



## News Release

December 15, 2008

In Order No. 166/08 dated December 15, 2008 the Public Utilities Board (Board) approved in principle the merger of the Seven Sisters Falls Water Co-op Ltd., Whitemouth Water Co-op Inc., and Manitoba Hydro Townsite water system with the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth Rural Water Line (RM).

Further, the Board authorizes the RM to charge all connected customers (including those served as a result of the merger) the existing rates of Whitemouth's Rural Water Line. Once complete, the newly merged Utility will provide service to 453 customers.

Minimum quarterly bills are as follows:

Restrictor Size Gallons per Minute (GPM)	Water Included Gallons	Charge
3 GPM <sup>(1)</sup>	3,000	\$37.65
3 GPM	3,000 to 15,000	\$37.65 plus \$4.55 per thousand over 3,000 gallons
3 GPM	Over 15,000	As above plus \$1.75 per thousand gallons for every thousand over 15,000
5 GPM <sup>(2)</sup>	15,000	\$108.25
5 GPM	Over 15,000	\$108.25 plus \$1.75 per thousand for every thousand over 15,000
25 GPM <sup>(3)</sup>	15,000	\$108.25 plus \$1.75 per thousand for every thousand over 15,000

<sup>(1)</sup>3 GPM – residential connections

<sup>(2)</sup>5 GPM – agricultural connections

<sup>(3)</sup>25 GPM – Whitemouth Water Co-op Inc.

At this time the Board is unable to take a position regarding the financial implications of the planned new water treatment plant, other than to note that a remedy is clearly required to address the current boil water advisories that affect so many of the customers of the merged utility.

The public will be invited to comment on the proposed merger, the rates and the planned water treatment plant.

Copy of this Order may be viewed, in full, on the Board's website [www.pub.gov.mb.ca](http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca), or at the Board's Office.

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