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PSC Release - 2013 Wisconsin Water Fact Sheet

[Madison, Wis.] – Wisconsin public water utilities sold 153 billion gallons of water to retail customers in 2012, according to the Public Service Commission’s (PSC) recently released 2013 Wisconsin Water Fact Sheet. The PSC compiles the annual Water Fact Sheet using data reported by water utilities for the previous calendar year.

In 2013, the average quarterly cost for 18,750 gallons of water was \$86.59 for residential customers, or \$4.62 per 1,000 gallons. Statewide average water rates rose 2.4 percent over 2012 rates due to rising operating costs and necessary investments in infrastructure.

Total water sales increased by just over 4 percent between 2011 and 2012, due in part to increased outdoor water use during last year’s drought condition. In 2012, the average volume of water sold per residential meter was 55,100 gallons, which is nearly 6 percent less than in 2007, even with the unusually hot and dry conditions last summer.

“Despite last year’s drought, water utilities were able to prevent customer service problems and avoid emergency interconnection projects due to proactive water conservation practices,” said Phil Montgomery, PSC Chairperson. “I am proud of the fact that Wisconsin water utilities continue to provide safe, clean water to consumers at reasonable rates.”

Most Wisconsin communities continue to have access to plentiful and high quality water supplies, including groundwater and the Great Lakes. In 2012, 63 of the state’s 583 utilities relied on surface waters within the Great Lakes basin. By volume, these utilities provided 45 percent of the water pumped by Wisconsin’s public utilities in 2012.

The 2013 Wisconsin Water Fact Sheet is available at:

<http://psc.wi.gov/conservation/documents/WaterFactSheet13.pdf>

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