



NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE DIGBY WATER COMMISSION has applied for approval of amendments to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Services and amendments to its Schedule of Rules and Regulations

This matter will be considered in a public hearing as follows:

**Hearing starts: Wednesday, May 8, 2024
11:00 a.m.**

**Town of Digby Council Chambers
147 First Avenue
Digby, Nova Scotia**

Depending on the circumstances (such as COVID-19), this public hearing may be held by GoToWebinar video conferencing.

Board Hearings are open to the public and you may participate as follows:

- You may speak at the hearing. You must notify the Board by **Wednesday, April 24, 2024.**
- You may make written comments by sending a letter to the Clerk of the Board at P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS B3J 3S3, or by email at: board@novascotia.ca, or by fax at (902) 424-3919 by **Wednesday, April 24, 2024.**
- You may request formal standing as an Intervener, subject to Board approval. This will allow you to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses. Your request must be received by the Board by **Monday, February 26, 2024** and a copy of your written evidence by **Wednesday, April 3, 2024.**

Additional information about the matter is as follows:

- For a 5/8" meter, residential customer, the bi-monthly water bill is proposed to increase from \$52.58 to \$56.40 (a 7.3% increase) in 2024/25; \$60.71 (7.7% increase) in 2025/26; and \$65.06 (7.2% increase) in 2026/27.

- The Utility is requesting increases to rates for other metered customers, those with bi-monthly bills are proposed to change between -10.8% and 37.8% in 2024/25; 1.2% to 17.4% in 2025/26; and 4.8% to 10.3% in 2026/27.
- The annual public fire protection charge paid by the Town of Digby is currently \$239,057 and will increase to \$255,389 (6.8%) for 2024/25, to \$282,311 (10.5%) in 2025/26 and to \$318,431 (12.8%) in 2026/27. The Utility proposes to prorate the fire protection charges in 2024/25 using 2 months at the previous year's rate and 10 months at the current year's rate.

Upon reviewing the Application, the Board, in its Decision, may determine that the proposed amendments should be as requested, higher, or lower.

A copy of the Application and any timetable applying to this matter may be viewed on the Board's website at <https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", and in the "Go To Files and Documents", enter Matter No. **M11527**.

To assist the Board in using correct forms of address and pronouns in our hearings and decisions, we invite all parties, lawyers, and all other participants to share their pronouns and titles with the Board and each other if they are comfortable doing so. There is no requirement to provide this information.