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March 20, 2024

Harry Lanphear
Public Utilities Commission
18 State House Station
Augusta Maine 04333-0018

**THIS IS A VIRTUAL DUPLICATE OF THE ORIGINAL HARDCOPY SUBMITTED TO THE
COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS ELECTRONIC FILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Dear Harry:

Greater Augusta Utility District is submitting this informational rate filing pursuant to 35-A, MRS §6104. Included please find supporting materials for a 30% rate increase:

1. Proposed new water rates
2. Exhibits for water rates
 - a. Operating and Maintenance Expenses
 - b. Debt Service
 - c. Operating Statements -2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Unaudited & Pro Forma
 - d. Operating Revenues - 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 Unaudited & Pro Forma
 - e. Balance Sheet
3. Legal Notice regarding public hearing

The table below summarizes our schedule for the rate setting process.

Friday, March 15, 2024	Bill inserts to customers
Friday, March 22, 2024	Publish supporting materials
Monday, April 1, 2024	Mail notice of public hearing
Monday, April 8, 2024	Publish notice of public hearing
Monday, April 22, 2024	Public hearing date
Thursday, May 2, 2024	File rates w/ MPUC
Wednesday, May 22, 2024	30 day petition period ends
Saturday, June 1, 2024	Earliest effective date of rates

A copy of this letter and the enclosures has also been sent to the Office of the Public Advocate. A copy of these materials is also on our website and on file for review by any customer of the Greater Augusta Utility District during regular business hours at our office at 12 Williams Street in Augusta, Maine.

If you have any questions please contact either Mike Payne or me at (207) 622-3701.

Sincerely,

Brian Tarbuck
General Manager

Cc: Office of the Public Advocate

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
Proposed Water Rates**

<u>Rate per 100 cubic feet (HCF) of water:</u>		
Cost > 1 HCF		<u>Proposed</u> \$4.15
<u>Service charge based on meter size:</u>		
<u>Meter size</u>	<u>Monthly/Seasonal *</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>
5/8"	\$19.60	\$58.80
3/4"	\$22.80	\$68.40
1"	\$26.03	\$78.09
1 1/2"	\$38.05	\$114.15
2"	\$48.48	\$145.44
3"	\$62.11	\$186.33
4"	\$88.60	\$265.80
6"	\$147.16	\$441.48
8"	\$252.24	\$756.72
<u>Fire protection:</u>		
<u>Service diameter</u>		<u>Annual</u>
1"		\$438.49
1 1/2"		\$657.83
2"		\$876.79
3"		\$1,315.47
4"		\$1,753.96
6"		\$2,630.75
8"		\$3,507.73
10"		\$4,384.71
12"		\$5,261.69
<u>Public hydrants</u>		<u>Annual</u>
		\$ 2,829.14
* Seasonal customers meters will be read and billed monthly beginning in 2024. Prior years seasonal customers were billed twice per year.		

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
WATER DIVISION OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS**

Acct	Account Name	2020	2021	2022	2023	Adjustments	Pro Forma	
					Unaudited			
601	Salaries and Wages - Employees	967,615	992,802	1,078,522	1,071,897	1	198,403	1,270,300
603	Salaries and Wages - Trustees	9,900	9,900	9,900	9,900	2	-	9,900
604	Employee Pensions and Benefits	369,311	368,889	472,784	404,808	3	254,495	659,303
615	Purchased Power	163,284	172,224	192,902	218,487	4	35,613	254,100
618	Chemicals	30,497	52,869	68,459	51,448	5	2,572	54,020
620	Materials and Supplies	453,413	365,289	405,312	397,156	6	7,943	405,099
631	Contractual Services - Engineering	129,204	-	-	-	7	-	-
632	Contractual Services - Accounting	13,830	12,825	15,725	15,748	8	(23)	15,725
633	Contractual Services - Legal	12,540	546	340	8,818	9	1,182	10,000
635	Contractual Services - Other	243,340	254,002	271,739	266,727	10	10,637	277,364
642	Rental of Equipment	7,145	3,448	15,555	1,524	11	976	2,500
650	Transportation Expenses	13,187	(7,086)	(58,314)	(55,031)	12	(1,642)	(56,673)
656	Insurance - Vehicle	18,441	20,059	20,055	21,360	13	140	21,500
657	Insurance - General Liability	19,077	26,167	31,224	32,157	14	1,543	33,700
658	Insurance - Workers Compensation	24,783	21,637	22,150	19,219	15	(16)	19,203
659	Insurance - Other	26,589	28,741	31,735	32,596	16	1,104	33,700
660	Advertising Expense	2,941	3,446	3,315	1,471	17	279	1,750
670	Bad Debt Expense	-	38	3	-	18	-	-
675	Miscellaneous Expenses	60,750	73,956	82,501	23,531	19	36,465	59,996
Total Water Utility Expenses		2,565,847	2,399,752	2,663,907	2,521,816	B	549,672	3,071,488
	Interest Expense	135,568	122,729	110,319	96,174		(8,037)	88,137
	Principal Repayment	615,225	545,225	545,225	545,225		(200,000)	345,225
Total Expenses Plus Debt		3,316,640	3,067,706	3,319,451	3,163,215		341,635	3,504,850
Contingency Allowance								
	Operating Expense	3,071,488						
	Depreciation	953,995						
	Taxes other than Income	142,727						
	Income Items	(294,789)						
Debt Service:								
	Interest	102,229						
	Principal	425,225						
	Total Base	4,400,874						
	Contingency Allowance	5%						
		220,044						
Gross Revenue:								
	All Expenses	4,400,874						
	Contingency Allowance	220,044						
	Gross Revenue	4,620,918						

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
ADJUSTING JOURNAL ENTERIES**

Operations & Maintenance			
601 Salaries and Wages - Employees	Pro Forma	1,270,300	
	Less 2023	<u>1,071,897</u>	198,403 #1
			10% wage increase for 2024 and additional staffing planned
603 Salaries and Wages - Trustees	Pro Forma	9,900	
	Less 2023	<u>9,900</u>	- #2
			No change
604 Employee Pensions and Benefits	Pro Forma	659,303	
	Less 2023	<u>404,808</u>	254,495 #3
			Est. 5% health increase (retirement, OPEB, NPL, unemployment)
615 Purchased Power	Pro Forma	254,100	
	Less 2023	<u>218,487</u>	35,613 #4
			Assumes higher power cost based on projected electricity rates
618 Chemicals	Pro Forma	54,020	
	Less 2023	<u>51,448</u>	2,572 #5
			Est. cost increase (Hypo, sodium fluoride, polyorthophosphate)
620 Materials & Supplies	Pro Forma	405,099	
	Less 2023	<u>397,156</u>	7,943 #6
			Increase for additional meter/MXU/other supply increases
631 Contractual Services - Engineering	Pro Forma	-	
	Less 2023	<u>-</u>	- #7
			No change
632 Contractual Services - Accounting	Pro Forma	15,725	
	Less 2023	<u>15,748</u>	(23) #8
			Minimal change
633 Contractual Services - Legal	Pro Forma	10,000	
	Less 2023	<u>8,818</u>	1,182 #9
			Estimate for upcoming year
635 Contractual Services - Other	Pro Forma	277,364	
	Less 2023	<u>266,727</u>	10,637 #10
			Increases in multiple software renewals
642 Rental of Equipment	Pro Forma	2,500	
	Less 2023	<u>1,524</u>	976 #11
			Minimal change
650 Transportation expenses	Pro Forma	(56,673)	
	Less 2023	<u>(55,031)</u>	(1,642) #12
			Prior year had multiple reclasses to sewer/storm divisions
656 Insurance - Vehicle	Pro Forma	21,500	
	Less 2023	<u>21,360</u>	140 #13
			Cross Insurance - premium increases
657 Insurance - General Liability	Pro Forma	33,700	
	Less 2023	<u>32,157</u>	1,543 #14
			Cross Insurance - premium increases
658 Insurance - Workers Compensation	Pro Forma	19,203	
	Less 2023	<u>19,219</u>	(16) #15
			Cross Insurance - premium increases
659 Insurance - Other	Pro Forma	33,700	
	Less 2023	<u>32,596</u>	1,104 #16
			Cross Insurance - premium increases
660 Advertising Expense	Pro Forma	1,750	
	Less 2023	<u>1,471</u>	279 #17
			Board meetings, hydrant flushing, legal notices
670 Bad Debt Expense	Pro Forma	-	
	Less 2023	<u>-</u>	- #18
			N/A
675 Miscellaneous Expenses	Pro Forma	59,996	
	Less 2023	<u>23,531</u>	36,465 #19
			Heating oil increases, postage, bank fees, phones
Total			549,672
400 Operating Revenues	Pro Forma	5,977,803	
	Less 2023	<u>4,612,079</u>	1,365,724 A
			See Operating Revenues
403 Depreciation Expense	Pro Forma	953,995	
	Less 2023	<u>983,389</u>	(29,394) C
			during the previous year

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
WATER DIVISION LONG TERM DEBT**

Issuer	Date of Issue	Date of Maturity	Par Value Authorized	Par Value Outstanding 12/31/2023	Rate
MMBB SRF 2009SR	2009	2027	190,000	17,627	0.00%
MMBB 2011C	2011	2034	700,000	280,000	2.12-5.625%
MMBB 2014B	2014	2034	2,400,000	1,320,000	.043-3.78%
MMBB 2014B	2014	2034	1,100,000	605,000	.043-3.78%
TD Bank 2020	2020	2030	1,300,000	910,000	2.07%
MMBB 2024 (Allonge in 2024. Closing date estimated.)	2024	2044	1,600,000	-	1.84%

Year Ending	31-Dec	Principal	Interest	Total
2017	615,225	196,710	811,935	
2018	615,225	174,332	789,557	
2019	615,225	151,118	766,343	
2020	615,225	126,421	741,646	
2021	545,225	127,716	672,941	
2022	545,225	114,804	660,029	
2023	545,225	101,508	646,733	
2024	345,225	88,137	433,362	
2025	425,225	100,007	525,232	
2026	425,225	104,451	529,676	
2027	421,952	94,034	515,986	
2028	420,000	83,465	503,465	
2029	420,000	72,858	492,858	
2030	420,000	61,826	481,826	
2031	290,000	51,014	341,014	
2032	255,000	43,088	298,088	
2033	255,000	34,948	289,948	
2034	255,000	26,855	281,855	
2 year average	425,225	102,229	527,454	

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
OPERATING STATEMENT**

	2020	2021	2022	2023 Unaudited		Adjustments	Pro Forma
Utility Operating Income							
400 Operating Revenues	3,676,050	3,954,687	4,326,778	4,612,079	A	1,102,690	5,714,769
401 Operating Expenses	2,565,847	2,401,126	2,538,686	2,521,816	B	549,672	3,071,488
403 Depreciation Expense	924,540	947,849	927,787	983,389	C	(29,394)	953,995
408.1 Taxes Other Than Income	110,894	116,921	125,221	124,964		17,763	142,727
Total Utility Operating Expenses	<u>3,601,281</u>	<u>3,465,896</u>	<u>3,591,694</u>	<u>3,630,169</u>		<u>538,041</u>	<u>4,168,210</u>
Utility Operating Income	<u>74,769</u>	<u>488,791</u>	<u>735,084</u>	<u>981,910</u>		<u>564,649</u>	<u>1,546,559</u>
414 Gains (Losses) From Disposition of Utility Property	-	-	-	-		-	-
Total Utility Operating Income	<u>74,769</u>	<u>488,791</u>	<u>735,084</u>	<u>981,910</u>		<u>564,649</u>	<u>1,546,559</u>
415 Revenues From Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work	38,396	51,623	33,231	34,514		5,275	39,789
419 Interest and Dividend Income	4,349	266	17,740	36,350		(31,350)	5,000
421 Nonutility Income	172,050	224,059	525,633	1,477,501		(1,227,501)	250,000
Total Other Income and Deductions	<u>214,795</u>	<u>275,948</u>	<u>576,604</u>	<u>1,548,365</u>		<u>(1,253,576)</u>	<u>294,789</u>
427 Interest Expense	135,568	122,729	110,319	96,174		(8,037)	88,137
428 Amortization of Debt Discount & Expense	877	-	-	-		-	-
Total Interest Expense	<u>136,445</u>	<u>122,729</u>	<u>110,319</u>	<u>96,174</u>		<u>(8,037)</u>	<u>88,137</u>
NET INCOME	<u>153,119</u>	<u>642,010</u>	<u>1,201,369</u>	<u>2,434,101</u>		<u>(680,890)</u>	<u>1,753,211</u>

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
WATER OPERATING REVENUES**

OPERATING REVENUES		2020	2021	2022	2023	
SALES OF WATER					Unaudited	Pro Forma
461	Metered Sales to Gen. Customers					
461.1	Residential	1,418,330	1,477,691	1,617,536	1,713,690	2,227,797
461.2	Commercial	664,649	780,780	838,395	892,939	1,160,821
461.3	Industrial	-	-	-	-	-
461.4	Public Authorities	239,621	275,355	296,855	249,733	324,653
	Total	2,322,600	2,533,826	2,752,786	2,856,362	3,713,271
462.1	Public Fire-Protection Service	819,135	860,107	953,393	1,043,532	1,356,592
462.2	Private Fire-Protection Service	527,560	559,464	620,598	677,671	880,972
	Total Sales of Water	3,669,295	3,953,397	4,326,777	4,577,565	5,950,835
	OTHER OPERATING REVENUES					
471	Miscellaneous Service Revenues	6,755	33,373	33,231	34,514	26,968
	Total Operating Revenues	3,676,050	3,986,770	4,360,008	4,612,079	A 5,977,803

**GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS	2020	2021	2022	2023 UNAUDITED
UTILITY PLANT				
101-105 Utility Plant	50,491,703	50,697,452	51,433,081	53,929,493
108-110 Less: Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization	19,428,585	20,360,174	21,286,329	22,125,688
Net Plant	<u>31,063,118</u>	<u>30,337,278</u>	<u>30,146,752</u>	<u>31,803,805</u>
114-115 Utility Plant Acquisition Adjustments (Net)	-	-	-	-
Total Net Utility Plant	<u>31,063,118</u>	<u>30,337,278</u>	<u>30,146,752</u>	<u>31,803,805</u>
OTHER PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS				
121 Nonutility Property	88,640	88,640	88,640	88,640
Total Other Property & Investments	<u>88,640</u>	<u>88,640</u>	<u>88,640</u>	<u>88,640</u>
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS				
131 Cash	1,113,349	1,677,204	2,120,102	1,983,867
135 Temporary Cash Investments	-	-	-	-
141-144 Accounts and Notes Receivable, Less Accumulated Provision for Uncollectible Accounts	156,636	233,665	802,877	1,139,300
151 Material and Supplies	91,002	141,148	298,808	374,165
162 Prepayments	86,662	63,368	64,270	74,921
171 Accrued Interest and Dividends Receivable	-	-	-	-
174 Misc. Current and Accrued Assets	228,128	272,177	276,141	316,375
Total Current and Accrued Assets	<u>1,675,777</u>	<u>2,387,562</u>	<u>3,562,198</u>	<u>3,888,628</u>
181-190 DEFERRED DEBITS	158,325	271,256	281,984	281,984
TOTAL ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS	<u>32,985,860</u>	<u>33,084,736</u>	<u>34,079,575</u>	<u>36,063,057</u>
EQUITY CAPITAL				
214 Appropriated Retained Earnings	19,297,714	18,745,883	18,229,025	17,655,433
215 Unappropriated Retained Earnings	3,537,423	4,004,875	5,723,102	7,105,037
Total Equity Capital	<u>22,835,137</u>	<u>22,750,758</u>	<u>23,952,127</u>	<u>24,760,470</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT				
221 Bonds	4,781,678	4,229,847	3,677,852	3,127,610
224 Other Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	1,017,137
Total Long-Term Debt	<u>4,781,678</u>	<u>4,229,847</u>	<u>3,677,852</u>	<u>4,144,747</u>
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES				
231 Accounts Payable	148,416	-	42,635	55,499
232 Notes Payable	-	-	-	-
237 Accrued Interest	39,692	34,358	29,718	24,130
241 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	1,130,228	2,029,459	2,348,238	3,049,206
Total Current and Accrued Liabilities	<u>1,318,336</u>	<u>2,063,817</u>	<u>2,420,591</u>	<u>3,128,835</u>
DEFERRED CREDITS				
253 Other Deferred Credits	21,704	11,309	-	-
255 Accumulated Deferred Investment Tax Credits	-	-	-	-
Total Deferred Credits	<u>21,704</u>	<u>11,309</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
261-265 OPERATING RESERVES	-	-	-	-
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION				
271 Contributions In Aid Of Construction	4,661,845	4,661,845	4,661,845	4,661,845
272 Accumulated Amortization of Contrib. In Aid of Construction.	632,840	632,840	632,840	632,840
Total Net C.I.A.C	<u>4,029,005</u>	<u>4,029,005</u>	<u>4,029,005</u>	<u>4,029,005</u>
TOTAL EQUITY CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES	<u>32,985,860</u>	<u>33,084,736</u>	<u>34,079,575</u>	<u>36,063,057</u>

Greater Augusta Utility District

Legal Notice

The Greater Augusta Utility District gives notice to the public that at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 22, 2024, the Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing to discuss and hear comments on a proposed drinking water and fire protection rate increase. Further information relating to the public hearing and supporting documents for the rate increase may be found at www.gaud.ws.

Effective on June 1, 2024

Class	Percentage	Amount
Residential	30%	\$570,515
Commercial	30%	\$300,422
Governmental	30%	\$73,460
Private fire protection	30%	\$216,700
Public fire protection	30%	\$329,712
Overall increase	30%	\$1,490,809

The increase in rates will be effective starting on or after June 1, 2024. Since its last adjustment in 2023, the District has incurred continuous increases in operating, maintenance and debt service costs. The proposed 30% adjustment will increase the District's annual revenue by an estimated \$1,490,809. The District invoices customers for water, sewer, stormwater and fire service. Only the water and fire service portion of the invoice will be affected by this rate increase. A customer with a 5/8" meter who uses five hundred (500) cubic feet of water (3,740 gallons) per month will see an increase of about \$8.36 per month.

The rate adjustment proceedings are governed by Maine law and reviewed by the Public Utilities Commission. Pursuant to 35-A MRS Section 6104, a customer has the right to request additional information relating to the present and proposed rates from the District, the right to an open and fair hearing, and the right to assistance from the Public Advocate. Customers also have the right under 35-A MRS Section 6104 to petition the Maine Public Utilities Commission to suspend and investigate the District's rates pursuant to 35-A MRS Section 310, if, on or before thirty (30) days following the public hearing 15% of the District customers (or 1,000 District customers, whichever is less), file with the Greater Augusta Utility District's General Manager and with the Public Utilities Commission, c/o Administrative Director, 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0018, a petition or petitions demanding review by the PUC of the proposed rate changes. Signatures on the petitions filed pursuant to Section 7 are invalid unless accompanied by the printed names and addresses of the signers. Upon request the District will provide customers with the petition forms that include space for the signatures, printed names and addresses of the signers.

A copy of materials supporting the proposed rate changes is available at the Greater Augusta Utility District's office for inspection and online at www.gaud.ws.

For more information, call Brian Tarbuck, General Manager, at (207) 622-3701, or the Administrative Director of the Maine Public Utilities Commission at (207) 287-3831. For additional assistance, contact the Public Advocate, 112 State House Station, Augusta ME 04333-0112, (207) 624-3687.