



## News Release

July 25, 2008

In Order No. 112/08 dated July 25, 2008, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approved an amended application for revised water rates for the Cartier Regional Water Utility, as proposed by the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie (RM) and presented at the public hearing held on July 8, 2008 in the City of Portage la Prairie.

Existing (1999) and approved rates to take effect on water consumed on and after September 1, 2008 are:

<b>\$1,000 Gallons</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Increase</b>
Water	\$6.50	\$11.00	69%
Service Charge	\$2.00	\$ 2.00	0
<b>Quarterly Minimum Bill (5/8" Meter)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	\$21.50	\$35.00	63%
Bulk Water	\$6.50	\$12.00	85%

<sup>(1)</sup>The minimum quarterly bill provides 3000 gallons. Larger meter sizes have large water allowances and accordingly larger minimum bills.

The past practice of keeping rates low by not passing through increases in the wholesale cost of water resulted in a significant "catch-up" in rates which was unavoidable.

The Board recommended the RM consider annual applications to pass-through future increases in the wholesale cost of water, which the Board understands should be comparable to CPI increases.

A copy of these Orders may be viewed 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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