

**SERVICE DATE**  
**Feb 02, 2022**

PSC REF#:430482

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
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**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

Rate Increase Factor and Overall Rate of Return for 2022 Simplified Rate Cases 5-WQ-2022

**ORDER**

This Order sets the rate increase factor and overall rate of return for Simplified Rate Cases (SRCs) filed between March 1, 2022 and February 28, 2023.

Wisconsin Stat. § 196.193(2) requires the Public Service Commission (Commission) to set the rate increase factor for SRCs on a yearly basis. This statute provides:

(2) DETERMINATION OF THE RATE INCREASE FACTOR. Not later than March 1 annually, the commission shall set an increase factor to apply to rates of municipally owned water public utilities or municipally owned combined water and sewer public utilities. The factor shall be equal to the U.S. consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, for the previous year; however, the factor may not be less than 3 percent nor more than 10 percent. The rate increase factor need not be defined by rule.

Similarly, Wis. Stat. § 196.193(3) requires the Commission to set the overall return for SRCs on a yearly basis. This statute provides:

(3) DETERMINATION OF AN OVERALL RATE OF RETURN. Not later than March 1 annually, the commission shall set the overall rate of return to be applicable to municipally owned water public utilities or municipally owned combined water and sewer public utilities for rate increases under this section. The commission shall consider the interest rates for state and local bonds in setting the overall rate of return. The overall rate of return need not be defined by rule.

The rates change annually in response to changing economic conditions. Each February, the Commission establishes the rates for the following year.

Docket 5-WQ-2021

The Commission sets the rate increase factor for the period beginning March 1, 2022 and ending February 28, 2023 at 4.5 percent and the overall rate of return for the same period at 4.9 percent.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, February 2, 2022.

For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.L. Schmidt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "S".

Denise L. Schmidt  
Administrator  
Division of Water Utility Regulation and Analysis

DLS:krl:alf DL:18517770

See attached Notice of Rights

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
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Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS FOR REHEARING OR JUDICIAL REVIEW, THE TIMES  
ALLOWED FOR EACH, AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PARTY TO BE  
NAMED AS RESPONDENT**

The following notice is served on you as part of the Commission's written decision. This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2), and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

*PETITION FOR REHEARING*

If this decision is an order following a contested case proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3), a person aggrieved by the decision has a right to petition the Commission for rehearing within 20 days of the date of service of this decision, as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. The date of service is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of service is shown immediately above the signature line. The petition for rehearing must be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and served on the parties. An appeal of this decision may also be taken directly to circuit court through the filing of a petition for judicial review. It is not necessary to first petition for rehearing.

*PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW*

A person aggrieved by this decision has a right to petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. In a contested case, the petition must be filed in circuit court and served upon the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin within 30 days of the date of service of this decision if there has been no petition for rehearing. If a timely petition for rehearing has been filed, the petition for judicial review must be filed within 30 days of the date of service of the order finally disposing of the petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition of the petition for rehearing by operation of law pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.49(5), whichever is sooner. If an untimely petition for rehearing is filed, the 30-day period to petition for judicial review commences the date the Commission serves its original decision.<sup>1</sup> The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

If this decision is an order denying rehearing, a person aggrieved who wishes to appeal must seek judicial review rather than rehearing. A second petition for rehearing is not permitted.

Revised: March 27, 2013

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<sup>1</sup> See *Currier v. Wisconsin Dep't of Revenue*, 2006 WI App 12, 288 Wis. 2d 693, 709 N.W.2d 520.