

Palmetto Utilities, Inc. Rate Increase Request

Docket No. 2019-281-S



Palmetto Utilities, Inc., (PUI) filed an application to increase its rates by approximately 28 percent with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSC) in November of 2019. The average residential customer's monthly bill would increase by \$14.52 per month if approved. The case is scheduled to be considered by the PSC beginning June 30, 2020.

About Palmetto Utilities, Inc.

PUI is a wastewater utility located northeast of Columbia with 27,905 residential, commercial, and multi-family customers in Richland and Kershaw Counties.

About the Office of Regulatory Staff

The ORS represents consumers of investor-owned utilities in South Carolina before the PSC. The PSC is the state agency that sets utilities' rates. The ORS must look at the impact to the consumer and utilities' continued investment in reliable and high-quality services.

How Can Customers Participate?

1. Fill out a Letter of Protest on the PSC's website

PSC.SC.GOV/consumer-info/file-letter-protest

2. Attend Public Night Hearing and Testify

The public has an opportunity to provide testimony on the merits of the proposed increase before the PSC through night hearings.



Spring Valley High School
120 Sparkleberry Lane, Columbia, SC 29229
Thursday, March 12, 2020 | 6:00 PM



Virtual Public Night Hearings

Thursday, March 19, 2020 | 6:00 PM

Monday, June 22, 2020 | 6:00 PM

You must pre-register to testify. Call (803) 896-2639 and pre-register by leaving your name, address, and telephone number.

How Your Rates May Change

Customer Type	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase	% Increase
Monthly charge per single-family house, condominium, villa, or apartment unit	\$52.10 per unit	\$66.62 per unit	\$14.52	27.87%

Overview of PUI Application (Filed 11/27/2019)

	PUI Application	# of Customers
Proposed Revenue Requirement Increase	\$5,933,328	27,905
Proposed Total Revenue	\$27,223,025	
Proposed Return on Equity	10.50%	
Increase %	27.87%	

Other Requests

- PUI proposes a three-year phase-in of new rates in order to lessen rate shock.
- PUI seeks to include approximately \$18M of sewer collection and transportation system assets acquired from the City of Columbia in rate base as Utility Plant In Service and not Contribution In Aid of Construction.

Intervenors

- ORS
- SC Department of Consumer Affairs
- Lisa Levine

Important Dates (as published by the PSC)

11/27/2019	Application Filed
01/21/2019	Petition to Intervene Deadline
03/10/2020	PUI Testimony Due
03/12/2020	Night hearing, Spring Valley High School, 6 PM
03/19/2020	Virtual Public Night Hearing, 6 PM
05/26/2020	Intervenor and ORS Testimony Due Date
06/09/2020	PUI Rebuttal Testimony Due Date
06/16/2020	Virtual Public Night Hearing, 6 PM
06/22/2020	Intervenor/ORS Surrebuttal Testimony Due
06/30/2020	Date PSC Hearing Begins
08/06/2020	PSC Order Issued

Subdivisions Served

Abington	Fairways	Millbank	The Homestead
Abney Hill Estates	Falls Mill	North Crossing	The Lake
Alden Glen	Fawnridge Village @Summit	North Springs	The Meadows
Amaryllis	Fishers Wood	North Trace	The Oaks
Amaryllis Woods	Forest Creek	Northside @ Woodcreek	The Park
Anden Hall @ Lansdowne	Forest Greens	Northsprings	The Peninsula
Apartment Complex	Founders Ridge	Oak Cove	The Ponds
Arbor Falls	Fox Meadow @ Longcreek	Olde Field @Greenhill Parish	The Preserve
Arbor Place	Fox Run	Oleander Mills	The Valley
Ashland	Garden Valley	Orchard Park	Thomaston
Ashley Hall	Gatewood	Overlook	Timbervale
Ashley Place	Glen Meadow	Palmetto Place	Towncenter @ Lake Carolina
Ashley Ridge	Green Springs	Park @ Liberty Ridge	Traditions
Ashton Hills	Greenhill Parish	Parsons Mill	Turtle Creek
Autumn Glen	Greensprings	Peach Grove Villas	University Club
Autumn Hill	Hamilton Place	Pepperknoll Village @Summit	Valhalla/Woodlands
Autumn Run	Hampton Hills	Persimmon Hill	Valhalla-Woodbranch
Avebury	Harborside	Pickwick	Village At Sandhill
Barony Place	Harrington	Pine Brook Village	Village Of Lake Shore
Berkeley	Hawthorne Ridge	Pine Crest@Lansdowne	Vineyard's Crossing
Blythe Creek	Heath Pond	Pinebrook	Walden Place
Bradford Park	Heather Green	Pineclave	Waverly Place
Brandon Hall	Heises Pond@Lansdowne	Pinnacle Ridge	Wellington
Briarcliffe	Heritage Forest	Plantation Park	Whisper Trace
Briarcliffe Estates	Hester Woods	Plantation Pointe	Whitehurst
Brickside Village	Hidden Pines	Rainsborough	Whitney Falls Of The Summit
Brittany Park	High Pointe @University Club	Remington Ridge	Willow Commons
Brookfield	Highlands	Rice Creek	Willow Lake
Brookhaven	Hillridge	Ridgecrest	Willow Pointe
Brookshire	Holly Bluffs	Rivendale	Winchester
Brookstone	Holly Ridge	Rivers Station	Windermere
Business	Huntcliff	Rose Creek	Windmill Orchard
Cambridge Hills	Hunters Pond	Sanctuary @Greenhill Parish	Winslow
Cambridge Oaks	Hunter's Pond	Sandy Glen	Wood Crest
Campbell Ridge	Hunters Run	Sandy Haven	Woodbranch
Candlewood	Indigo Springs	Sassafras Springs	Woodcreek - Beaver Park
Cane Brake	Ivy Square	Seaton Ridge	Woodcreek - Courtyards
Canterbury Park	Jacobs Creek	South Wood	Woodcreek - The Park
Carrige Oaks	Kelsney Ridge	Southwood	Woodcreek - The Ridge
Catawba Hill	Killian Green	Spears Creek Village	Woodcreek Club Ridge
Centennial	Killian Station	Spring Garden	Woodcreek Crossing
Chapelwood	Kingston Trace	Spring Meadow	Woodcreek Farms
Chimney Ridge	Lakes @ Barony Place	Spring Park	Woodcreek Farms The Park Amenity
Claremont	Landon Place	Spring Valley	Woodcreek Northwoods Villas
Clear Springs	Landon Station	Springhurst	Woodcreek Red Bay
Club Colony At Longcreek	Langford Crossing	Steeple Chase	Woodcreek Sweet Shrub
Club Cottages @Longcreek	Lansdowne	Sterling Hills	Woodcreek The Crest
Coatbridge	Laurel Chase	Sterling Pond	Woodcreek The Grove
Cobblestone	Laurel Springs	Stone Chapel Village@ Summit	Woodcreek The Park
Colony Park North Crossing	Legend Oaks	Summer Chase	Woodcreek The Pointe
Coopers Pond	Legion Lakes	Summer Chase Village @	Woodcreek The Villas
Copperfield	Long Cove	Summit	Woodcreek The Watermill
Cottonwood	Longcreek Plantation	Summerlin	Woodhaven
Courtyards @Founders Ridge	Longtown Estates	Summerlin @ Lake Carolina	Woodlake
Crescent Lake	Longtown Place	Summit Hills	Woodland Links
Crickentree	Lost Tree	Summit Ridge	Woodlands Glen
Deer Creek	Magnolia Bluff	Summit Townes	Woodlands Manor
Denby Place	Magnolia Hall	Tennyson	Woodlands Ridge
Devon Green	Manchester Park	Terrace @ Liberty Ridge	Woodlands Village
Dove Park	Mariner's Cove	The Bluffs	Woodleigh Park
Eagles Glen	Mason Ridge	The Gates @ Longcreek	Woodridge
Elders Pond	Maywood	The Greens	Woodtrace