

PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

March 2023 Edition

Fix A Leak Week (March 20-26)

PUCN supports EPA's efforts to find and fix household leaks

The annual Fix a Leak Week campaign sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense Program is scheduled for March 20-26.

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) supports the event and urges Nevadans to help put a stop to household water leaks that the EPA estimates account for nearly 1 trillion gallons of water wasted nationwide each year – an amount equal to the annual household water use in nearly 11 million homes.

The PUCN encourages consumers to take a few simple steps that can add up to a significant positive impact. Fixing easily-correctable household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills, according to the EPA.

"Household leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water in an average home every year. 10 percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more a day," PUCN Water Engineer Cindy Turiczek said.

Common types of leaks found in the home are worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware.

"Old and worn faucet washers and gaskets frequently cause leaks in faucets. A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's the amount of water needed to take more than 180 showers," Turiczek added.

EPA'S FIX A LEAK WEEK TIPS INCLUDE:

- **Check for leaks.** Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, and other fixtures. Don't forget to check irrigation systems and spigots too. Look at your water usage during a colder month. If a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month – there are serious leaks.



- **Toilet leaks.** Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, you have a leak. Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.
- **Replace the fixture if necessary.** Look for WaterSense-labeled models, which are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models. In many cases, fixture replacement parts pay for themselves quickly and can be installed by do-it-yourselfers or plumbing professionals. Irrigation professionals certified through a WaterSense-labeled program can also check systems for leaks.

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense or www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week to find WaterSense labeled products or an auditor in your area.



Public Utilities Commission of Nevada | puc.nv.gov



DETECT AND CHASE DOWN LEAKS



Start by Gathering Clues

These clues can help you detect leaks before you even start investigating your home.

1

Check Your Utility Bill

A place to start is to examine your utility bill for January or February. It's likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if its winter water use exceeds 12,000 gallons (or 16 CCF) per month. You can also look for spikes—is your water use a lot higher this month than it was last month? Learn more about your water bill:

www.epa.gov/watersense/understanding-your-water-bill.

2

Read Your Water Meter

Find your water meter, which is usually near the curb in front of your home but can be inside your home (e.g., in the basement) in cold climates. Use a screwdriver to remove the lid on your meter, which is heavy and usually marked "water."

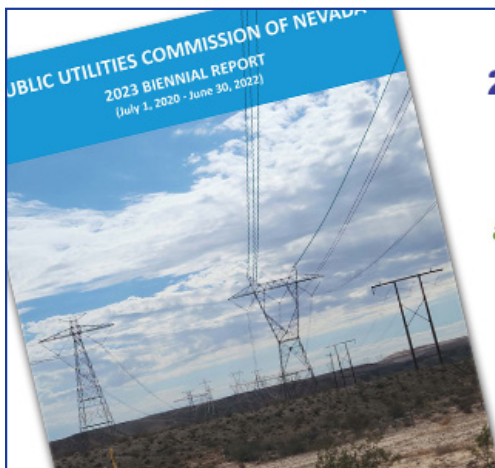
Now that you've found the meter, take a reading during a period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same after two hours, you probably have a leak. Here's a tip on how to read a water meter:

www.smarthomewaterguide.org/how-to-read-your-water-meter.

3

Take a Toilet Test

Put a few drops of food coloring into the tank at the back of your toilet and let it sit for 10 minutes. If color shows up in the bowl, you have a leak. Make sure to flush afterward to avoid staining, and consider replacing your old toilet flapper if it is torn or worn. Check our Fix a Leak web page for handy videos that show you how to do it.



2023 Biennial Report

*Highlights of the PUCN's
most significant
activities & accomplishments
during the last biennium
July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022*

[Click to view the report . . .](#)

MARCH PUCN CALENDAR

MARCH 7 | 1 P.M.

Regular Agenda

Livestreamed between PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

MARCH 14 | 10 A.M.

Regular Agenda

Livestreamed between PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

MARCH 23 | 10 A.M.

Regular Agenda

Livestreamed between PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

MARCH 27 - 29 | 10 A.M.

**Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval to merge into a single corporate entity
Docket 22-03028**

Livestreamed between PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas & on the PUCN website

[More Info](#)

View the full calendar at

<https://pucweb1.state.nv.us/puc2/PUCCalendar.aspx>

Dockets Opened at the PUCN in February 2023

Visit puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/ to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
23-02001	2/2/2023	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of annual plans for the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program and its Energy Storage component, the Lower Income Solar Energy Program, the Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program, the Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program, and the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Demonstration Program for Program Year 2023-2024.
23-02002	2/3/2023	Filing by Just Energy Solutions Inc. of updated corporate officer listing.
23-02003	2/3/2023	Application of Gold Country Water Company, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 11, to revise Tariff No. 1 to adjust water rates consistent with the most recent gross domestic product deflator.
23-02004	2/6/2023	Application of Hot Pot Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct upgrades to the existing North Valmy Substation and a new 345 kV generation-tie line to connect the Hot Pot Solar facility to the North Valmy Substation to be located in Humboldt County, Nevada.
23-02005	2/6/2023	Filing by IM Telecom, LLC d/b/a Infiniti Mobile to cancel NV Tariff No. 1 and replace it with NV Tariff No. 2.
23-02006	2/7/2023	Application of Connect Everyone LLC to voluntarily relinquish designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the State of Nevada.
23-02007	2/7/2023	Application of Connect Everyone LLC to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 3077.
23-02008	2/9/2023	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream for approval of Amendment No. 2 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
23-02009	2/9/2023	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream for approval of Amendment No. 3 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
23-02010	2/16/2023	Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 535, to revise Tariff No. 1-B to revise Large Customer Market Price Energy Schedule No. LCMPE to set forth when an Energy Supply Agreement must be filed with an Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") or IRP amendment, a requirement for a true-up or adjustment, and a requirement for a short form statement O, pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 22-03025.
23-02011	2/16/2023	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 662-E, to revise Electric Tariff No. 1 to revise Large Customer Market Price Energy Schedule No. LCMPE to set forth when an Energy Supply Agreement must be filed with an Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") or IRP amendment, a requirement for a true-up or adjustment, and a requirement for a short form statement O, pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 22-03025.
23-02012	2/15/2023	Application of Gardnerville Water Company for authority to amend Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 926 Sub 13 to expand its water service territory to include 13.72 acres of single-family residential property and 11.67 acres of right-of-way property owned by Ashland Park, LLC and 130.55 acres of agricultural property owned by Corley Ranches, LLC located in Douglas County, Nevada.
23-02013	2/13/2023	Filing by the Regulatory Operations Staff of calendar year 2022 accounting report for each utility authorized to collect a rate surcharge pursuant to NAC 704.600(6).
23-02014	2/13/2023	Notice by the Regulatory Operations Staff of the 2023 range of reasonable returns on equity for water and sewer utilities.
23-02015	2/14/2023	Application of Gold Country Water Company, Inc. for approval of the sale of its water system assets to Humboldt County, Nevada, and to voluntarily discontinue water service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 956 Sub 5.

Continued on page 4

Dockets: *continued from page 3*

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
23-02016	2/15/2023	Petition of Southwest Gas Corporation for an Advisory Opinion or Declaratory Order that a proposed replacement of approximately 69.5 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline constitutes a "like facility" for the purposes of NRS 704.865(1).
23-02017	2/15/2023	Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 23-01 to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective April 1, 2023.
23-02018	2/15/2023	Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 23-01(E) to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective April 1, 2023.
23-02019	2/15/2023	Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy filed Notice No. 23-01(G) to adjust the Base Tariff Energy Rates and Deferred Energy Account Adjustment Rates effective April 1, 2023.
23-02020	2/16/2023	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Sierra Earth Worx LLC ("Sierra Earth Worx") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Sierra Earth Worx.
23-02021	2/16/2023	Matthew and Melody Chutter vs. Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy. Complaint regarding northern Nevada outage claim denial.
23-02022	3/2/2023	Application of Gigapower, LLC for authority to operate as a competitive supplier of telecommunication service within the State of Nevada.
23-02023	3/1/2023	Application of Pahrump Utility Company, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 19, to revise Water Tariff No. 1A and Sewer Tariff No. 1A to adjust rates consistent with the most recent gross domestic product deflator.
23-02024	2/23/2023	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC for approval of Amendment Nos. 21 and 22 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
23-02025	2/24/2023	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and Utility Telecom Group, LLC d/b/a Utility Telephone for approval of Amendment Nos. 3, 4, and 5 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
23-02026	2/22/2023	Application of Verdi Meadows Utility Company, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 10, to revise Water Tariff No. 1 to adjust water rates consistent with the most recent gross domestic product deflator.
23-02027	2/24/2023	Filing by Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of annual report on the Economic Development Electric Rate Rider Program pursuant to NAC 704.8958.
23-02028	2/24/2023	Filing by Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of annual report on the Economic Development Electric Rate Rider Program pursuant to NAC 704.8958.
23-02030	2/22/2023	Notice by Opentact Inc of its intent to request numbering resources for the Las Vegas and Reno rate centers from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator.
23-02031	2/28/2023	Notice by Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc. of Service Catalog updates to increase Custom Calling Services and Feature Pack rates.
23-02032	2/28/2023	Application of Great Basin Water Co., Pahrump Division, filed under Advice Letter No. 12, to revise Water Tariff No. 1-W to implement the deferred water service adjustment rate mechanism relating to the Order issued in Docket No. 19-12029.
23-02033	2/28/2023	Report of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy on the progress of its Action Plan relative to its 2022-2041 Integrated Resource Plan.

Prior editions of PUCN Connection are available at puc.nv.gov/About/Media_Outreach/PUCN_Connection/.

For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Consumer Outreach Director Dawn Rivard at drivard@puc.nv.gov or Communications Director Peter Kostas at pkostas@puc.nv.gov.