

Official Public Notice
MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION
CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER, WISCONSIN
Agenda
Wednesday, July 08, 2026, 5:30 PM,
COUNCIL ROOM, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 450 S. MAIN ST., RICHLAND CENTER, WI 53581 & VIRTUALLY
MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AND VIA Teams.

TEAMS: bit.ly/RCUtilityCommission

1. **Roll Call** *Roll Call for the meeting, determine whether a quorum is present; determine whether the meeting has been properly noticed.*
2. **Approval of Minutes** *Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting(s) in lieu of printed copies and approve the same.*
[A.](#) May and June Meeting minutes
3. **Treasurer's Report/Investment of Utility Funds**
A. Treasurer's Report
4. **Monthly Bills**
A. Water
B. Sewer
C. Electric
5. **Safety**
6. **Discussion on the WPPI Contract Extension**
[A.](#) Contract Extension Information
7. **Water Superintendent Report**
[A.](#) Water Superintendent Notes
8. **WWTP Superintendent Report**
9. **Electric Superintendent/Utility Manager Report**
10. **Correspondence**
11. **Public Comments** *Members of the public are welcome to express their opinion on item(s) not appearing on this agenda.*
12. Commissioners or audience request, etc.
13. Adjourn

Posted this 2nd day of July on or before 4:00 P.M.
Copy to the Richland Observer (official newspaper)

Please Note: That upon reasonable notice, a minimum of 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service contact Ashley Oliphant, Mayor at 450 S Main St., Richland Center, WI 53581 or call 608-647-6428. City Utilities of Richland Center is an equal opportunity employer/provider.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER

MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 5:30p.m.,

Council Room, Municipal Building, 450 S Main St, Richland Center WI 53581

This Meeting was held in person and via Teams

Members present: Sawle, Jones, Coppernoll, Wallace, Collins, and Hoffman

Members absent: Walters

Others present: Gald, Krueger, Fischer, and Edwards

President Sawle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

Motion by Collins, second by Jones to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was received and filed.

Motion by Wallace, second by Sawle to approve the Electric Bills for May totaling \$704,219.23. Also acknowledges the balance for April, thus totaling \$908,573.97. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Jones, second by Coppernoll to approve the Water Bills for May totaling \$55,893.45. Also acknowledges the balance for April, thus totaling 126,486.01. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Sawle, second by Wallace to approve the Sewer Bills for May totaling \$118,339.17. Also acknowledges the balance for April, thus totaling \$970,942.12. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

For safety Gald mentions the updating of cones. Eller our safety rep from MEUW reported that he is working on updating the HAS COM chemical inventory. He also did an on-site electric inspection on Haseltine as the guys were changing out a pole. He will also be doing ladder inspections throughout the utility and city. He also working with DPW to schedule a confined space awareness for the group.

Water Superintendent Krueger reported that the water crew is continuing with the AMI meter changes. We are up to 1075. That is the halfway point. The hydrant by Simpson has passed its pressure test. They will be doing water main flushing for the next 2 weeks. All daytime flushing. Steve and Scott met with the DNR rep month ago on cyber security. The annual PSC report is filed. Early June Steve will have 20 Lead and Copper samples to take. The Valley View Drive project was awarded to GPro, with a mid-to-late June for start date. There was a meeting with the developers for Stori Field, and they are looking to start this month.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer reported that after the new vac truck arrived, they had a company do a demo of different nozzles. They jetted the lateral by Dr. Moen's office and blew out the drain at the booster station. They ordered a camera to go on the hose on the jet machine. It Bluetooth to phone or

iPad once removed from the line it dumps the footage immediately. Last night they got called out at 3:45 p.m. to Schmitt Woodland Hills. That is a private line. One of the manholes there was full. That brought sewage back up into the part where the daycare is. They removed a gob of wipes. We have been stressing to not flush wipes even though they say flushable on the package, they are not treatable. We will be sending them a bill for our time. Last Friday evening just after work hours, a manure spreading truck rolled over. It was along the creek line and had a diesel fuel leak. Even and Jim took our new unit to vac diesel out of the creek. Wastewater has been working with the city to get the pumps installed for the pool.

Utility Manager/Electric Superintendent Gald reported that for the pumps from the pool they will be doing a bump test to make sure they are not seizing up. Rowen finished his 3rd year. One year left to become a journey lineman. We have been changing poles out on Haseltine with the help of the new vac truck. Still working on AMI meter changes. Now with the new meters, when it loses power, a text is sent to the lineman. Scott wanted to remind everyone about the Resource Fair on May 20th. Staff has been training, Scott and Angie went to Boscobel for Utility Financing and Rate of Return. Grant, JJ and Terry went to WPPI for meter training. The winter moratorium came off on April 15th. It was busy in the office with disconnections. The audit was completed 2 weeks ago. Once we get the audit report Scott will share it with the commission. Rate of return for electric is 1.63% and water is 4.5%. Our youth apprentice Maggey Edwards has started in the office. She is doing a great job. We are going to be looking for a candidate for out in the field. Scott was elected to the executive committee for WPPI.

For correspondence, we received an invitation from Richland Center FFA to attend their banquet on May 13th.

There were no public comments.

Steve wanted to welcome Frank Hoffman to the commission. He would be more than happy to give him a tour or answer any questions he may have.

Collins just want to praise the staff for their good work. Coppernoll just wanted to make everyone aware that Tomah permanently closed their aquatic center. Due to upkeep and loss of revenue. He expresses the budget season will be terrible due to sign of the times. He also added that our governor has stated that we need to ramp up the use of nuclear power in the state. Sawle just wanted to inform the commission that he will not be at the next meeting. Jones wants to welcome Frank and congratulated Scott on his appointment. He also wanted to know how many meters are delinquent. We informed him that we disconnected 28 and the past due amount is a lot lower. Hoffman just noted that there was a lot to learn and it will take a little bit.

Motion by Collins, second by Coppernoll to adjourn. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried without dissent at 6:12p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Angie Edwards

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER
MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 5:30p.m.,

Council Room, Municipal Building, 450 S Main St, Richland Center WI 53581

This Meeting was held in person and via Teams

Members present: Sawle, Jones, Coppernoll, Wallace, Collins, Walters, and Hoffman

Members absent: none

Others present: Krueger, Edwards, Gald, Fischer, and former Commissioner Heiar.

President Sawle called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

The minutes of the May meeting were not included in the packet. So, they will be approved at the July meeting.

The Treasurer's report was received and filed.

Motion by Jones, second by Wallace to approve the Electric Bills for June totaling \$821,228.37. Also acknowledges the balance for May, thus totaling \$866,267.03. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Wallace, second by Sawle to approve the Water Bills for June totaling \$71,136.17. Also acknowledges the balance for May, thus totaling \$ 116,542.35. All voting aye upon roll call motion carried.

Motion by Walters, second by Jones to approve the Sewer Bills for June totaling \$160,575.44. Also acknowledges the balance for May, thus totaling \$216,159.18. All voting aye upon roll call, motion carried.

Scott Gald reported that the Electric Utility received The Work It Safe Award. The award was 25 years of the 27 we received a safety award; we were one of 3. Also, Steve Eller worked through some safety guidelines for the seasonal field staff.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer explained the CMAR. The BOD was a grade of B and Phosphorus was also a grade of B because when Schreiber was on our system. The resolution is just to verify that it went before the commission. Motion by Collins, second Coppernoll to approve the Resolution #2026-2 for the results of the WWTP 2025 CMAR. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

Fischer explained to the commission that last October they found a hole in the line and they punctured a hole in the bottom of the lift station. The pump was running but it was spraying back into the wet well instead of sending it down the line. There was a temporary repair made to get through the winter. At the time Todd thought the only repair would be to replace the piping. So that was already approved in his budget for \$14,900.00. The original lift station was installed in 1976. In 1991 it was upgraded. The steel in lift station is rotten. The whole lift station needs to be re-outfitted. It would be upgraded to the lift station by the campus. The total estimate for the project is 147,346.00. The timing is approximately 16 to 20 weeks. If this is not done by November 1st of this year it will be spring next year. This contracted with SJE. Motion by Wallace, second by Jones to upgrade the lift station located at Richland Square. All voting aye upon roll call , motion carried.

Utility Manager Gald present the financial statements from the 2025 Audit. There is no action needed Scott just wanted the commission to review the statements.

Scott thanked everyone that attended the regional dinner the other night at the White House. Mike Peters did a nice job of explaining why we are looking at extending our contract with WPPI. Basically, they are looking to extending it another 18 years in order to secure loans for new resources. WPPI is more then willing to come out and answer questions and have the commission and city council go to WPPI. The last time that we were in the situation we were not using as many resources as WPPI offers. Now we use as much as we can. WPPI would like to have the contract signed by Feb 26, 2027. The contracts will be out in July. There was a lot of discussion about the pros and cons of renewing the contract until 2073. The commission decided they would like to have someone from WPPI at the August meeting with a joint meeting with City Council. Also it was highly recommended to have the commissioners and council go to WPPI.

Water Superintendent Krueger reported

Contract Extension

Information for WPPI Energy Member Governing Bodies

Your locally owned, not-for-profit electric utility delivers significant local value. To help preserve and enhance that value for the long term, member-owned, not-for-profit WPPI Energy stands behind your community with competitive wholesale power, forward-thinking services and effective advocacy.

Long-Term Utility Success

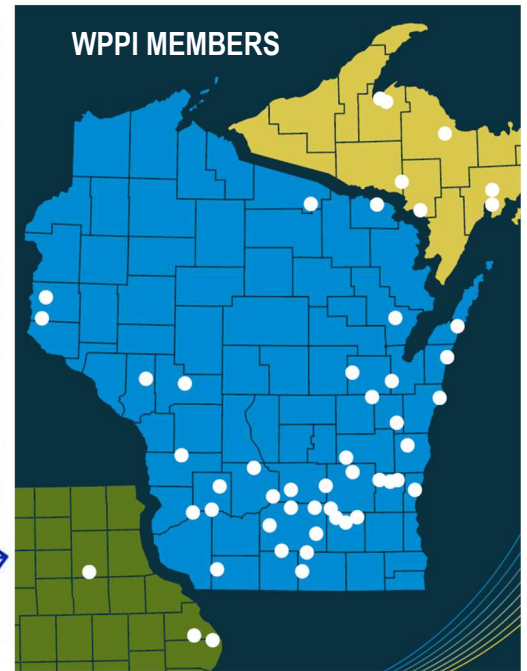
Your WPPI wholesale power agreement is key to how your utility delivers reliable electric service, competitive costs and local control.



YOUR UTILITY

-  Safe, reliable power
-  Competitive rates
-  Local decision-making

Members work together to help their communities thrive.





A Legacy of Long-Term Planning

Over decades, members have made long-term commitments, extending their contracts as needs evolved. Their decisions built the diverse resources that power your community today.







1989

35-year agreements to 2024

-  First owned plant • Coal • 114 MW
-  First owned gas plants • 154 MW


2002

13-year extension to 2037

-  Owned gas plant • 52 MW
-  Wind contracts • 162 MW
-  Owned coal plant • 106 MW
-  Contract • Nuclear • 117 MW
-  Contract • Gas plant • 90 MW
-  Owned • High-voltage transmission project

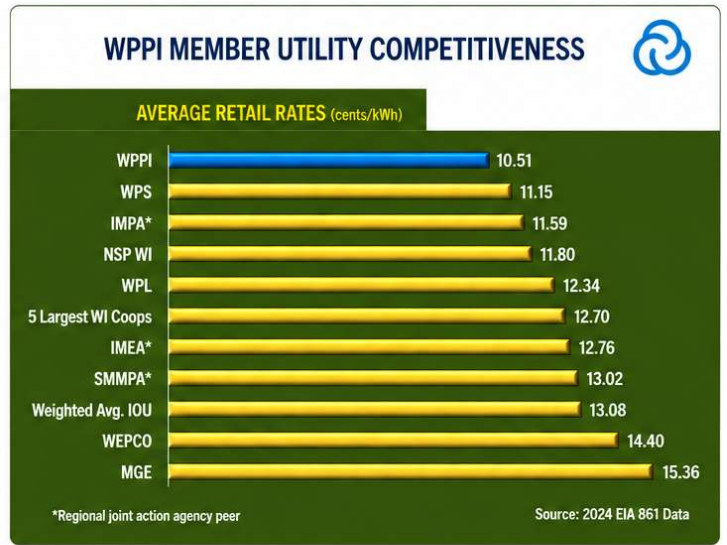
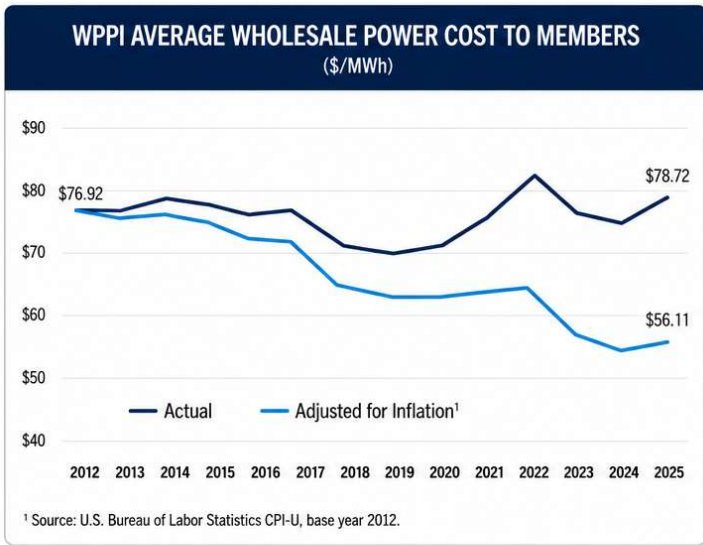
2015

18-year extension to 2055

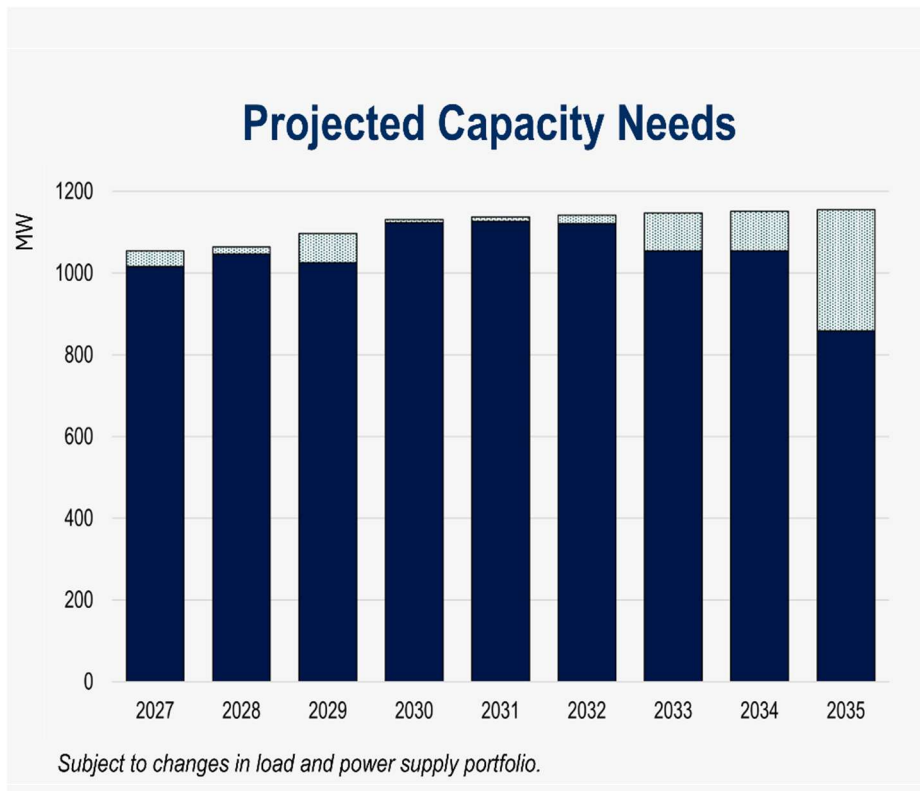
-  Owned • High-voltage transmission project
-  Wind contract • 132 MW
-  Contract • Solar • 100 MW

Long-Term Decisions. Strong Results.

WPPI is the low-cost leader for powering local communities. Member utilities provide highly competitive electric rates.



Today's success reflects **46 years** of local leadership decisions.



Meeting Future Needs

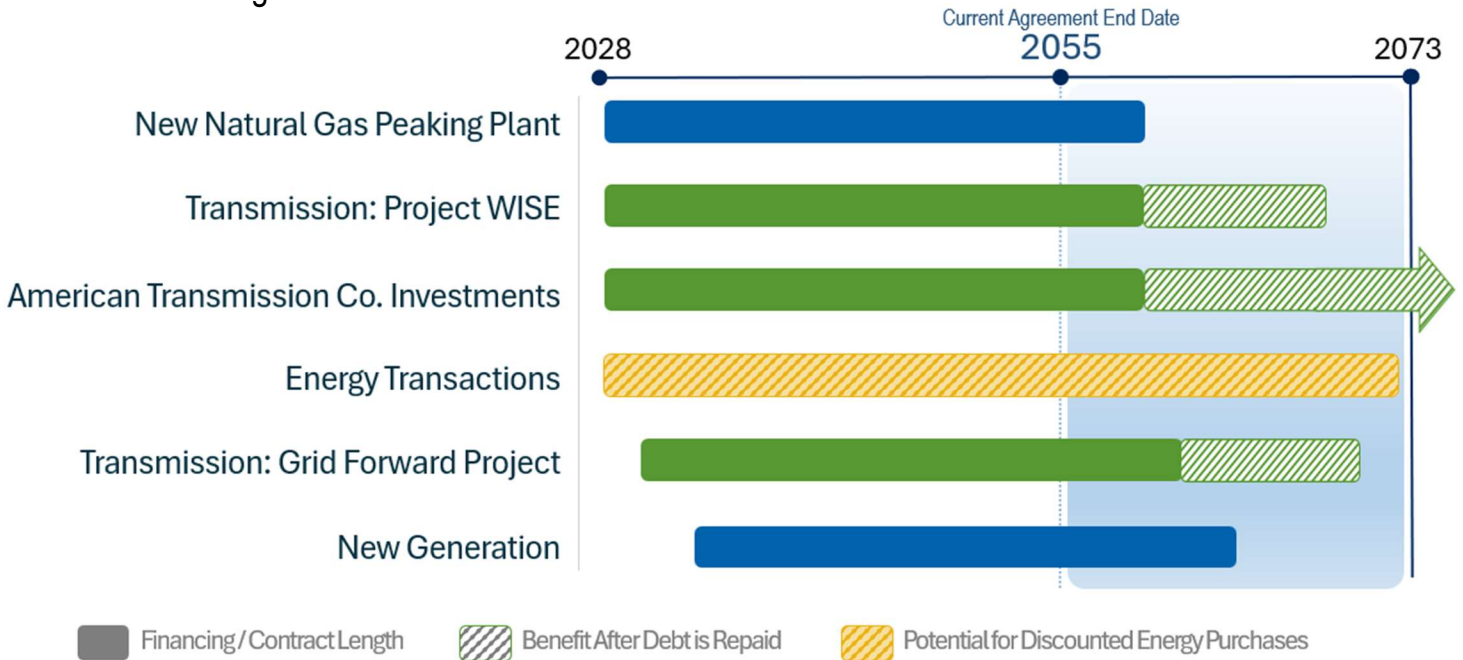
Future needs are already visible. Some are reflected in the lighter portions of this capacity needs chart.

The same long-term planning approach that positioned your utility for success in the past continues to identify and plan for the needs ahead.

Extending the agreement helps preserve continued access to cost-effective long-term wholesale power for your community.

Why Extend Now?

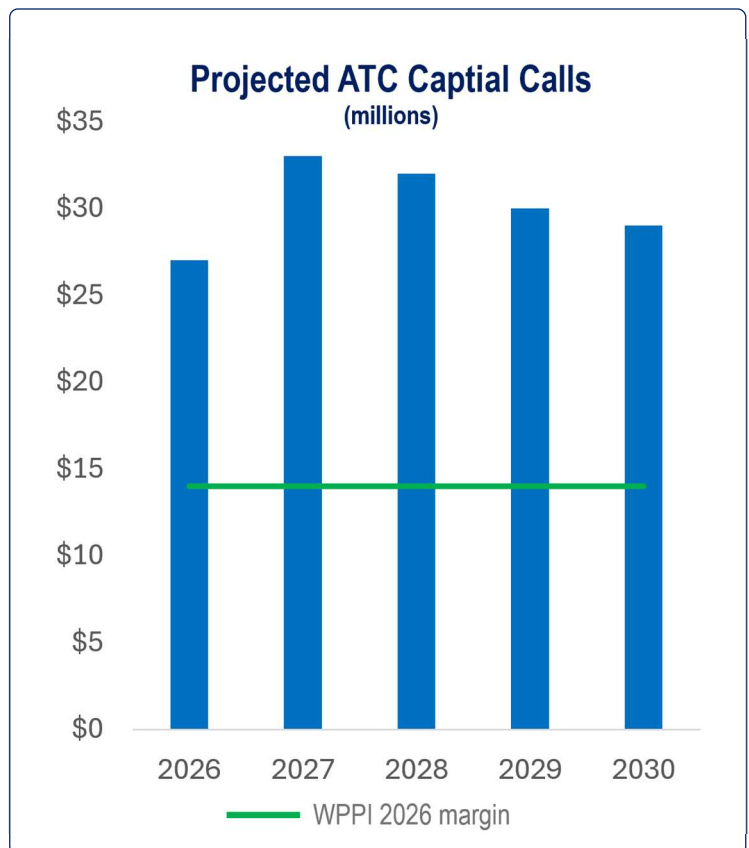
WPPI is actively pursuing opportunities to continue serving your community's needs. These and other beneficial solutions are not possible without a member agreement end date that is sufficient to back the needed financing and contracts.



Transmission Investment

WPPI's ownership interest in American Transmission Co. (ATC) provides returns that help lower wholesale power costs for your community. As the regional grid build-out unfolds, future ATC investments will require financing beyond what WPPI's margin alone can support.

The extension will help preserve WPPI's ability to finance future ATC investments and continue receiving returns that help your community's wholesale power costs.



Key Facts for Local Officials

A Record of Success

- WPPI is the low-cost leader for powering local communities.
- Overall WPPI member rates are very competitive compared to utilities in the region.
- Together WPPI members have achieved a diverse, low-cost power supply.

Your Community and WPPI

- Your WPPI wholesale power agreement is key to how your utility provides electric service at competitive costs.
- The need for additional, cost-effective resources to power WPPI member communities is visible now.
- WPPI is actively pursuing electric generating resource options, transmission system investments and financial transactions for this purpose.

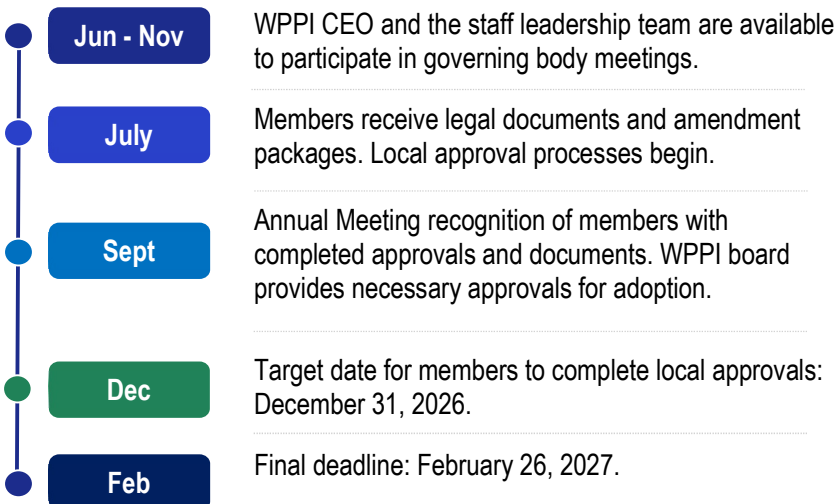
Why Extend Now?

- The current 2055 end date of the WPPI member agreement falls short of the typical 30 years needed for securing the most cost-effective long-term solutions to meet your community's energy needs.
- The request is for an 18-year extension of the current 2055 end date.
- An 18-year extension is not new for WPPI members. Your previous extension was also 18 years.

What if a Member Does Not Extend?

The existing agreement continues through 2055. The member would have no rights to WPPI's power supply or services beyond that term.

Contract Extension Timeline



Member Support

WPPI staff is available to assist members throughout the contract extension process.

Questions?

Reach your utility's Energy Services Manager for support, or contact:

Lauri Morehart | 608-834-4571
lmorehart@wppienergy.org



June 12, 2026

STEPHEN KRUEGER
RICHLAND CENTER WATERWORKS 15300681
450 SOUTH MAIN
PO BOX 312
RICHLAND CENTER, WI 535810312

SUBJECT: Nitrification Investigation at Municipal Community Water Systems

Dear Water System Owner/Sampler:

Ammonia is an inorganic chemical compound that can be present in source water throughout Wisconsin. The presence of ammonia in source water can cause nitrification events within a municipal community water system's distribution system. Nitrification is a chemical process that can result when naturally occurring microorganisms consume and convert ammonia into nitrite and nitrate. As incidents like the one that occurred in the Village of Williams Bay in August of 2025 have shown, nitrification events can result in elevated nitrite and nitrate levels within a distribution system that pose serious public health risks to consumers.

Aside from nitrification events, elevated ammonia in a municipal community water system's source water can also impede a system's disinfection operations and contribute to corrosion control issues. This can lead to harmful bacteria occurring at the tap as well as elevated lead and copper levels.

Ammonia can occur in source water for a variety of reasons, including agricultural fertilizer runoff, municipal sewage discharge, or natural organic decomposition. Ammonia can occur naturally in both surface and groundwater and may also be present in the environment due to anthropogenic activities. Issues with a system's infrastructure, such as deteriorating wells or wells that are not properly constructed, may also contribute to higher levels of ammonia in source water. Testing for ammonia is therefore the only way to know for sure whether ammonia is present in a system's source water, and at what concentrations.

As a result of the identified environmental and human health concerns for ammonia in source water, the Department of Natural Resources (department) is taking steps to investigate nitrification in municipal community water systems statewide. The department has identified your system, RICHLAND CENTER WATERWORKS, as a participant in the initiative to test your system's source water during the 4th quarter (October to December) of 2026.

The department is requiring your municipal community water system to test for ammonia in source water during the 4th Quarter of 2026 pursuant to s. NR 809.73, Wis. Adm. Code. This provision allows the department to order chemical testing for constituents in water that are not otherwise regulated under ch. NR 809, Wis. Adm. Code, *Safe Drinking Water*, if the department determines it is required to protect public health, safety, or welfare. The department provided public notice of this order by publication in the Wisconsin State Journal on June 16, 2026.

Drinking water systems must utilize a laboratory certified or registered by EPA or under ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code, for analysis of ammonia (as N) in the aqueous matrix. The department will only accept use of the methods listed in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, 40 CFR Part 136, or those methods that have an alternate test procedure approval from the EPA. Vendor methods without an alternate test procedure approval letter will not be acceptable. Methods must be able to achieve a Limit of Quantitation (LOQ) for ammonia of 0.2 mg/L or less. The department

will coordinate with you on or about September 16, 2026, to establish your system's specific ammonia source water testing schedule and to provide the lab slips for this initiative. The department strongly encourages you to communicate with your preferred certified laboratory to ensure that the laboratory will be able to meet these requirements.

The department will review all ammonia testing results in early 2027 and expects to follow up with any system where a source has ammonia concentrations of 0.2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) or greater. The department plans on providing these systems with information on ways to minimize risks associated with ammonia in their source water. The department may also require systems with high ammonia concentrations to conduct additional monitoring for nitrite and nitrate within their distribution system during the summer of 2027 when nitrification is more likely to occur and the public health risk is greatest.

If you believe you have the right to challenge the department's decision to proceed with this initiative, Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review department decisions must be filed. To request a contested case hearing pursuant to s. NR 809.73(1), Wis. Adm. Code, and s. 227.42, Wis. Stats., you must serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources within 30 days after the date of this letter. The request for hearing must be in writing and follow the format provided in s. NR 2.05(2), Wis. Adm. Code.

Thank you for your continued efforts to provide safe drinking water to your customers and for your efforts to ensure the source water quality for your municipal system. Please contact LAUREN BELZ if you have questions regarding this source water ammonia testing.

Sincerely,



Kyle Burton
Field Operations Director – Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (920)-360-2112
Kyle.Burton@Wisconsin.Gov

Water updates for Utility Commission 7-8-2026

Greetings from Hong Kong, please find attached report on water department activities from the last meeting thru my departure. I will be back at work on Monday July 13th.

Major bill items include the budgeted mini-split air conditioner units for Wells 6 and 7 that were ordered in late 2025 but installed in the first part of June. Also included are the bills for the replacement mixer at the Southeast Reservoir, and the 5-year ROV inspection of the same.

- 1) Up to 1140 AMI meter changes. Down to 1 day per week dedicated plus fill in time for summer. Will ramp back up this fall.
- 2) Devin has done some painting of the floor at Well 7.
- 3) Lead and copper results were received back from the lab June 23rd. We have passed this round and next sampling should be in 3 years. This will be a challenge to again find new sites as all Utility side lead will hopefully be gone by then. Will have to move to customer galvanized that formally had lead or customer copper with lead solder in their houses. Customers have been notified of results and reporting to DNR completed.
- 4) Will be starting Utility side lead replacements upon return from vacation.
- 5) Annual Consumer Confidence Report has been certified with DNR.
- 6) Have more to watch on the Hwy 14 project now that work is in the East bound lanes and the water main is on that side of the road with multiple valve boxes on the South edge of the shoulder.
- 7) G-Pro estimating early to mid-July as a start date for the Valley View Drive project. Preconstruction meeting for staff scheduled for July 15th and public meeting for residents in the project zone on site for the following

week July 22nd. If weather allows we will be holding this meeting in the neighborhood so we can look at specific property questions at the house instead of on paper.

- 8) Continue to research direction for the woodpecker damaged antenna pole at the East Reservoir. Potential of a light-weight tower, fiberglass pole or moving to fiber cable. Scott and I had a call with Genuine-Telecom about fiber. I have also reached out to LW Allen about what changes need to be made in control cabinets for a move away from radio to fiber. Last SCADA upgrade system wide was in 2009 with the Well 8 project, 20 year component life. In conversation with LW Allen our alarm dialer is also on borrowed time as copper phone lines disappear, and fiberglass antennas are recommended to be replaced at 10 years along with the antenna cables due to uv light damage. Ours are from 2009, another reason to convert to fiber if possible.**
- 9) The May 11th cybersecurity meeting attended by Scott and myself has led to a 2 hour evaluation conducted by EPA rescheduled from July to August 18th with a report for the Utilities benefit.**
- 10) Staff has been working on the 2026 valve exercising list with good progress being made, about ½ way through this years list.**
- 11) I have developed a list of 30 questions/scenarios for staff development for our discussion and training to challenge them about what if's and I am gone. Have had good discussion on the few we have talked about so far. Keeping a log of this training and a recommended additional review of the topics based on feedback of staff and if we have delt with the particular issue in real time.**
- 12) Early discussions with City staff on 2027 street project ideas.**

- 13) **WI Dot form has been filled out acknowledging receipt of plans for Hwy 80 North project in 2028 starting in the city. Conflicts due back to DOT in mid- August.**

- 14) **A letter dated June 12, 2026 from WI DNR is requiring new testing for us based off of an event in Williams Bay that occurred late last summer. They have launched a Statewide Nitrification Investigation Initiative, conducting ammonia source water testing at municipal drinking water systems. The project aims to understand ammonia occurrence, identify high-risk systems, and help facilities optimize chlorine management and treatment to prevent distribution system issues. We will have to be testing for Ammonia this fall along with most all water systems in the state. Too much ammonia can lead to increased nitrate levels. Letter states more information to follow late this summer on the testing.**

- 15) **Water service lateral installation is completed in Stori Field by the developer's contractor.**