



News Release

May 20, 2010

In Order No. 53/10 dated May 20, 2010, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves, on an interim *ex parte* basis, new rates for the Town of Snow Lake (Town). The interim rates are effective immediately, to be reflected in the next billing scheduled for July 1, 2010.

Rates are as follows:

Commodity Rates/ (\$/cubic meter)	Existing			Interim			% Increase
	Water	Sewer	Total	Water	Sewer	Total	
First 100 cubic meters	\$1.66	\$1.23	\$ 2.89	\$2.08	\$1.54	\$ 3.62	25%
Next 350 cubic meters	\$1.53	\$1.23	\$ 2.76	\$1.91	\$1.54	\$ 3.45	25%
Over 450 cubic meters	\$1.39	\$1.23	\$ 2.62	\$1.74	\$1.54	\$ 3.28	25%
Quarterly Service Charge			\$ 19.36			\$ 24.20	25%
Minimum Quarterly Bill⁽¹⁾			\$ 58.78			\$ 73.58	25%
Unmetered Customers ⁽²⁾			\$404.96			\$506.95	25%
Tipping Fees (\$/cubic meter)			\$ 2.34			\$ 2.93	25%

⁽¹⁾ Includes 13.64 cubic meters, quarterly.

⁽²⁾ Quarterly fee based on an estimated 135 cubic meters of usage.

The Board's interim *ex parte* approval of these rates is provided on a conditional basis and without prior public notice, due to the perception of the currently weak financial position of the Town's utility and a concurrent and urgent need for increased revenue. As well, the Board conditionally approves the 2009 actual utility deficit of \$48,720.60 and the Town's 2010 budgeted utility deficit of \$74,782.75.

Finalization of this approval is pending the Town's filing of a utility rate study on or before July 15, 2010, following which, the Board intends to review the application and establish reasonable rates sufficient to provide for future breakeven operations. The Board will also then require the Town to issue a public notice to allow ratepayers an opportunity to express concerns with respect to current interim and proposed rates.

The Order can be viewed in its entirety on the Board's website: www.pub.gov.mb.ca.

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