



# Biddeford-Saco Application for New Rates

Information on our application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission to fund the new **Saco River Drinking Water Treatment Facility** that will serve you.



Maine Water has filed an application with Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) to increase water rates in the Biddeford and Saco Division to support the cost of the new Saco River Water Treatment Facility, currently under construction.

**At the request of customers and local officials, the application represents a phased-in increase, which gradually raises rates over a three-year period rather than all at one time.**

- If approved, average residential customers with water use of 125 gallons per day will see the following bill impacts beginning July 1, 2021:  
**July 1, 2021:** Increase of about \$6/month or 26.05%  
**July 1, 2022:** Increase of about \$6/month or 20.23%  
**July 1, 2023:** Increase of about \$6/month or 17.12%
- At the end of the three year period, the cost of water service for an average residential customer will be just over a penny a gallon, or about \$1.37 per day.
- The Office of Public Advocate participates in the process with MPUC to advocate for customers.
- Customers may also participate in the application process. Details are included in a formal Notice of Proceeding which has been mailed to all Biddeford Saco Division customers.

## Customer Questions

We want to assure you that we have taken steps to operate efficiently, upgrade the water system and make the best use of customers' dollars. The rate increase is necessary to continue to deliver the high quality water and service you expect and deserve.

**Please contact us at 1-800-287-1643 with questions about the rate application or your water service.**

## About the New Saco River Drinking Water Treatment Facility



**The new facility replaces the existing 137 year-old existing facility.** Believed to be the oldest operating water treatment facility in the nation, comprehensive engineering evaluations determined renovations to the 1884 building would be more costly than constructing a new facility.



**The existing facility is at risk of catastrophic flooding damage.** The current facility lies in the flood plain of the Saco River. It has flooded in the past and is predicted to flood again. A flood would cause widespread water outages and loss of water for fire protection. Relocating the facility ensures continued reliability of the water system.



**The new facility will improve quality, efficiency and reliability for generations.** When completed in Spring 2022, the new facility will allow for improved water quality, system reliability and greatly enhanced water treatment processes to more cost efficiently support drinking water, fire protection and economic development needs in the communities served for generations to come.