

# **Treatment Charges Presentation**

**October 2, 2007**

**RFC**

RAFTELIS FINANCIAL  
CONSULTANTS, INC.

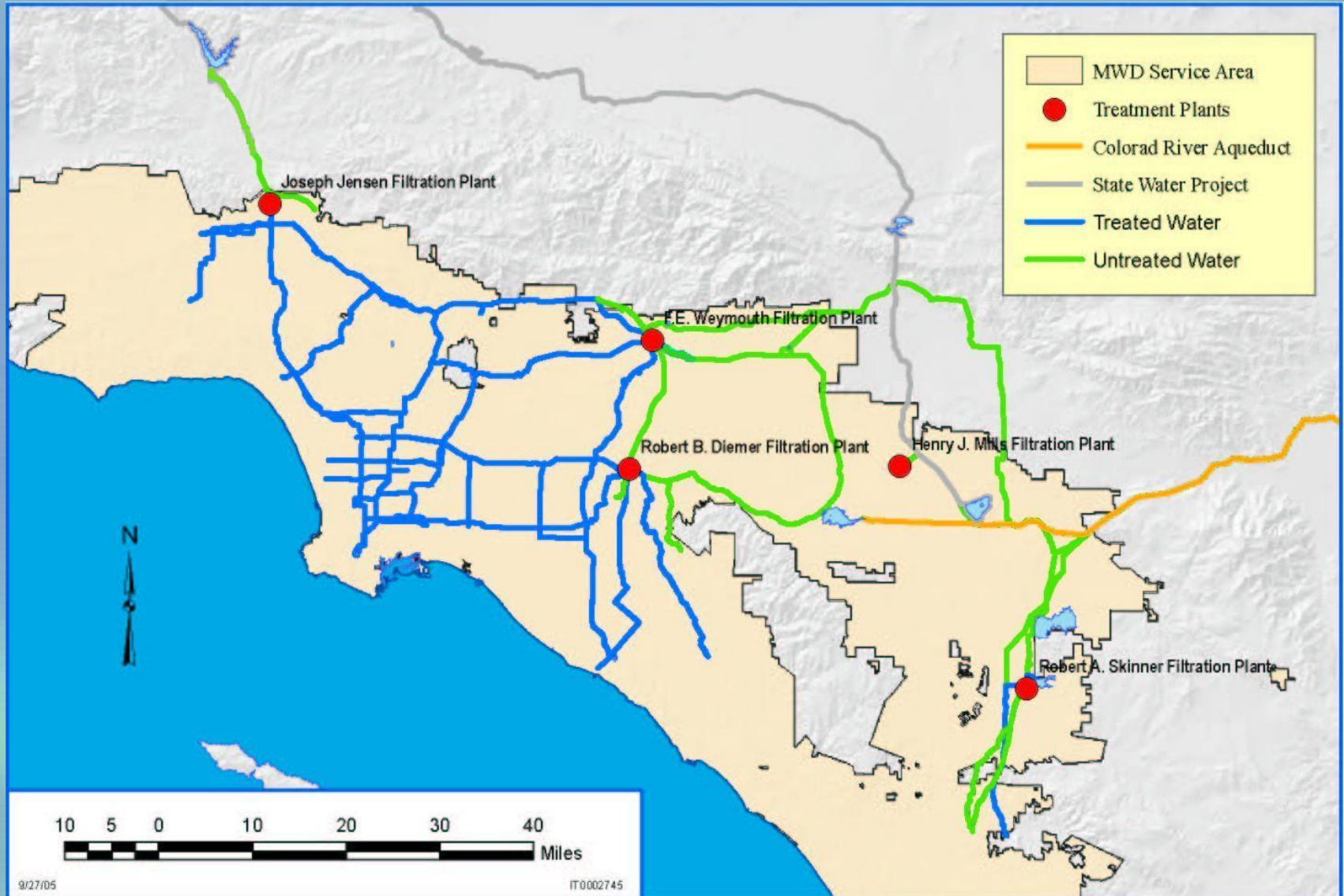
# Discussion Outline

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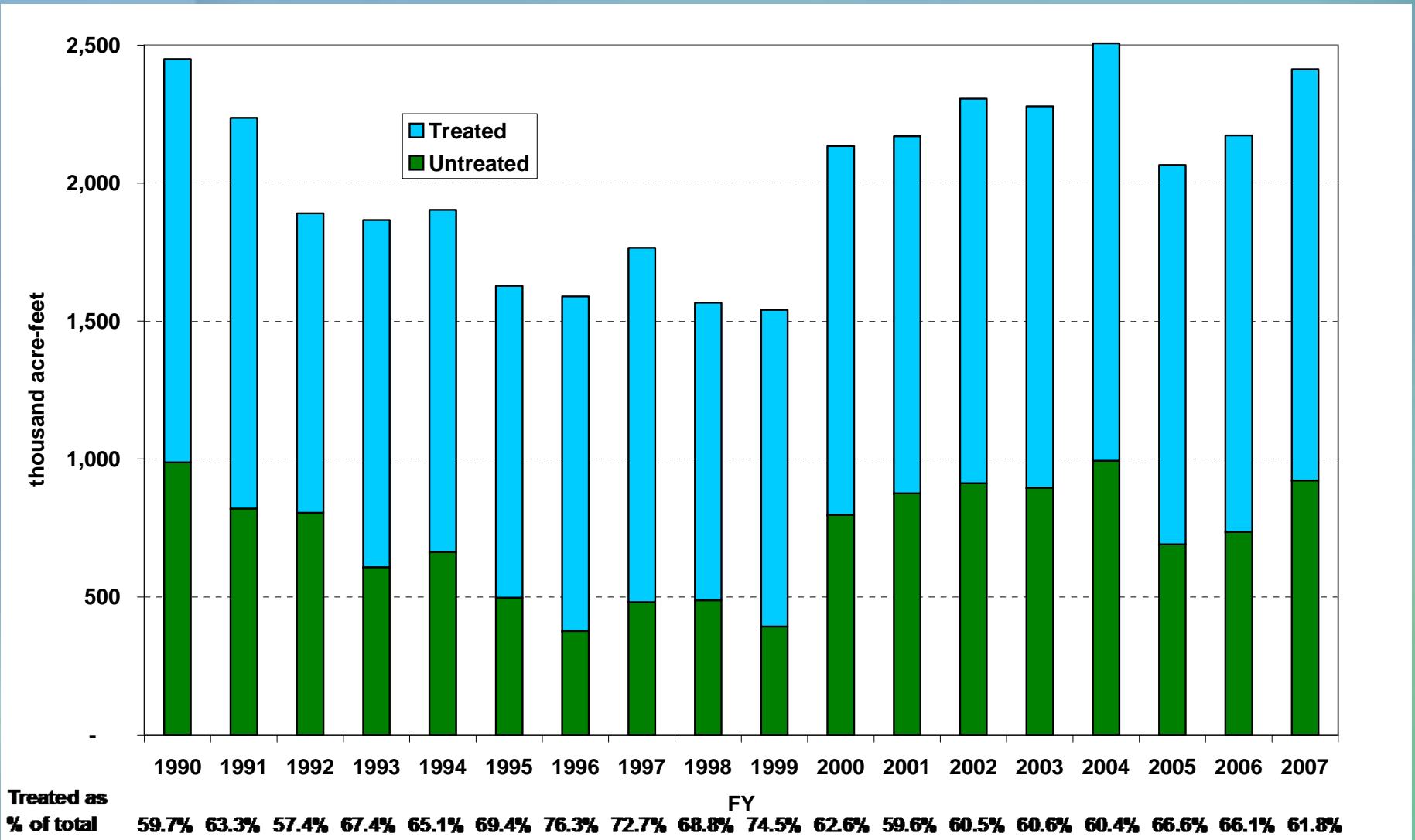
- A. Treatment Surcharge Background Issues
- B. Existing Treatment Surcharge
- C. Rate Structure Alternatives
- D. Evaluation of Rate Alternatives

# **A. Treatment Surcharge Background Issues**

# MWD Treatment Plants and the Imported Water Distribution System



# Treated and Untreated Water Deliveries



# Water Treatment Plant Usage and Peaking

Calendar year 2005 through Sept 17, 2007

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Design Capacity (cfs)</b>	<b>Average Demand (cfs)</b>	<b>Peak Day* (cfs)</b>	<b>Capacity Factor</b>	<b>Peaking Factor</b>
Diemer	803	409	778	51%	<b>1.90</b>
Jensen	1163	601	1002	52%	<b>1.67</b>
Mills	505	132	281	26%	<b>2.13</b>
Skinner	930	547	835	59%	<b>1.53</b>
Weymouth	803	371	726	46%	<b>1.96</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,204</b>				
*Peak day average flow					

# Treated Water Usage

Member Agency	FY 1990-2007 (acre-feet)			CY 2005-2007 (cfs)			Peak day
	Average Annual	Maximum Annual	Minimum Annual	Average Day	Max Day	Peak factor	
Anaheim	14,202	31,611	4,641	14	40	2.9	27-Sep-2005
Beverly Hills	13,109	14,867	11,918	20	34	1.7	5-Sep-2007
Burbank	14,888	22,839	8,154	22	36	1.7	23-Aug-2005
Calleguas	112,084	136,565	86,263	216	264	1.2	31-May-2005
Central Basin	73,802	99,814	61,033	101	131	1.3	24-Jul-2006
Compton	3,962	5,620	2,892	5	8	1.5	24-Jul-2005
Eastern	68,503	99,347	43,234	181	256	1.4	1-Sep-2007
Foothill	10,756	14,831	8,394	17	25	1.5	1-Sep-2007
Fullerton	10,937	17,795	5,713	20	37	1.9	14-Sep-2007
Glendale	25,715	29,135	21,948	37	57	1.5	26-Jul-2006
Inland Empire	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	
Las Virgenes	20,567	25,373	15,293	38	45	1.2	9-May-2007
Long Beach	46,796	57,560	34,700	41	73	1.8	28-Aug-2005
Los Angeles	96,806	232,272	46,390	94	186	2.0	24-Jul-2006
MWDOC	236,597	289,625	157,654	368	454	1.2	25-Jul-2006
Pasadena	22,036	33,603	15,508	45	67	1.5	26-Jul-2006
San Diego CWA	229,833	288,911	159,961	470	587	1.2	24-Jul-2006
San Fernando	451	1,049	0	5	7	1.4	10-May-2007
San Marino	1,210	1,998	442	4	8	2.1	24-Jul-2006
Santa Ana	16,010	22,007	7,135	20	31	1.5	31-Jul-2006
Santa Monica	10,280	14,444	4,689	20	28	1.4	27-Jun-2006
Three Valleys	47,965	65,424	35,155	88	134	1.5	17-Aug-2007
Torrance	21,031	23,804	16,386	33	42	1.3	22-Jun-2005
Upper San Gabriel	12,013	27,675	5,967	25	42	1.7	18-Jul-2006
West Basin	153,292	184,679	140,064	226	276	1.2	20-Jul-2005
Western MWD	44,707	87,968	19,909	153	235	1.5	15-Jul-2006
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,263</b>	<b>3,103</b>	<b>1.4</b>	
Data include Replenishment deliveries.				Peak flows net of Replenishment service.			

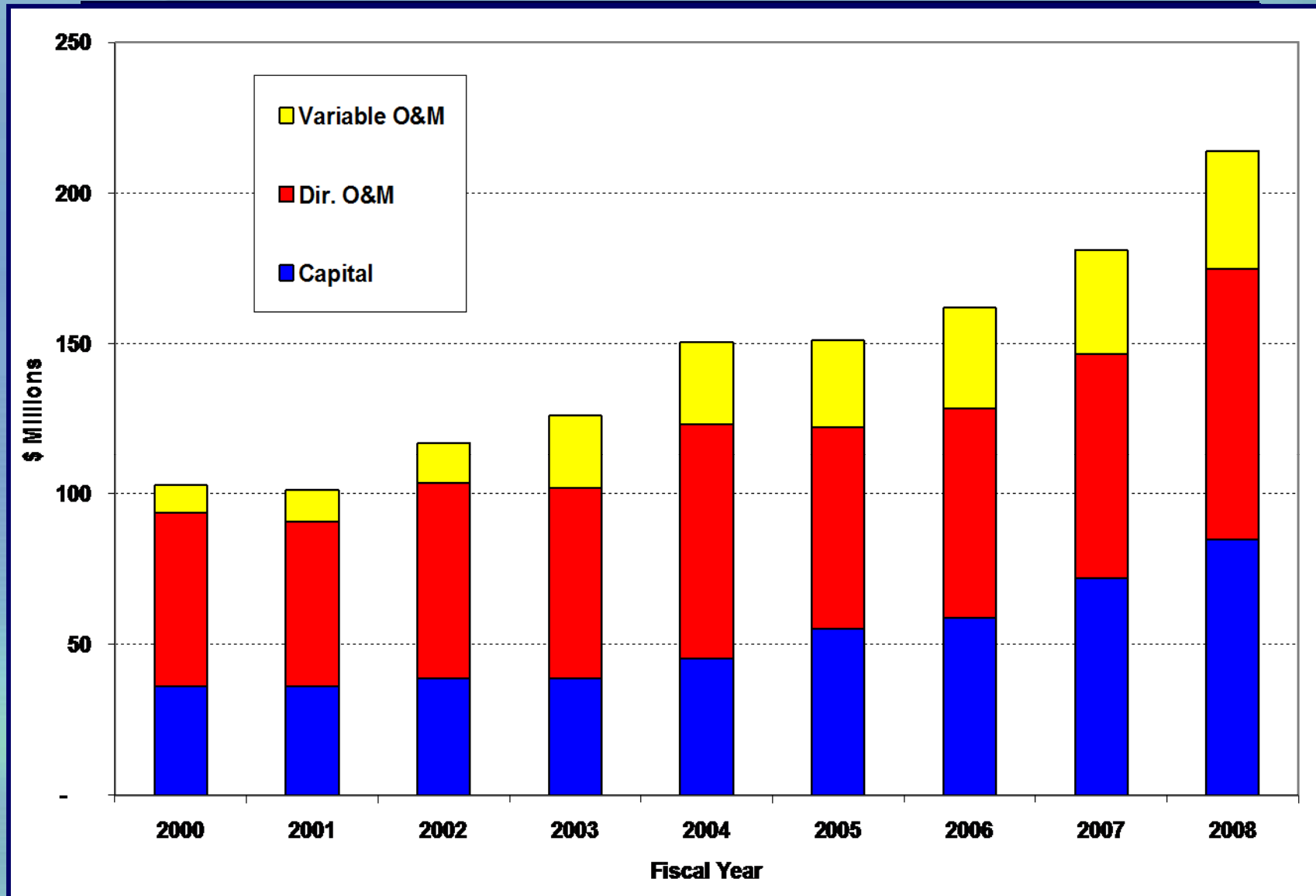
# Revenue Requirements by Service Function

(FY 2007/08 in millions \$)

Source of Supply	\$ 112.2	
Conveyance & Aqueduct	\$ 478.6	
Storage	\$ 122.3	
Treatment	\$ 214.9	
Distribution	\$ 115.8	
Demand Management	\$ 57.5	
<b>Total Revenue Requirements</b>	<b>\$ 1,101.3</b>	<b>100%</b>
Less: Hydroelectric	\$ (13.7)	
<b>Net Revenue Requirements</b>	<b>\$ 1,087.6</b>	



# Treated Water Net Revenue Requirements



# Treatment Surcharge Trend

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	Effective January 1					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Rate per acre foot</b>	\$ 82	\$ 92	\$112	\$122	\$147	\$157
<b>% Annual Change</b>		12.2%	21.7%	8.9%	20.5%	6.8%

# Treatment Cost Drivers

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- Major Treatment Capital Investments (e.g. ozone retrofit)
- Rising O&M costs
  - Chemicals
  - Electric Power

# Treatment Peaks and Rate Equity

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- Infrastructure must be designed to meet peak demand.
- Relying on MWD for daily peaks drives capital costs higher.
- Current rate structure recovers peaking costs uniformly through a volume charge paid by all member agencies.

# **Existing Treatment Surcharge**

# MWD Cost of Service and Rate Process

## Revenue Requirements

### Customer Rates

Supply Rates (T1/T2)  
System Access Rate  
Water Stewardship Rate  
System Power Rates  
Full-Service Untreated Bundled  
Replenishment Rate, Untreated  
IAWP, Untreated  
**Treatment Surcharge**  
Full Service, Treated Bundled  
Treated Replenishment  
Treated IAWP  
Readiness To Serve Charge  
Capacity Charge

### Functional Categories

Supply  
Conveyance & Aqueduct  
Storage  
**Treatment**  
Transmission  
Demand Management  
Administrative & General  
Hydroelectric

### Classifications

Fixed Demand  
Fixed Commodity  
Variable Commodity  
Fixed Standby  
Hydroelectric

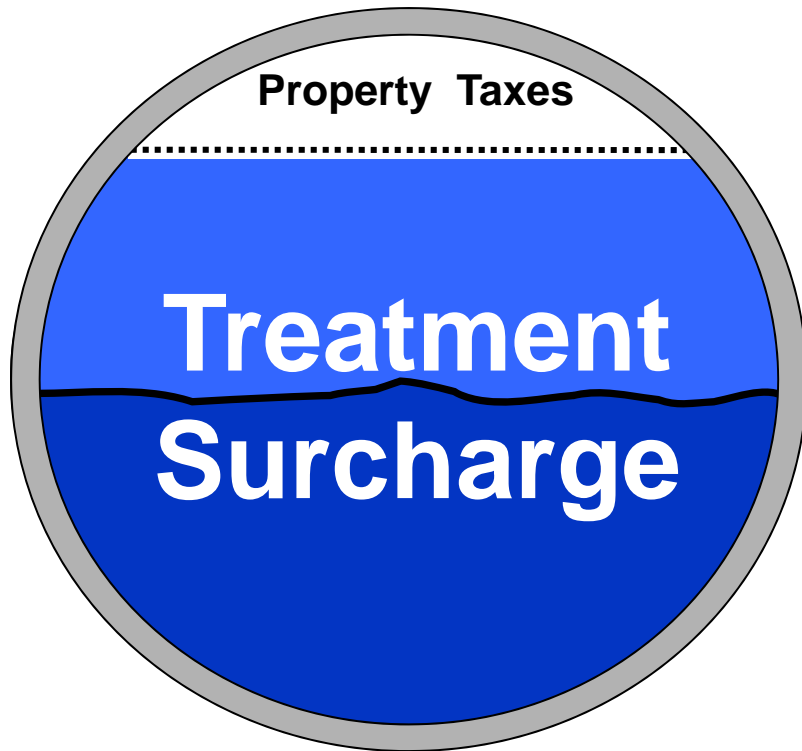
# Features of the Current Charge

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- Uniform Rate
- \$157 per acre foot
- Constant charge throughout the year (peaking cost impact not assessed)
- Cost Classifications Recovered
  - Fixed Demand (\$44M)\*
  - Fixed Commodity (\$123.6M)\*
  - O&M Variable Commodity (\$47.4)\*

# Recovery of Treatment Costs

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Standby Costs

Peak Demand Costs

Average Demand Costs



## **C. Rate Structure Alternatives**

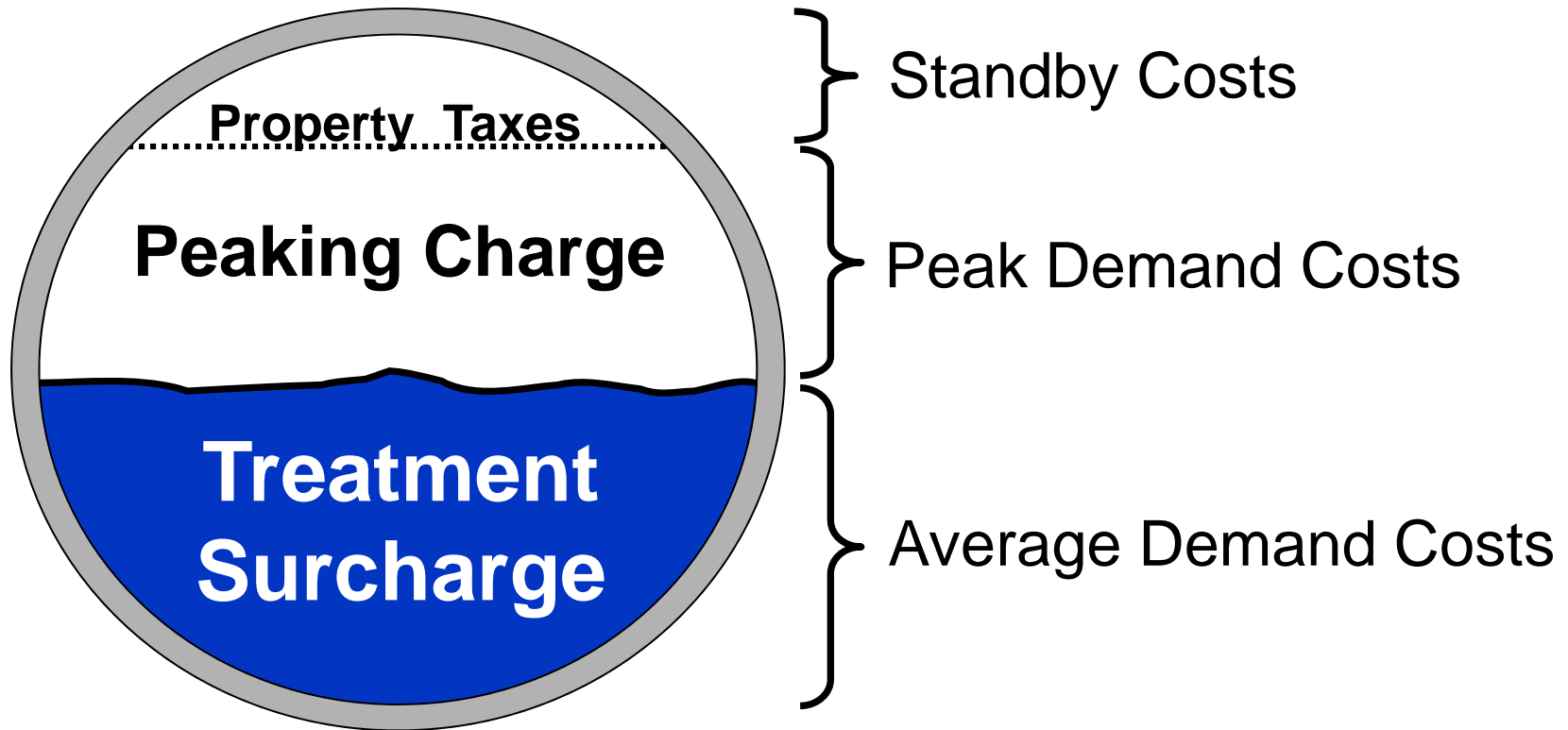
# Rate Design Options

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- Option 1: Peaking Charge
- Option 2: Treated Water Capacity Charge (TWCC)

# Option 1: Peaking Charge

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# Treatment Peaking Charge Considerations

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- Infrastructure must be built to accommodate peak demand.
- Higher peaks result in higher costs.
- These costs are currently shared by all users uniformly.
- Each user contributes differently to system peaks.
- A peaking charge would directly impact monthly bills.
- Equity principle implies that each member agency should pay costs of service.
- Charges should encourage more efficient use of system treatment resources.

# Treatment Peaking Charge Design

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- Analyze historical demand patterns.
- Analyze how peaking affects treatment costs.
- Calculate costs related to serving peak demand.
- Calculate system-wide volume rates for both average demand usage and peaking charge for peak demand usage.
- Estimate the impact of new charges on member agencies.
- Phase in new charges as appropriate.

# Peaking Charge Advantages

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## Advantages

- Sends a strong signal to manage peaks
- Only applies to the extent that members exceed average demand
- More equitably allocates costs of service

# Peaking Charge Disadvantages

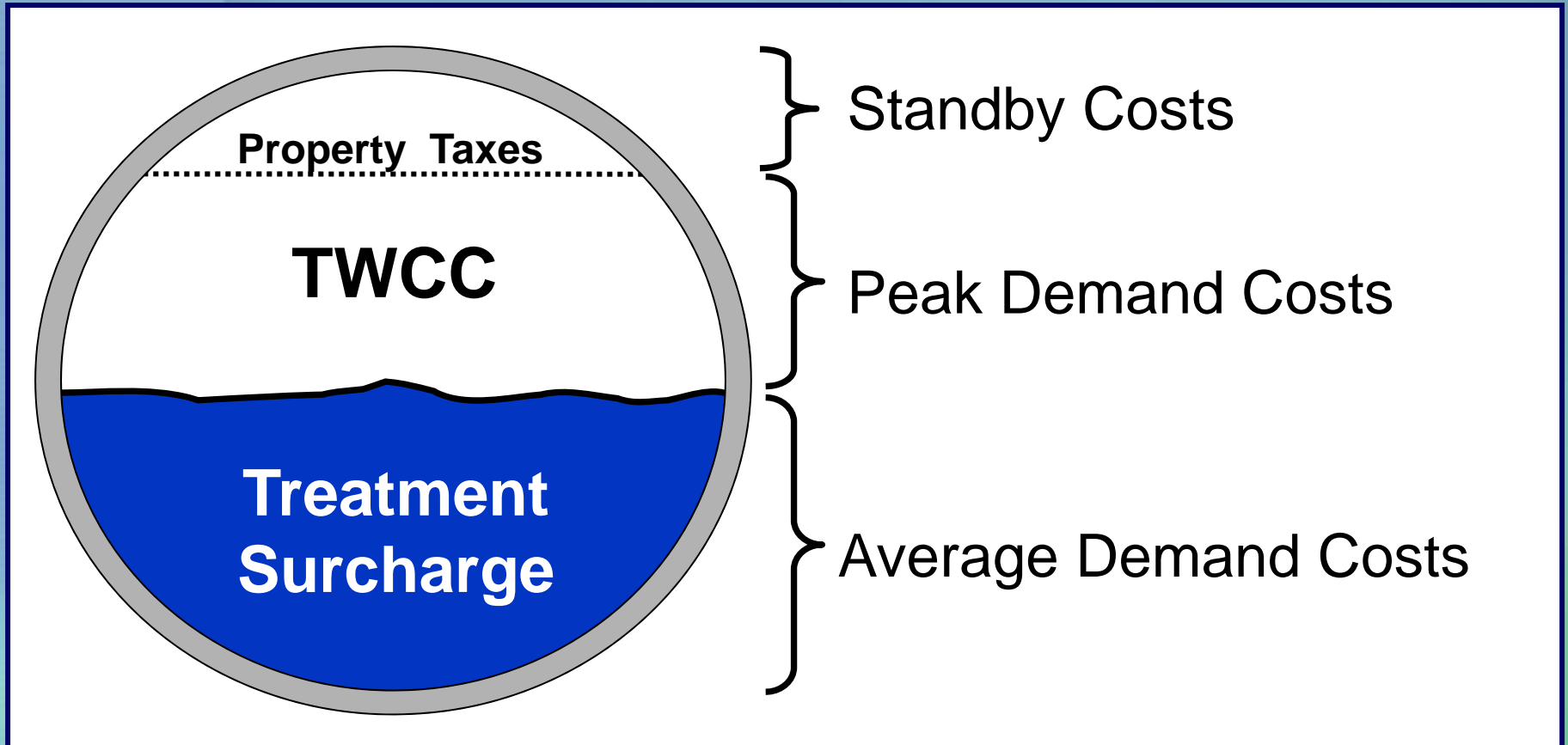
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## Disadvantages

- Substantial rate impacts on some member agencies
- More volatility for charges and revenues

# Option 2: Treated Water Capacity Charge

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# TWCC Considerations

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- Most considerations are the same as under Option 1.
- Impacts on monthly bills are determined by historical data.

# TWCC Design

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- Review historical peaking patterns for each user.
- Determine three-year average seasonal peaks.
- Calculate costs related to serving peak demand.
- Develop a fixed capacity charge that will recover peaking costs.
- Estimate the impact of new charges on member agencies.
- Phase in new charges as appropriate.

# TWCC Advantages/Disadvantages

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## Advantages

- Patterned after the existing capacity charge.
- Better revenue stability.
- Reduced rate volatility and rate shock.
- More equitably allocates costs of service.

## Disadvantages

- Does not send as strong a signal to manage peaks.
- Total treatment charge not influenced as strongly by short-term changes in demand.

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- System-wide wholesale peaking charges
  - San Antonio, Texas
  - Seattle, Washington
  - Tacoma Water Division (*dual rate schedules*)
- Other peaking approaches
  - Dallas Water Utilities (*peak-driven minimum charge*)
  - Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (*peaking cost allocations and seasonal surcharge*)
  - Detroit Water and Sewer Department (*peaking cost allocations*)
  - Eugene Water & Electric Board (*seasonal surcharge*)
  - Metropolitan Utilities District (*peak-driven minimum charge*)

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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## San Antonio Water System

- 5-step incremental surcharge for above-average demand each month
- Monthly base usage level equals 90% of customer's annual average usage
- Unit charges increase as peaking increases

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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## Seattle, Washington

- Contracts explicitly state that water is provided to meet average day demand.
- Contracts include surcharges for peaking.
- Also volumetric surcharge during summer months.
  - Summer rate in effect May 16 - Sept. 15
  - Summer rate premium ~ 54%

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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## **Tacoma Water Division, Washington**

- Two wholesale rate schedules.
- A customer's rate schedule depends on their summer/winter demand ratio.
- A ratio  $> 2.5$  results in summer rates almost 90% higher than the winter rate.
- Summer rates for lower peaking customers are only 25% higher than winter rates.

# **Evaluation of Rate Alternatives**



# Evaluation Matrix

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	0	+	+
	0	0	+
	0	0	+
	0	+	+
	+	+	+

## Rating Key

0 Meets requirements

+ Exceeds requirements

- Does not meet requirements

# Evaluation Matrix

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(Continued)

	0	+	+
	-	+	+
	0	+	+
	0	+	+
	0	0	0

## Rating Key

0 Meets requirements

+ Exceeds requirements

- Does not meet requirements

# Discussion

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# **Appendices**

**Additional Survey Results**

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Dallas Water Utilities
  - Physical meter limitations on wholesale peaking.
  - If a customer exceeds agreed-upon peaks, Dallas can change the contract to reflect higher peaks.
  - New contract terms would enforce a higher minimum charge good for five years.

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, Utah
  - Costs are calculated and allocated using peak day and peak hour demand data.
  - Each member agency is charged a different water rate based on demand patterns and pressure zones.
  - Also: a summer conservation rate premium of 25%.

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Detroit Water and Sewer Department
  - Peaking is used to allocate costs among wholesale customers.
  - Customers with higher peaks get higher rates.

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Eugene Water & Electric Board
  - Seasonal wholesale volumetric surcharge.
  - Surcharge months are May through October.
  - Summer surcharge is approximately 20%



# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Metropolitan Utilities District, Omaha, Nebraska
  - Peak-driven “floating ratchet” minimum charge.
  - Billed demand is calculated as if the month’s max day was in effect the entire month.
  - Each monthly bill is based on the peak day over the last 11 months, multiplied  $\times 365/12$

# How Other Utilities Handle Wholesale Peaking Costs

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- Austin Water Utility, Texas
  - Peaking affects allocation of costs among wholesale customers.
  - Customers with higher peaks get higher rates.
  - New COS study may add conservation incentive to wholesale rates.