

June 30, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PSC TO HOLD HEARING ON LAKELAND ESTATES WATER COMPANY RATE HIKE

LINCOLN – A public hearing will be held in Blair by the Nebraska Public Service Commission on a proposed increase in rates by the privately owned Lakeland Estates Water Company.

The hearing will be at 6 p.m. on September 14 in the Blair City Council chambers at 218 South 16. In its filing for an increase in rates, Lakeland proposed an implementation date of July 1. State law provides for the proposed rates to go into effect on that date subject to refund on any amount not approved by the Commission.

More than 25 percent of Lakeland's customers protested by petition to the Public Service Commission, the threshold for the Commission to rule on the increase, Commissioner Lowell Johnson of North Bend announced. Johnson represents Washington County on the five-member Public Service Commission.

Lakeland Estates Water operator Ron Henn proposed to maintain a minimum of six dollars per month, but increase the charge for each 1,000 gallons of water by 50 cents.

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