



Facts About PERMITTING REVIEW FEES & CHARGES

In 2018, DC Water performed a **Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Cost of Service Study** to re-sync our fees and charges to cover the cost of providing services. DC Water has not undertaken a comprehensive study of miscellaneous fees since 2011. The permit review fees have not been updated in several years. Over these years the nature of the review as well as the supplemental services provided by staff have increased. In general, when established, the proposed fees are based on the cost of providing these services. The analysis also took into account the level of fees in comparison to other regional peers.

DC Water’s Department of Permit Operations oversees the permitting process that all residential and commercial customers must complete when conducting any work that affects the public water or sewage systems. Proper permitting ensures the development of DC Water’s systems is in accordance with regulatory and operational standards. For complex projects the Permit Operations Departments and the Department of Engineering and Technical Services (DETS) will verify and confirm the capacity of the system to accommodate the project and evaluate the proposed design’s impacts on existing infrastructure. Extensive reviews consume many labor hours to adequately ensure compliance. Since the initiation of these fees in 2011, redevelopment in the District has been prolific and the number of permit applications has risen significantly and the level of inter-agency coordination has expanded. Consequently, the number of personnel required and the cost to accommodate the amount of work has increased.

The proposed permitting review fee structure will better align with the actual services (reviews) requested. There were many situations not addressed by the existing fee set, thus there are many more fees. Many are permutations of the existing fees to address differing site conditions. Most significantly it is proposed that review fees be allocated on a per connection basis rather than a per project basis. Previously if a single project had multiple buildings it was assessed the single fee. Under the proposed fees it would receive review fees commensurate with the number of connections. Also proposed are some miscellaneous fees to recover services not currently billed. The increased number of fees are designed to address all services that the DC Water Permit Operations Department and Engineering and Technical Service Department currently offer.

For full details on the proposed fees, visit www.dcwater.com/fees.

Rulemaking

1. RRC COS Update and Recommendation on Proposed Amendments to Miscellaneous Fees & Charges	October 23, 2018
2. Board Approval of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) for Miscellaneous Fees & Charges	November 1, 2018
3. Publish NOPR in DC Register	November 23, 2018
4. Public Comment period	November 23 – December 24, 2018
5. RRC Final Recommendation to Approve Amendments for Miscellaneous Fees & Charges	January 22, 2019
6. Board Approval of Notice of Final Rulemaking (NOFR)	February 7, 2019
7. Publish NOFR in DC Register	February 22, 2019
8. Miscellaneous Fees & Charges Go-Live	June 3, 2019 (FY 2019)