

# **Notice to Property Owners: Proposed Rate Actions by County of San Bernardino, Special Districts Department, Water/Sanitation Division, County Service Area 82 (District)**

The County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors (Board), acting as the governing body of the District, is considering an increase in sewer rates for all classes of users, effective July 1, 2008. The increases are driven by increasing energy costs, which have risen since the last rate adjustment in 2007. Specific effects to overall costs include cost of living adjustments for support/labor; general regional costs represented by increases in the Consumer Price Index; rapid increases in fuel costs; continued delinquencies in fee collections; and increases to mandated costs such as permits and compliance with regulatory agencies, as well as services provided by the County of San Bernardino Departments. The primary increase affecting the FY 2008/09 budget is due to reserve requirements for future system replacements. The Board will make its decision following a public hearing to be held Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the County Government Center, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Board Chambers First Floor in San Bernardino, California 92415.

The proposed increase in the sewer rate is applied uniformly to customers based on industry factors that reflect the cost for collection, treatment, and disposal of the wastewater generated by each customer. Please note that sewer bills will continue to be sent bi-monthly.

Rates are reviewed and recalculated annually using an intensive review process that includes use of projection models and interface with Operations, Administration and Engineering professionals. Factors to be considered include level of revenue needed to fund current plans for future infrastructure (repair and replacement); cover cash flow needs; cover anticipated operating costs; and ensure continued integrity of service delivery and system.

### **SANITATION**

<b>2007/2008 Monthly User Fee Per EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit)</b>	<b>2008/2009 Monthly User Fee Per EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit)</b>
\$25.25	\$30.30

### **The Public Hearing**

The public hearing will be held at the **Board's regular meeting of Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the County Government Center, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Board Chambers First Floor in San Bernardino, California.** At the hearing, the Board proposes to adopt a resolution that establishes sewer increases and the charges as outlined above.

Customers may respond to proposed rate increases prior to the public hearing by filing a written protest. A valid protest must contain a description of the property (address or Assessors Parcel Number) sufficient to identify the property, the signature of the property owner of record, or written evidence that the signer is the owner, if he or she is not named on the last tax roll.

Protests can be mailed or personally delivered to: the District Administrative Offices at 12402 Industrial Boulevard, Building D, Suite 6, Victorville, California 92395. All protests must be received by the District before the public hearing is closed. If a majority of affected property owners file written protests, the proposed rate changes will not be put into effect. Note that no more than one protest per parcel may be submitted.

For further questions, please call (800) 554-0565 or (760) 955-9885.

***NOTE:*** This notice was mailed using current billing records. You may receive more than one copy if you own multiple properties or own property under more than one name. We regret any inconvenience.