

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2025

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL WASTE AND WATER POLLUTION

Mr. John P. Murray, Acting Executive Director

..Title

Request Authority to Review the Proposed Amended User Charge Ordinance of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

..Body

Dear Sir:

An in-house review of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (District) User Charge Ordinance (Ordinance) by the Monitoring and Research Department established the need to amend certain provisions of the Ordinance. To facilitate extended public notice of the proposed changes, it is recommended that the Board of Commissioners (Board) consider the adoption of the revised Ordinance at the regular Board Meeting on December 4, 2025.

The amendments to the Ordinance are proposed as follows:

1. Minor language edits and corrections were made throughout for consistency.
2. Section 7(c) amended to clarify that invoicing for Net User Charge is not a prerequisite to assert liens for delinquency.
3. Added Section 7(m) to describe requirements and liabilities ascribed to Industrial Users (IUs) located in the Poplar Creek Service Basin, whose waste is treated by the Fox River Water Reclamation District (FRWRD) in accordance with the District's existing intergovernmental agreement with FRWRD.
4. Appendix A, Section 1 amended to specify that documentation of monthly calibrations for flow measurement devices must be stored at an IU's facility and made available to the District upon demand, for no less than three years.
5. Appendix B, Section 5 added to further explain the District's right to sample an IU's waste stream and clarify terms related to requests for split samples.
6. Statement added in Appendix B, Section 6, to specify that the District has the right to reject sampling results from an IU if the sample was nonrepresentative or not collected/analyzed in accordance with District ordinances.
7. Appendix F, Section I amended to modify the User Charge rates applicable to Large Commercial-Industrial User and Tax-Exempt User classes. The 2026 billing rates for volume, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Suspended Solids (SS) are as follows:

LARGE COMMERCIAL-INDUSTRIAL USER AND TAX-EXEMPT USER RATES:

	2025 Rates	Recommended 2026 Rates
(1) Volume	\$292.73 per million gallons	\$298.00 per million gallons
(2) 5-day BOD	\$191.03 per thousand pounds of BOD	\$194.46 per thousand pounds of BOD
(3) SS	\$126.40 per thousand pounds of SS	\$127.54 per thousand pounds of SS

8. Appendix F, Section III amended to modify the Operations, Maintenance and Replacement Factor as follows:

2025 OM&R Factor
0.474

Recommended
2026 OM&R Factor
0.407

Attached is "The Proposed Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's User Charge Ordinance, As Amended December 4, 2025." It is recommended that the Board adopt the proposed Ordinance, as herein amended. The Ordinance, as amended, will take effect on January 1, 2026.

Requested, Edward W. Podczerwinski, Director of Monitoring and Research, EWP:JW:tj
Susan T. Morakalis, General Counsel
Jacqueline Torres, Clerk/Director of Finance
Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for November 6, 2025

Attachments