



Dear **Residential** Water Utility Customer:

The State of California's Water Code requires the City of Chowchilla to begin billing all properties that have a water meter for their water consumption on the basis of the meter reading after January 1, 2011. This change in our billing practice primarily affects residential properties with homes constructed in 1992 or later. Commercial properties already pay for water consumption on the basis of a water meter reading and homes built before 1992 typically do not have a water meter installed.

If you own a home that was built in 1992 or later, the city began obtaining readings from your meter several months ago. A separate statement will be forwarded to you during the months of November and December that will identify your metered water consumption during these past few months. While you are not required to pay for your metered consumption at this time, the report will provide you with the trend in your water consumption. This will allow you to identify how much your water bill would have been if you had been charged the current rate for this measured consumption.

By providing you with this information you will be able to see how your consumption changes from month to month. This is also a good time to see how fixing leaking fixtures and moderating your use of water for landscape irrigation can save you money before you actually begin receiving bills based on your metered consumption.

You may notice that a value has been presented in this month's billing statement that represents the metered water consumption for your property. If you are a residential customer with a water meter and have previously paid for your water usage under a flat-rate charge, you will continue to do so until the first billing cycle after January 1, 2011. You are not being billed for your metered water consumption at this time and your cost for water usage has not been changed.

Please note that this information does not apply to customers who are already paying for their water usage on the basis of a water meter reading.