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I protest this rate hike.

Our bills are too high now.

Families can't continue to stay in their homes with rates like this.

In my area families have liens on their homes because bills just keep going up. Is that the gov't's



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Water rate increase hits Sacramento region.

Publication: Underground Construction

Date: Friday, May 1 2009

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Water rates are rising across the Sacramento region as utilities wrestle with the need to upgrade aging facilities. The Sacramento County agency, as part of the Freeport Regional Water Agency, has an expensive capital improvement project under way: a water intake at the Sacramento River, a 17-mile pipeline and a new water treatment plant.

To offset these expenses, businesses and residents that get their water from the Sacramento County Water Agency can expect double-digit rate increases beginning in July.

Faced with declining fees from new construction, the county agency has proposed raising monthly rates for general commercial customers by about 12.5 percent this year and the same amount next year.

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Rates for residential customers would increase to 18.7 percent this year for a flat-rate monthly bill and 25.3 percent for a metered customer.

The agency provides water to about 55,000 homes and businesses in south Sacramento and parts of Elk Grove and Rancho Cordova.

Fees from new connections for water service, paid by developers when they received building permits, historically have covered about 50 percent of the water agency's revenues. But with the construction

downturn, revenue from new connections has declined. The water agency projects its revenue needs will grow from \$42.7 million in the year ended June 30 to more than \$78.9 million in fiscal 2014.

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