

PROPOSED CFPUA Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23): FAQs

How much is the proposed budget?

The proposed operating budget for FY2023 (July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023) totals \$99.2 million.

How would this affect my bill?

If the budget is approved, the average residential customer bill for combined water and sewer charges would increase by \$5.39. This increase would affect charges for services delivered beginning July 1, 2022.

This is the first increase in such charges in three years.

Why the increase?

Costs related to PFAS from Chemours in water sourced from the Cape Fear River account for about 70 percent of the increase. These costs include building and operating the new Granular Activated Carbon filters that will come online this summer to effectively treat for Chemours' PFAS. These filters will reduce GenX to levels at or near non-detection.

The second-largest driver of the increase is inflation.

Why are customers paying for the results of Chemours' actions?

CFPUA believes that Chemours should take responsibility for costs related to its decades of PFAS releases. So far, Chemours has not stepped up to that responsibility, so CFPUA has filed a lawsuit to recoup these costs.

CFPUA is a public entity, operating without profit and funded almost entirely by ratepayers. The amount customers pay with each bill pays to provide water and wastewater services to our community. These include the costs for which Chemours so far has declined to accept responsibility.

What about the lawsuit?

The lawsuit is likely to take several years to complete. We cannot predict what might be the result, including the amount of any monetary award or how any payment might be structured.

Regardless, customers would be the beneficiaries of any such award.

