

NEW Water 2015 Budget Information 12/8/2014

Who is NEW Water?

<u>Round-the-Clock Water Stewards</u>. NEW Water is the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, and has been proudly serving the greater Green Bay community since 1931. NEW Water treats on average 38 million gallons of water per day, maintains 110 miles of sewer pipes across a 285square mile service area, to 219,000 residents. NEW Water is a wholesale provider of services to 18 municipal customers.

NEW Water operates 24-7-365, is federally and locally regulated, is capital-intensive, and has a state-certified labor force. NEW Water manages \$300



million in fixed assets, which includes highly complex wastewater treatment machinery, 110 miles of pipes and interceptors, 1,183 manhole structures, which includes air releases, lift stations, wet wells, meter stations, and junction chambers. NEW Water manages nearly 4,000 Diggers Hotline queries annually to help homeowners, businesses, etc., avoid underground sewer pipes during excavations.

What are NEW Water's proposed rates for 2015? Why are rates increasing from last year?

The 2015 budget includes a 9.9% rate increase over the 2014 budget. This equates to a combined municipal rate of \$2.89 per thousand gallons. The projected 2015 budget is \$35.3 million, with 54% earmarked for operating & maintenance, and 46% to capital and debt service.

The main drivers for this increased rate are: debt service for the new solids handling facility, Resource Recovery and Electrical Energy (R2E2) project; other capital projects including a Green Bay Disinfection System; a decrease in customer loadings including a 10% reduction in Biochemical Oxygen Demand, resulting in cost sharing amongst fewer customers; and compliance with the new Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

The 2015 budget also reflects a lack of government subsidies, which the community once enjoyed: 70% of the Green Bay Facility was paid for by Clean Water Act grants. Nowadays, 100% of capital projects are funded locally. Cost savings and efficiencies are continually sought and implemented by NEW Water, including Lean projects and working with governmental entities to find cost-effective solutions to regulatory requirements. NEW Water will continue to look for the most cost-effective ways to provide the reliable, round-the-clock service customers have come to expect.

What is the R2E2 Project? How much will it cost?

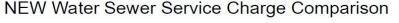
R2E2 is an energy-forward solution to NEW Water's solids handling needs: the facility will replace aging infrastructure, comply with increased environmental regulations, and meet needs for increased capacity. The project will harness thermal processing and heat recovery for electricity, resulting in an estimated 50% in energy savings. Groundbreaking is scheduled for 2015, and project completion in 2018. Projected cost is approximately \$147 million.

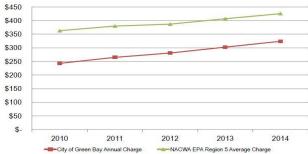
How do NEW Water's rates compare with the region?

NEW Water's rates fall below the regional average (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin), see graphic at right.

How can I get more information?

Please visit our website: www.newwater.us





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Source: National Association of Clean Water Agencies