



**Nova Scotia Utility and Review
Board**

**Amended Notice of
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Halifax Regional Water Commission's (HRWC) application for approval to amend its **Schedule of Rates and Charges and Schedules of Rules and Regulations for the provision of water, public and private fire protection, wastewater and stormwater services; and for determination of a Rate Base** originally scheduled for hearing on June 8, 2010, has been adjourned and re-scheduled as follows:

Commencing: Monday, September 13, 2010
9:00 a.m.

Place: Offices of the Board
Summit Place
Suite 300, 1601 Lower Water Street
Halifax, NS

ALL PERSONS are entitled to attend the hearing.

ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE COMMENTS may do so at the hearing or by forwarding a letter to the Clerk of the Board at Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, N.S. B3J 3S3, or by calling the Clerk at 424-4448, or e-mail: uarb.board@gov.ns.ca or fax 424-3919.

PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK INFORMALLY AT THE HEARING are requested to advise the Board anytime prior to **May 31, 2010** to assist the Board in its scheduling arrangements. It may be necessary to schedule an evening session if members of the public cannot be accommodated during regular hearing hours.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION:

As a result of a Cost of Service Study prepared by HRWC, changes are proposed in the rate structure for the water, wastewater and stormwater services. The proposed wastewater charge is composed of both a base charge and a charge related to the consumption of water, to replace the current rate which is only related to the consumption of water. A separate rate is proposed related to stormwater, which is currently included in the wastewater charge. HRWC proposes to bill stormwater charges to persons currently not receiving other services from HRWC.

The Board will consider a Cost of Service Study prepared by HRWC (cost of service allocates costs among customer classes). The Board's decisions with respect to cost of service may materially alter the proportion of the requested increase borne by various customer classes.

In addition, HRWC seeks to recover increased operating and capital costs.

A summary of the proposed average rate changes, by customer class, are set out below. **The average residential rates are indicated as a 15 mm (5/8") meter size and are based upon quarterly consumption of 50.43 m³ in 2010/11 and 49.92 m³ in 2011/12.**

Meter Size	Existing Quarterly Rates Total (\$)	Proposed Quarterly Rates Effective October 1, 2010 Total (\$)	Percent Change	Proposed Quarterly Rates Effective April 1, 2011 Total (\$)	Percent Change
Unmetered	120.93	142.86	18.1%	166.20	16.3%
15 mm- 5/8"	117.00	142.20	21.5%	164.79	15.9%
20 mm-3/4"	331.14	410.43	23.9%	473.43	15.4%
25 mm-1"	653.70	709.11	8.5%	798.84	12.7%
40 mm-1.5"	1,346.64	1,357.95	0.8%	1,511.55	11.3%
50 mm- 2"	3,021.78	3,752.85	24.2%	4,078.77	8.7%
80 mm-3"	7,085.73	7,421.64	4.7%	7,997.22	7.8%
100 mm - 4"	17,438.37	16,534.08	-5.2%	17,526.15	6.0%
150 mm- 6"	45,913.80	41,603.22	-9.4%	43,765.50	5.2%
200 mm- 8"	42,743.10	39,689.55	-7.1%	42,529.59	7.2%
250 mm - 10"	27,473.76	29,388.93	7.0%	33,035.97	12.4%

The Application further proposes to eliminate the existing Connection Charge for the former Halifax County at annexation, Serviced Land Charge, Sewer Redevelopment Charge, Trunk Sewer Charge and the Capital Cost Charge for Wastewater Treatment and implement a new charge referred to as the Availability Charge based on the formula contained in the Cost of Service Study.

The existing separate Schedules of Rates and Charges and Rules and Regulations by service (water, wastewater and stormwater) are proposed to be replaced with a combined Schedule of Rates and Charges and Schedule of Rules and Regulations for the services provided by HRWC.

A copy of the Application and an Order containing the time line may be viewed at the offices of the Board and at the office of the Halifax Regional Water Commission located at 450 Cowie Hill Road, Halifax, NS, telephone 490-4812 and on the Board's website at www.nsuarb.ca.