requested.

**MDU Gas Tracker Filings (Rate 88), Docket [2025.09.066](#).**

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 9/10/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 9/24/25.
- *Interim Order 7917* issued 9/25/25.
- *Procedural Order 7971a* issued 9/30/25.
- November gas tracker filed 10/8/25.
  - Increase of \$0.363/Dkt for residential and general service.
  - Total residential rate \$6.770/Dkt.

**MDU Application to Offer Incentives for Conversion in the Saco/Bowdoin Area, Docket [2021.09.116](#), filed 9/15/21.**

MDU seeks to implement a phased incentive program to provide declining reimbursements for conversion costs for certain customers to convert to alternative fuel sources, and for authority to impose special terms and conditions on customers wishing to continue to receive regulated natural gas distribution service in the Saco/Bowdoin area. Note: MDU's previous *Application for Authority to Discontinue Regulated Natural Gas Distribution in the Saco/Bowdoin Area* filed 9/18/18 was withdrawn by MDU on 12/4/19 (see Docket [2018.09.057](#)).

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 3/28/22.
- *MCC Petition for Intervention* filed 4/22/22; granted 9/2/22.
- *Procedural Order 7911* issued 8/16/23.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7911a* issued 9/13/23.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7911b* issued 10/31/23.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7911d* issued 12/1/23.
- [\*MCC Direct Testimony of George L. Donkin\*](#) filed 12/15/23; pointing out that pressures in the Bowdoin gas field have largely been adequate (only 7 short interruptions over 6 years among 38 customers) and have declined very little over the past 6 years; recommending the Commission reject MDU's proposed conversion reimbursement deadline of 10/31/25 in favor of no deadline; allow continuation of service as long as MDU is able to provide reasonably reliable natural gas distribution service.
- *Amended Procedural Order 7911e* issued 2/6/24.
- [\*Stipulation and Settlement Agreement\*](#) filed 5/21/24; MDU will offer conversion rebates of up to \$10,000 until 9/30/27; special terms and conditions effective 10/1/24; actual conversion costs recoverable annually; MDU will mail farmstead customers at least two notices providing instructions for requesting rebates prior to special terms and conditions going into effect.
- *Notice of Commission Action* vacating hearing issued 6/3/24.
- *Notice of Status Conference* issued 10/4/24.
- *MDU Notice of Withdrawal of Application* filed 10/7/25.

**MDU Gas Rate Case**, Docket [2024.05.061](#), filed 7/15/24.

MDU requests a gas revenue requirement increase of \$9,400,268, which would result in an increase of \$5.17 per month or 10.58% for a typical residential gas customer.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 8/5/24.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 8/21/24.
- *Procedural Order 7972* issued 10/8/24.
- *MDU Supplemental Request for Interim Rates* filed 12/5/24.
- *Notice of Additional Issues* issued 1/6/25.
- *MCC Direct Testimonies of* [Chris Ekrut](#) *and* [David J. Garrett](#) filed 1/6/25
- *Interim Order 7972c* issued 1/14/25.
- *MDU Rebuttal Testimony* filed 2/26/25.
- [\*Stipulation and Settlement Agreement\*](#) filed 4/3/25 agreeing to an overall increase of \$7,300,000 based on an ROE of 9.6% and accepting MCC's proposed changes to certain depreciation rates.

- *Amended Procedural Order 7972e* issued 4/24/25.
- *Final Order 7972f* issued 10/9/25 approving *Stipulation and Settlement Agreement*.

**MDU Electric Rate Case**, Docket [2025.09.072](#), filed 9/30/25.

MDU requests a total base rate increase of \$14,827,013 representing an overall percentage increase of 20%.

# ENERGY WEST MONTANA (EWM)

## **EWM Monthly Gas Tracker**, Docket [2025.04.030](#).

- May gas tracker filed 4/8/25. Residential rate to \$5.64/Mcf.
- June gas tracker filed 5/8/25. Residential rate to \$5.48/Mcf.
- July gas tracker filed 6/10/25. Residential rate to \$5.28/Mcf.
- *NWE Motion to Assume Docket and Change Caption* filed 7/15/25.
- August gas tracker filed 7/16/25. Residential rate to \$4.86/Mcf.
- *Order 8026 for Substitution of Party* issued 7/30/25.
- September gas tracker filed 8/15/25. Residential rate to \$4.53/Mcf.
- October gas tracker filed 9/16/25. Residential rate to \$5.08/Mcf.
- November gas tracker filed 10/16/25. Residential rate to \$5.28/Mcf.

## **EWM Annual Gas Cost Tracker**, Docket [2025.05.042](#), filed 5/28/25.

EWM seeks to true up and finalize monthly gas supply rates through 3/31/25, proposing a net decrease of \$315,219 for Great Falls customers and a net decrease of \$71,641 for West Yellowstone customers.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 6/18/25.
- *NWE Motion to Assume Docket and Change Caption* filed 7/15/25.
- *Order 8024 for Substitution of Party* issued 7/29/25.
- *MCC Motion for Late Intervention* filed 8/14/25.
- *Procedural Order 8024a* issued 8/25/25.

## OTHER

### **Moonlight Basin Water & Sewer, LLC Application for Authority to Increase Water and Sewer Rates by Operating Ratio Methodology, Docket [2024.09.098](#), filed 9/25/24.**

Based on an operating ratio methodology in ARM 38.5.2529, Moonlight Basin proposes to increase rates from \$57.83 to \$82.52 per single family equivalent for water and sewer, a 42.7% increase.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 12/9/24.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 12/24/24.
- *Procedural Order 7992* issued 1/14/25.
- *Unopposed Request for Final Order* filed 5/29/25.
- *Default Order 7992b* issued 7/31/25.

### **Forest Acres Util, LLC Application to Establish Rates for Water and Sewer Service, Docket [2025.03.025](#), filed 3/25/25.**

Forest Acres requests standard monthly rates of \$49.98 for water and \$26.27 for sewer service and ancillary charges for late fees, reconnection, and sprinkler restriction violations.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 5/12/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 5/28/25.
- *Procedural Order 8012* issued 6/6/25.
- *Amended Procedural Order 8012a* issued 7/18/25.
- *Default Order 8012b* issued 10/8/25.

### **Rocky Mountain Operators ORM Application, Docket [2025.06.045](#), filed 6/16/25.**

RMO acquired the wastewater system on 8/1/24 and does not yet have 3 years of operational data, but requests to increase the monthly wastewater rate from \$80.00 to \$86.90 based on an ORM methodology.

### **ABACO Energy Services, LLC Annual Propane Supply Tracker, Docket [2025.09.065](#), filed 9/5/25.**

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 10/9/25.
- *MCC Notice of Intervention* filed 10/24/25.

**North Star Development Application for Water and Sewer Rate Increase, Docket [2010.06.060](#), filed 1/23/19.**

This rate case application results from the Commission's notification that North Star must file for replacement of its standard rates previously approved. Following two amendments to its application, North Star requests an increase to flat rates for water from \$40/month to \$297.70/month and sewer rates from \$30.00/month to \$189.76/ month, for total rate of \$487.46/month.

- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 1/30/19.
- *MCC Petition for Intervention* filed 2/20/19.
- North Star amended application filed 3/25/19 based on an engineering report.
- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 4/24/19; found North Star's Application failed to satisfy minimum filing requirements because it did not report cost of net utility plant in service; allowed 30 days to refile and suggests considering operating ratio method.
- *Notice of Staff Action* issued 5/17/19 extending refile deadline to 6/22/19.
- North Star Supplementation of Application filed 6/21/19.
- *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline* issued 7/24/19.
- *Procedural Order 7105d* issued 8/21/19.
- [MCC Testimony of Paul Schulz](#) filed 11/13/19; recommended overall revenue requirement of \$231,873, resulting in combined water and wastewater rate of \$49.72/month, plus \$2/1000 gallons over 10,000; removes management fee for partner no longer with North Star; adjusted rate case expense to original estimate based on imprudence of expenditures; opposed "unregulated" charge for use over 20,000 gallons; supported \$1.2 million original cost rate base with \$123,678 deduction for hay field not used for service; proposed 10 year amortization for Aqua Flo \$195,000 prepayment; explained why taxes should not be allowed for pass-through entities; recommended 2% equity capital structure and 9.8% ROE.
- Hearing held 1/29-30/20.
- *Final Order 7105f* issued 9/8/20; rebuttable presumption that utility investment was recovered through lot sales need not be applied in this case; general discussion of ratemaking principles and formulas; evidence indicates substantial portion of initial investment was recovered through lot sales and gross plant is now \$1,211,762; 55.79 acre hay ground included in rate base as it was required by DEQ permitting; approves \$26,497 depreciation expense based on non-land portion of plant; adopts 23% equity capital structure and 9.8% return on equity; affirms practice of disallowing income tax recovery for pass-through entities; rate case expense was increased 3 times from \$30,000 to \$85,000+; rate case expense was not prudently incurred and is set at \$30,000; rate case expense should be amortized over rate application time periods which is 5 years in this case; amortizes Aqua Flo \$195,000 payment over 40 years; accepts volumetric rate of \$2.00/1000 gallons over 10,000; orders revenue requirement of \$232,201; rates of \$55.93/month + \$2.00/1000 gallons over 10,000.
- North Star Combined Water and Sewer Service Tariff filed 9/30/20.

**North Star Petition for Judicial Review**, First Judicial District Cause No. ADV-2020-1703, filed 10/2/20.

- *PSC Motion to Dismiss* filed 10/23/20.
- *North Star Amended Complaint* filed 11/12/20.
- *PSC Renewed Motion to Dismiss* filed 12/28/20.
- *MCC Motion to Intervene* filed 1/22/21.
- *Order on Motion to Dismiss* granting dismissal issued 3/15/21.

**North Star Appeal to Montana Supreme Court**, Case No. DA 21-0224, filed 5/12/21.

- *North Star Opening Brief* filed 8/19/21.
- *PSC Answer Brief* filed 10/18/21.
- *North Star Reply Brief* filed 10/29/21.
- *North Star Dev., LLC v. Montana Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 2022 MT 103, 408 Mont. 498, 510 P.3d 1232 issued 5/31/22, affirming the District Court's dismissal of North Star's Petition for Judicial Review because a motion for reconsideration is "a mandatory prerequisite for exhaustion of available administrative remedies before a final PSC contested case decision or order is ripe for judicial review."

**Investigation of Rules, Practices, and Adequacy of Service of North Star Development, LLC**, Docket [2020.09.094](#), initiated 9/1/20.

- *Emergency Order to Show Cause 7744* issued 9/1/20; recites complaints and Commission understanding of service issues; concludes that Commission has insufficient facts to determine if water shut-off on 8/30 was the result of unavoidable accident or emergency sufficient to excuse service failure; orders 9/11/20 hearing to determine whether service failure and water restrictions violate 69-3-210, whether penalties are warranted, and appropriate actions.
- *Order 7744a* issued 9/8/20; requiring filing of witness information and books and records in possession of North Star relating to several specified questions pertaining to the investigation.
- Hearing held 9/11/20.
- North Star Motion filed 9/24/20, seeking authority to impose water use restriction fines of \$50 x multiple of yearly offenses, plus \$100/1000 gallons over 22,000.
- *Final Order 7744b* issued 1/13/21; Commission found temporary cessation of service was not caused by unavoidable accident or emergency; NS has long been aware of summer water constraints and at same time reduced maintenance services; cessation of service constitutes a violation of obligation to serve; \$1000 fine assessed, but payment suspended for one year conditioned on good faith investigation into service improvements and no cessation of service; post-hearing requests for overuse fines and inverted rates are outside hearing record; appropriate to leave docket open and broaden inquiry into long term service ability of NS and status of water rights.

- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 6/30/21; directing North Star to address certain issues by 7/7/21 and listing five additional topics for future consideration.
- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 7/28/21; directing the parties to meet and confer regarding outstanding service quality issues; stating the Commission will consider next steps if the parties cannot reach an agreement by 8/2/21.
- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 8/5/21; directing North Star to address its purported supply or delivery problem by: (a) securing two distribution pumps by 8/6/21; (b) reporting on these efforts by 8/9/21; (c) implementing an odd-even day watering schedule, which allows watering up to thirty minutes per day at ten gallons per minute, effective immediately through 9/30/21; and (d) address longer-term solutions regarding metering, supply, delivery, and notice by 4/1/22.
- North Star Report as Directed by PSC Notice filed 8/9/21 attesting to ordering of pumps and installation of signs advertising new watering restrictions to homeowners.
- North Star Report filed 8/10/21 attesting to installation of new distribution pump.
- North Star Report on Second Distribution Pump filed 8/18/21 stating intention to keep the even-odd watering schedule in place for the foreseeable future.
- North Star Report on Replacement of Defective Registers filed 9/21/21 attesting to replacement of 75 defective water meters and inability to replace 18 meters.
- North Star Report on Progress Made in October 2021 filed 11/1/21.
- North Star Request for Resolution of the Irrigation Water Issue filed 11/10/21.
- Notice of Commission Action regarding the irrigation issue issued 11/17/21.
- North Star Report on Progress Made in November 2021 filed 11/30/21.
- North Star Supplemental Report on Progress Made in November 2021 filed 12/5/21.
- North Star January Progress Report to the PSC Along With Its Response to Ben Reed's six Questions filed 1/31/22.
- North Star February Progress Report to the PSC Along With Its Response to Zach Rogala's Questions filed 2/14/22; proposing an even/odd watering restriction.
- *Notice of Commission Action* issued 3/22/22 allowing an opportunity to comment on North Star's even/odd watering restriction proposal; Commission Request for Information letter also issued 3/22/22 requesting information about well production, supply capabilities, the number of customers served, metered usage, and expected usage in 2022.
- North Star Report No.1, Report No. 2 Made in Response to Request For Information Letter, and Comments on PSC Notice filed 3/24/22.
- North Star Report No.3 Made In Response to Request For Information Letter filed 3/29/22.
- North Star additional Comments on PSC Notice filed 3/31/22.
- North Star Summer of 2022 Water Use Policy filed 5/4/22 limiting lawn sprinkling to eight hours every other day during the summer watering season.
- North Star May 2022 Report filed 5/19/22.

- North Star *Notice of Change in Ownership* filed 5/27/22.
- Request for Information Letter issued 8/9/24
- *Order to Show Cause 7744c* issued 9/11/24.
- North Star *Response to Order to Show Cause 7744c* filed 10/4/24.
- *Order 7744e* issued 12/8/24 ordering penalties after North Star has an opportunity to be heard as to the amount.
- *North Star Notice of Supplemental Filing* filed 3/18/25.
- *Order 7744f to Provide Notice* issued 7/29/25 requiring notice of outages and watering restrictions to customers as soon as practicable.
- *Order 7744g* issued 8/15/25 establishing a preliminary penalty of \$78,800 against North Star; allowing North Star to request settlement discussions.
- *Notice of Settlement Discussion* issued 8/22/25.

**North Star Development Application for Water and Sewer Rate Increase, Docket [2025.10.073](#), filed 9/30/25.**

North Star proposes to increase rates to \$65.00 per month plus \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons over 7,000 gallons based on an ORM methodology.

- North Star *Amendment to Application for Rate Increase to Include Ancillary Charges* filed 10/10/25.