Note
Regarding Highlands Water Company's New Tariff
Proposed Tariff No. 5
Dated 7/22/2026
Docket No. 24-010-01 Proposed Rates
Dated 7/31/2026

Highlands Water Company respectfully asks to resolve some discrepancies between Proposed Tariff No. 5, dated 7/22/2026 and Proposed Rates in Docket No. 24-010-01, dated 7/31/2026.

We thank the PSC for the Order Approving Settlement Stipulation and Associated Tariff Revisions on Docket No. 24-010-01 on July 31, 2026.

On page 7 the order notes that there are "several inconsistencies between Proposed Tariff No. 5 and the Settlement rate structure ("Proposed Rates") attached to this Order as Exhibit A."

I offer two options to correct the billing cycle discrepancy. I believe either is consistent with the intent of the order and the approved rates.

The first simply corrects page 2 of the Order to show that on a two-month billing cycle, the minimum charge for two months would be a $96 minimum charge for the first 12,000 gallons of water.

Correction is also made on page 6, item 11 changing the monthly minimum to $48 and the first tier rate $1.50, consistent to the Rates on Exhibit A.

Another option is presented which shows a monthly billing cycle with $48 for the first 6,000 gallons of water and so forth. Again, this is consistent with Exhibit A if you look at a monthly water usage and charge rather than a two-month charge.

To support this option I note that on page 6, item 11, as referenced above, it says that the company may read meters monthly or bi-monthly.

Although we have historically billed b-monthly, we would like consideration to bill monthly going forward for the following reasons:

a. We are in the process of changing to radio-read meters which makes it possible and cost effective to read meters monthly, even during winter months.
b. We feel that with the new rate increases, it will be more convenient and affordable for our customers to pay smaller bills monthly rather than higher bills bi-monthly.
c. The very terms of the Order, establishing August 1st as the effective date of the rate increase, make it necessary to bill monthly in July and August each of three years,

August being in the middle of our bi-monthly billing period. (Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May/Jun, Jul/Aug, Sep/Oct, Nov/Dec)

d. It is allowed in our rules.
e. It does not change the rates, but clarifies whether we use a monthly or bi-monthly billing cycle.

We have also corrected the ¾" service connection fee on Page 3 and added the full three-year rate schedule for 2026, 2027, and 2028 with rates taking effect on August 1st of each year on both documents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marjalee Smith