

From: Princeton lee

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 11:14 AM

To: Tyler Fortunati <Tyler.Fortunati@deq.idaho.gov>

Cc: Graham Anderson <Graham.Anderson@princetonidaho.gov>; Mayor
<Mayor@princetonidaho.gov>

Subject: Drinking water fee questions

Hi Tyler,

I have several thoughts on the proposed fee increases to the DEQ drinking water fees. I am not opposed to fee increases when needed. Why has it taken 30 years to evaluate the funding needs of the DEQ and smaller increments made over that time frame? Modest increases are easier to absorb and budget for instead of a 250% increase. Also why is the minimum fee for more than the proposed rate increase of the minimum number of service connections? That math indicates the systems that are right at or just above the threshold will be subsidizing larger systems. My examples are taken from the slides presented by Cassadra. The math works out to $\$8.25/\text{connection}(3664) = \$30,228$. Why is there essentially a \$10,000.00 subsidy being paid by those systems? It would seem to me that the minimum connection number should be revised to equal the minimum fee, or the fee is adjusted to reflect actual costs. I look forward to seeing how the fee structure develops to be reasonable and fair to all water systems and adequately funds the department.

Regards,



Princeton Lee

Superintendent

Water Department

Phone:

208-785-8608