

How are my rates changing?



**Northeast Ohio
Regional Sewer District**

Understanding our 2012-2016 rates
and new affordability programs

**Keeping
our
Great
Lake
great.**

Topics + Discussion

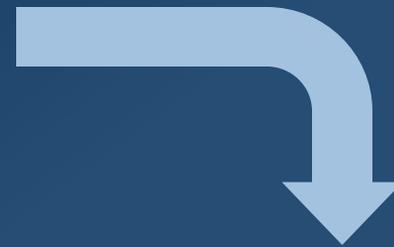
- About us: Just the basics
- Rates and rate structure: Changes
- Why are rates changing?
- 2012 rates
- Affordability programs
- Examples of typical bills
- What's next?



Just the basics:

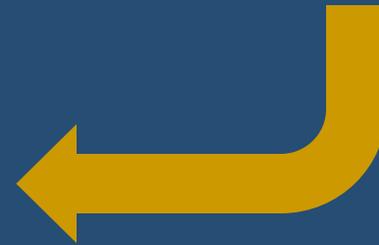
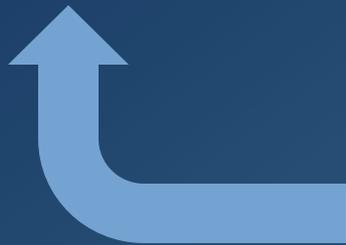


**Northeast Ohio
Regional Sewer District**



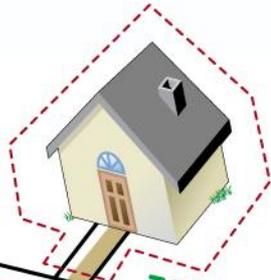
Lake Erie

Your home



HOMEOWNER RESPONSIBILITY

- Inside the home
- From the home to the street



COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY

Lateral sewers connecting property to "interceptors" (trunk sewers)



to Lake Erie

"Interceptors" and NEORSD collection and treatment facilities

NEORSD RESPONSIBILITY



*Actual ownership may vary

Just the basics:



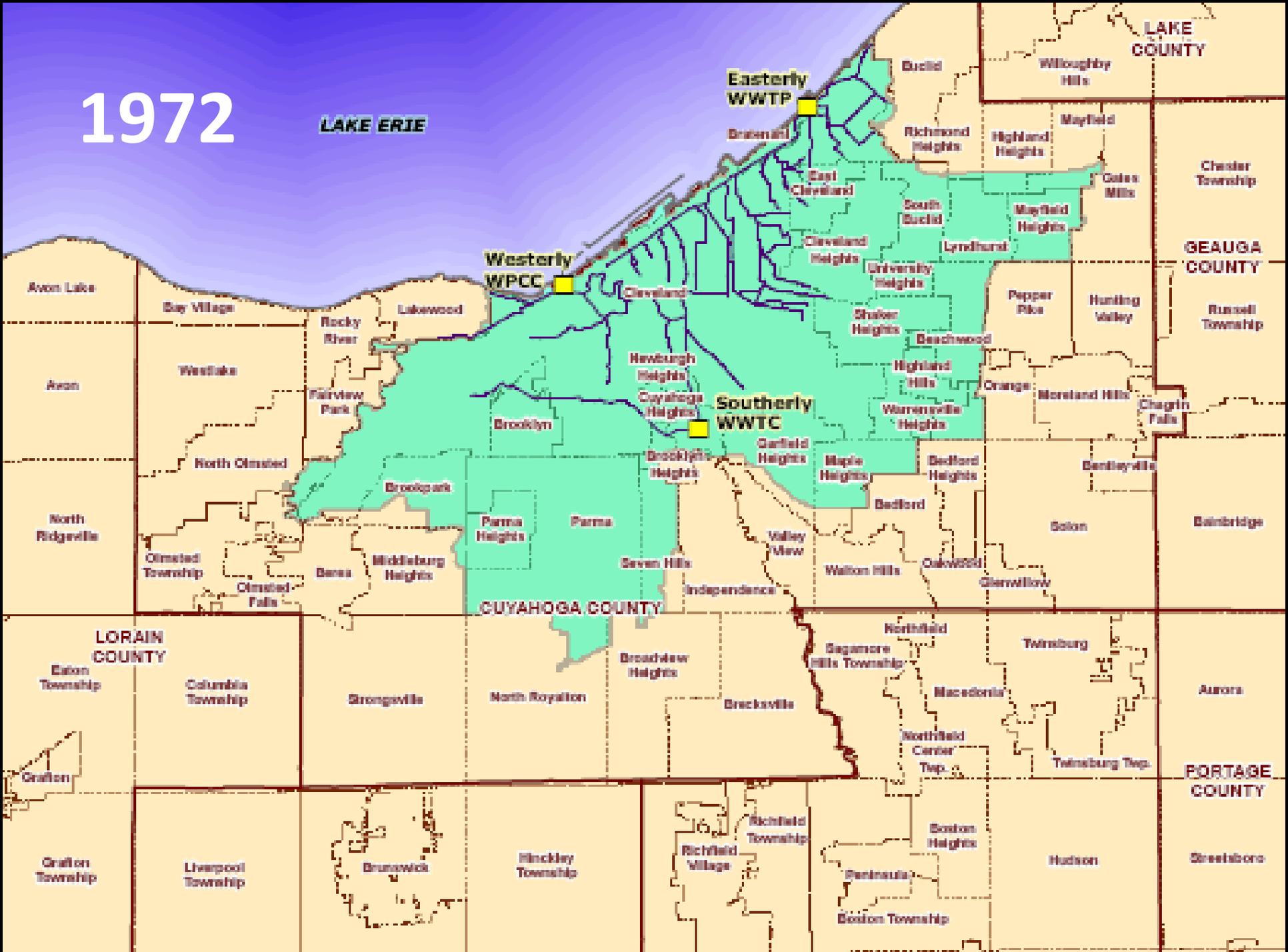
**Northeast Ohio
Regional Sewer District**

- 3 treatment plants
- Lab and maintenance facility
- 300 miles of sewer



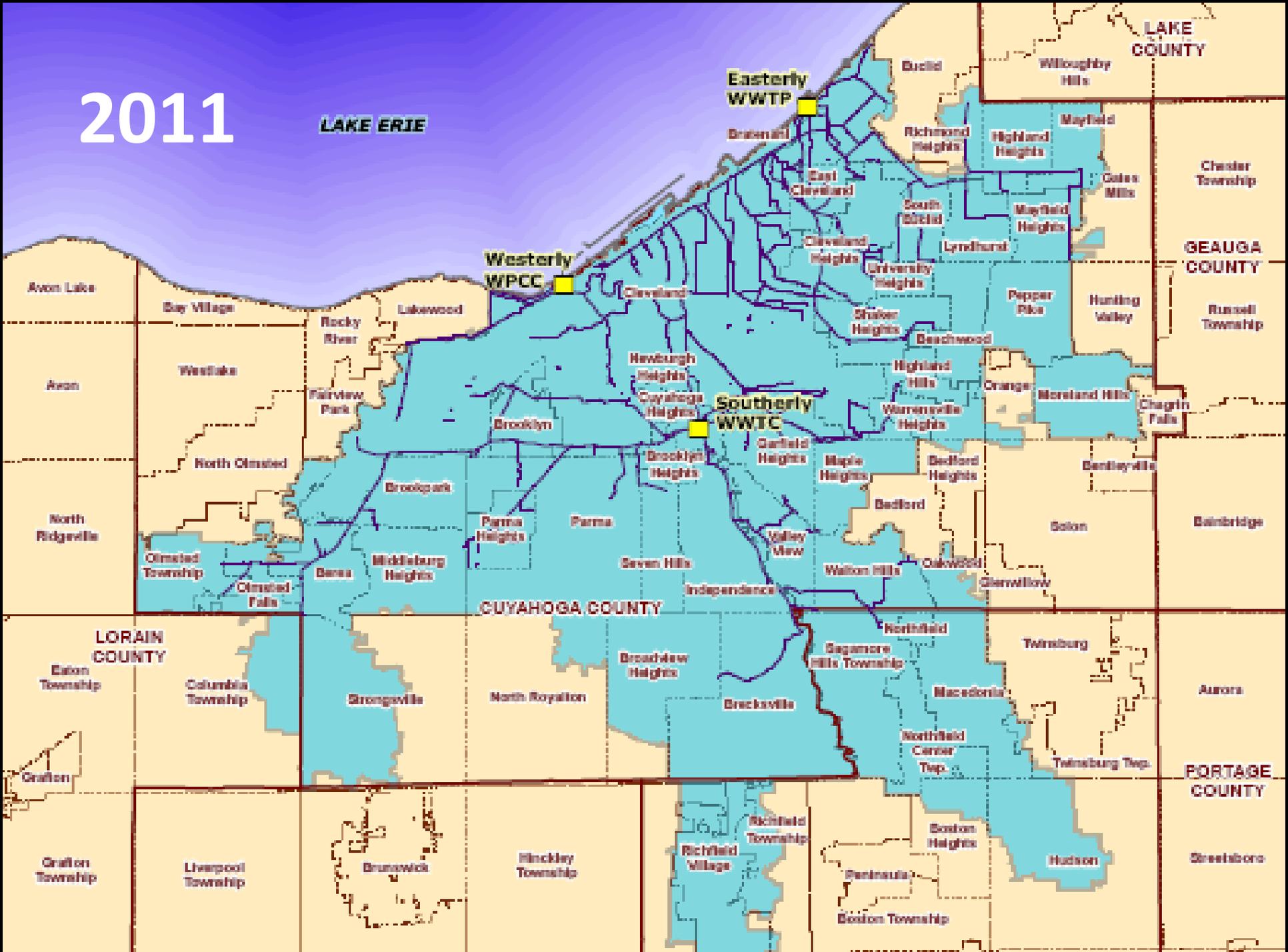
1972

LAKE ERIE

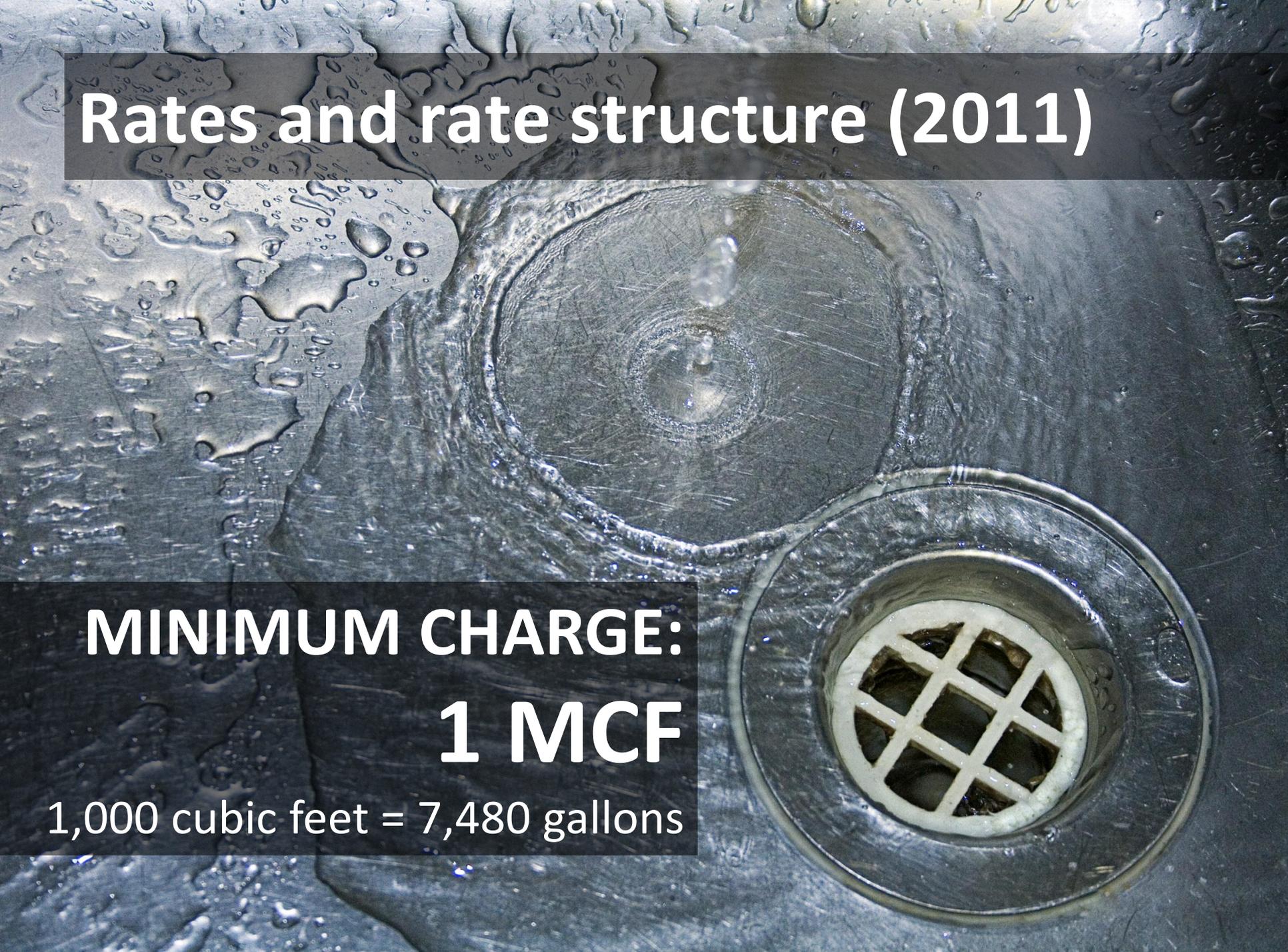


2011

LAKE ERIE



Rates and rate structure (2011)



MINIMUM CHARGE:
1 MCF

1,000 cubic feet = 7,480 gallons

2011 RATES

	Cleveland		Suburbs	
	Regular	Homestead	Regular	Homestead
2011	\$44.75	\$30.05	\$48.00	\$32.25

Per MCF | One MCF minimum | Local charges not included



Why are rates going up?

- Repairs and maintenance



Why are rates going up?

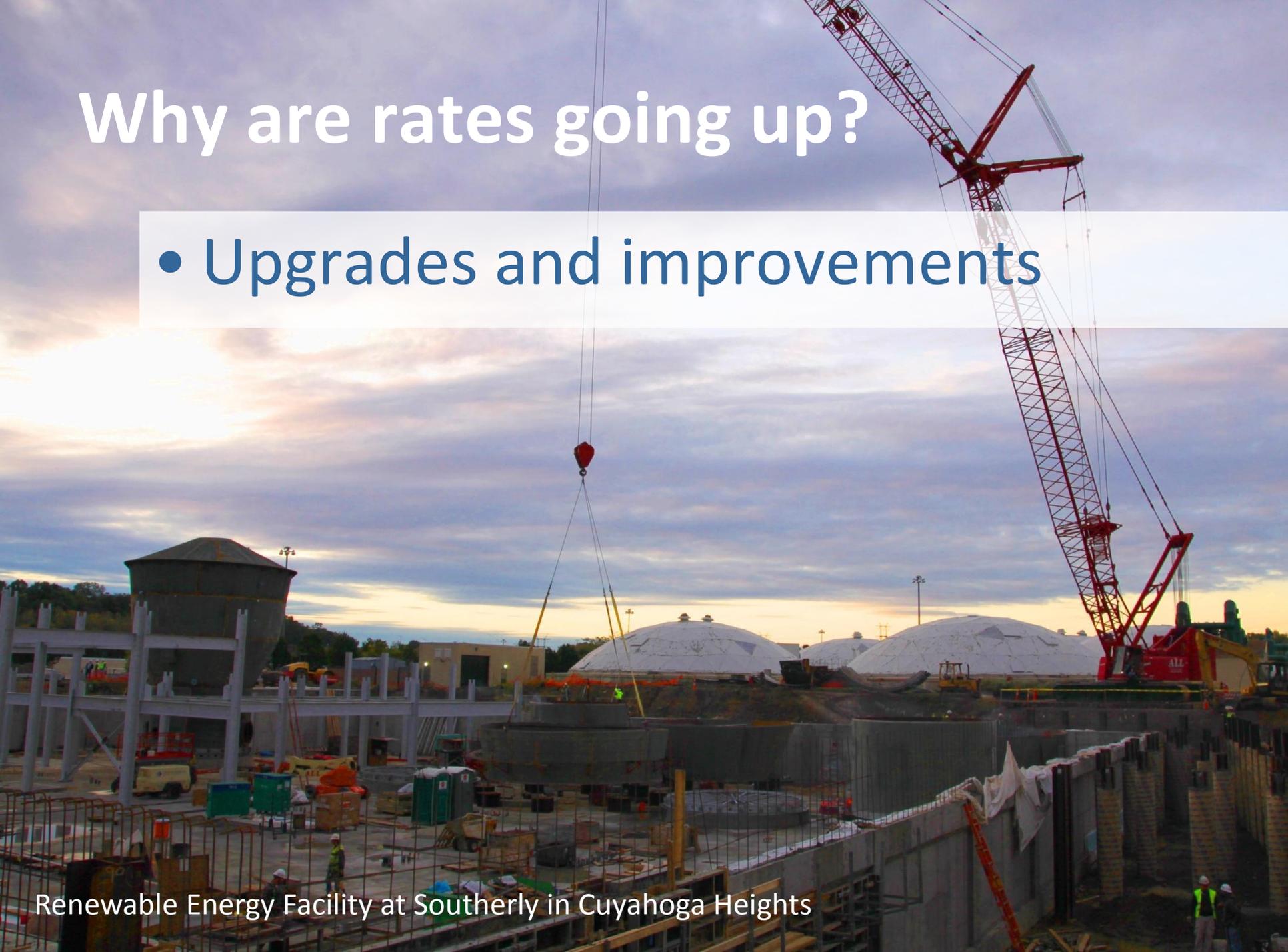
- Reducing raw sewage discharges to the environment



Why are rates going up?

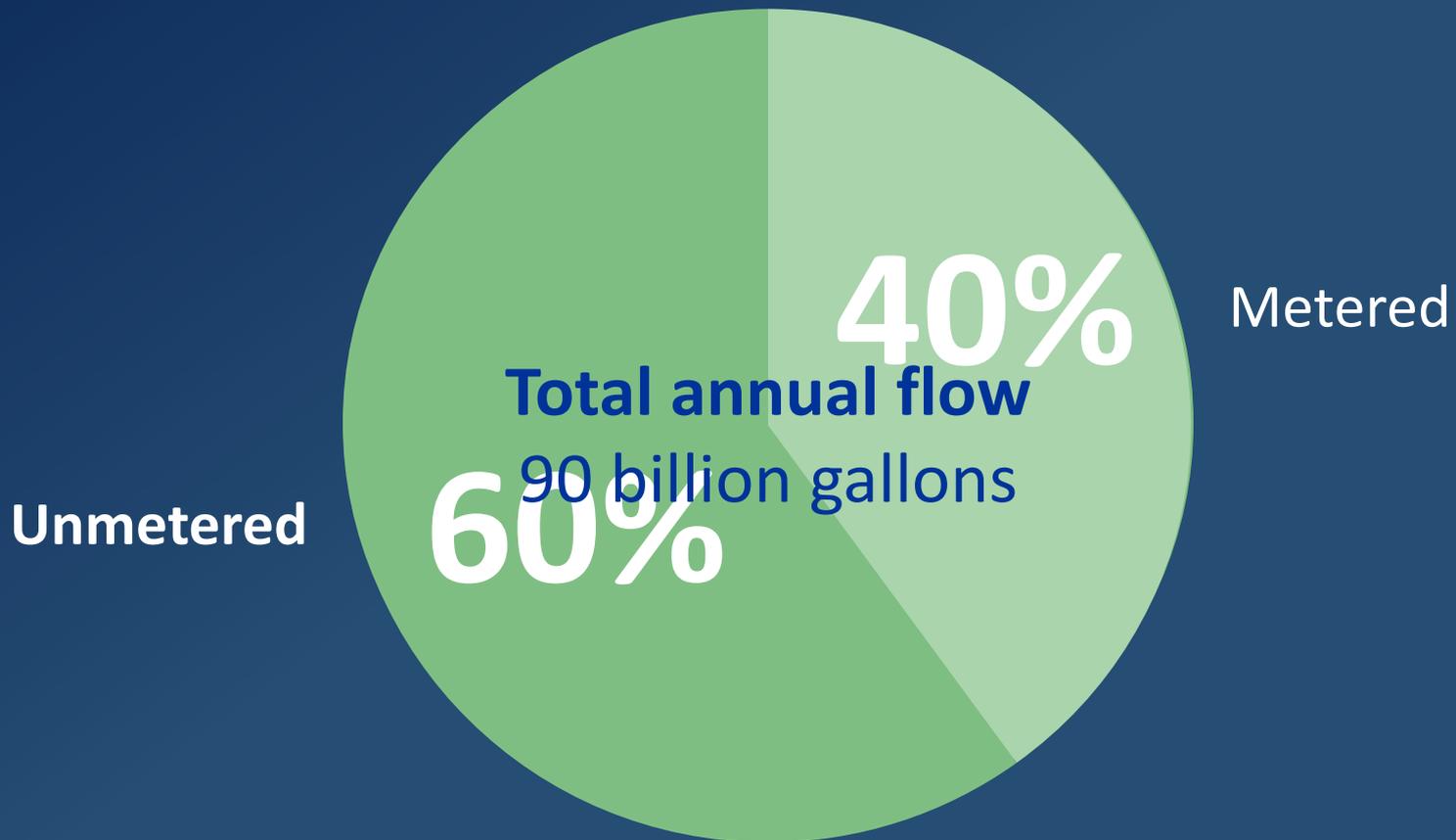
- Upgrades and improvements

Renewable Energy Facility at Southerly in Cuyahoga Heights



Why is the rate *structure* changing?

- We treat more than we bill



Why is the rate *structure* changing?

- We treat more than we bill
- Addressing customers' #1 complaint: Minimum charge
- Ongoing and unpredictable costs



2012 rates: Know the changes

2011

- Minimum charge:
1 MCF (\$48)
- 2 rate-saving programs:
 - Summer Sprinkling
 - Homestead

2012

- No minimum consumption charge
- Base charge: \$5.85 per quarter
- Saving programs, *plus* new affordability program



2012 RATES

	Cleveland		Suburbs	
	Regular	Homestead/ Affordability	Regular	Homestead/ Affordability
2012*	\$49.55	\$29.75	\$52.55	\$31.75
+ Base charge per quarter	\$5.85	\$5.85	\$5.85	\$5.85

Per MCF | **No minimum consumption charge** | Local charges not included

*Complete 2012-2016 schedule available at neorsd.org/rates



Chances to save: New affordability programs

RATE REDUCTION

- Current Homestead Program
 - *Increase rate reduction from 33% to 40%*
 - No need to reapply
 - Apply for NEORSD *or* Cleveland Water and qualify for both



Chances to save: New affordability programs

RATE REDUCTION

- Wastewater Affordability Program (proposed)
 - *Rate reduction of 40%* for those with income level at/below 175% poverty level
 - eg. Family of four < \$35,000
 - Apply for NEORSD *or* Cleveland Water and qualify for both



Chances to save: New affordability programs

BILL ASSISTANCE

- Crisis Voucher Program
 - Eligibility criteria
 - Medical expenses, job loss, divorce, etc.
 - 12-month payment plan
 - Suspend water shut-off actions
 - District responsible for first 6 months of sewer charges, up to \$300
 - Recommending funding level of \$500,000 per year for five years



Chances to save: New affordability programs

BILL ASSISTANCE

RATE REDUCTION

Plus our *current programs*

–Summer Sprinkling

–Applications available!



Average Quarterly Bill for Typical User – 1.875 mcf

CLEVELAND

SUBURBS

2011

\$83

\$90

2012

\$98

\$104



Average Quarterly Bill for Typical User – 1.875 mcf **AFFORDABILITY**

	CLEVELAND	SUBURBS
2011	\$56	\$60
2012	\$61	\$65



Average Quarterly Bill for Typical User – 1.875 mcf

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Suburbs	\$90	\$104	\$114	\$126	\$141	\$156
Suburbs Affordability	\$60	\$65	\$71	\$78	\$87	\$96



Average Quarterly Bill for Small User – 0.63 mcf

	CLEVELAND	SUBURBS
2011	\$44	\$48
2012	\$37	\$38



Average Quarterly Bill

for Small User – 0.63 mcf AFFORDABILITY

	CLEVELAND	SUBURBS
2011	\$30	\$32
2012	\$24	\$25

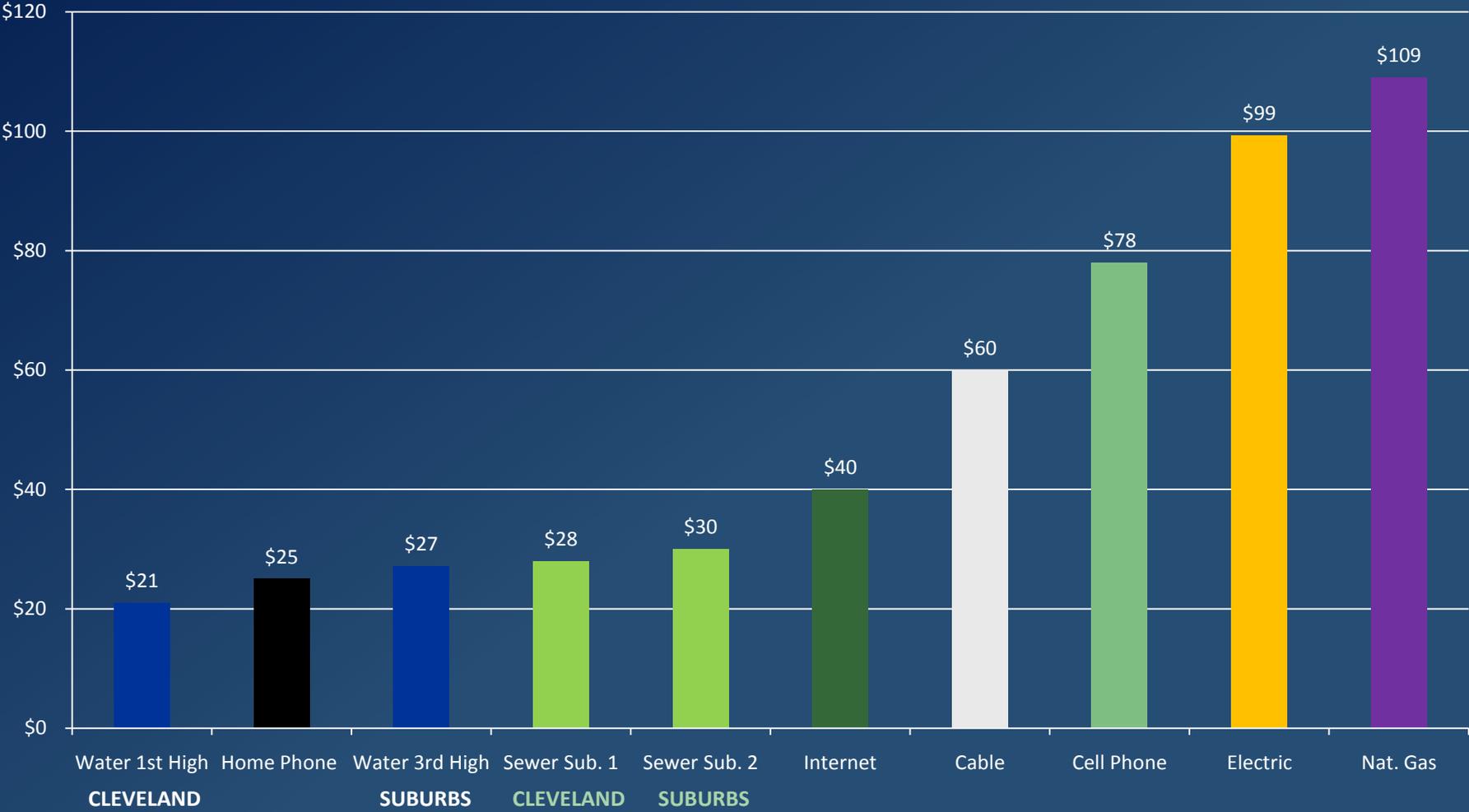


Average Quarterly Bill for Small User – 0.63 mcf

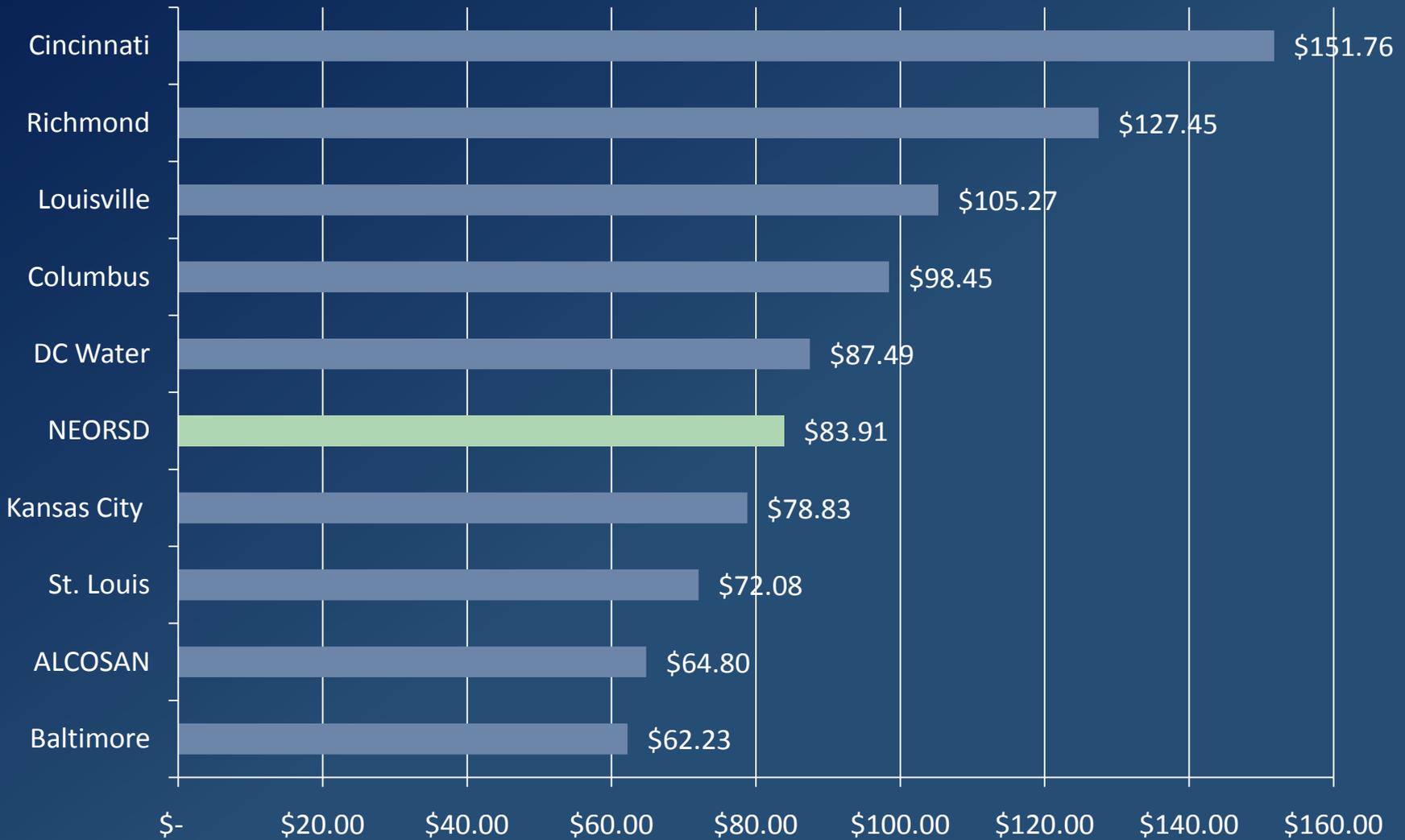
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Suburbs	\$48	\$38	\$42	\$46	\$52	\$56
Suburbs Affordability	\$32	\$25	\$27	\$30	\$34	\$37



Monthly typical residential utility bills



Residential quarterly sewer bill (1.875 mcf)



What's next?

- 1) Public Meetings through May
- 2) Board of Trustees votes (Summer)
- 3) Pending adoption, add new rate structure to billing system (July-December)
- 4) New rates take effect January 1, 2012
- 5) Applying for programs



CONTACT US

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