



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **BWSL Full Tariff Review Proceeding (2026-2031) Submission**

**BELIZE WATER SERVICES LIMITED (BWSL) HEREBY SERVES NOTICE** that on October 1, 2025, in accordance with the Water and Sewerage (Tariffs) Byelaws (Statutory Instrument 67 of 2002) as amended by Statutory Instrument 51 of 2025, has submitted its five-year Business Plan to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and now enters into a Full Tariff Review Proceeding (FTRP) with the PUC. The FTRP is a review of the Business Plan, Rates, Tariffs, and Charges to be determined by the PUC for the next five-year Full Tariff Period (FTP), which starts on April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2031.

#### **Summary of Proposal**

BWSL charges tariffs and miscellaneous fees reviewed and approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) through a regulatory process based on a Business Plan Review for a five-year Full Tariff Period (FTP), with annual reviews allowed under exceptional circumstances. BWS is presently operating under a **one-year extension (FY2025/26)** with no tariff adjustment, granted by the PUC.

BWSL's proposal to the PUC includes financial projections based on audited financials, the FY2025/26 budget, and other recent data. The plan outlines forecasts for FY2026/27–2030/31.

Over the past five years, BWS has faced challenges from fluctuating water demand, rising costs, post-COVID economic shifts, and ongoing infrastructure investments, compounded by global economic pressures. These factors have increased operational expenses and funding needs.

BWS is therefore requesting a tariff adjustment to support a planned **BZD \$130 million capital program**, including sewer systems, water expansion and supply projects, meter replacement, and capital renewal. Funding will come from tariff revenues, reserves, debt, and GOB assistance. Several larger projects, which require approval and assistance from the Government and one or more International Financial Institutions, are specifically excluded, as these have not yet reached definitive agreements. The option to obtain financing is often challenging as lenders are wary of the uncertainty of tariff decisions.

#### **PUC Public Hearing**

The PUC will hold a Public Hearing on Friday, October 17, 2025, at the Biltmore Plaza in Belize City, Belize, starting at 6:00 p.m. At the meeting, BWSL will present its Business Plan to the Commission. Both the Commission and those in attendance will be allowed to share comments on matters presented. All interested parties are invited to attend.

#### **Comments and Information**

Members of the public may participate in the FTRP by submitting written comments on BWS' submission to the PUC by October 30, 2025, by email at [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz) or in writing at the PUC office. Additionally, where any person submits comments or information purported to be factual, such comments or information shall be accompanied by an affidavit.

Three copies of all applications, reports, documents, comments or information provided by members of the public shall be filed at the PUC's office and a copy shall be provided to BWS at its principal office of business on the same day. The PUC is required to issue an Initial Decision on the submission by November 14, 2025. The licensee or an interested party representing users of at least 10% of the water supplied in the preceding year may submit written comments on the Initial Decision within 15 days.

#### **Delivery of Final Decision**

The PUC is expected to deliver its Initial Decision within 30 days. If there are no objections to the Initial Decision, the Final Decision is to be issued within 15 days thereafter. Should there be objections, then an Independent Expert has to be appointed and the Final Decision may be delayed a further 64 days. Where there is no objection to the Initial Decision, the PUC shall adopt it as its Final Decision.

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