



South Huntington Water District

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Over 90 Years of Service to the Community

Dear Valued Consumer,

The South Huntington Water District ("SHWD") prides itself on delivering the highest quality water at the lowest feasible cost. In order to meet this objective, and the ever-increasing mandates imposed by the Federal and State regulatory authorities, water providers across Long Island, such as SHWD, are required to embark upon infrastructure upgrades and the installation of wellhead treatment systems.

Recently, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water suppliers (such as SHWD) to test for and treat a chemical known as 1,4-Dioxane. Based upon the recommendation of the New York State Water Quality Council, New York State has set a maximum contaminant level (MCL) at one part per billion. This is a first-in-the-nation standard for this emerging contaminant, and one that the South Huntington Water District endorses.

The cost of the removal of this contaminant is very expensive. For instance, the wellhead treatment presently taking place at the District's Plant 10 on Whitson Road took 2+ years to plan, and is being installed at a cost in excess of \$6 million.

In order to raise the roughly \$30 million in funding to procure, install and operate these treatment systems, SHWD has found it necessary to add a \$25 surcharge to all quarterly bills. This separate charge will appear on your bill and amounts to approximately 27 cents per day. We understand that asking our customers to pay more is never a popular decision, and we have taken steps to mitigate the costs to our ratepayers such as applying for state grants (\$3.6 million has been awarded to date). SHWD has also initiated litigation against those companies responsible for the development and dissemination of this contaminant.

The quality and safety of the water that SHWD delivers to you is of paramount importance to the Board of Commissioners. Your water is tested constantly. Please be assured that all water delivered to customers of the SHWD will meet or exceed the minimum standard for safety and potability.

We hope you understand and appreciate why this quarterly fee has been enacted, and the efforts we are making to continue the delivery of the high-quality water you expect.

Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Paul Tonna, Ciro DePalo and Joseph Perry
Commissioners, SHWD