

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS. RE: PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2015

7/27/2020

It has been said that the rules in this ordinance will be "extraterritorial," meaning the rules would apply outside of the city limits. Is this true?

No. Ordinance No. 2015 applies only inside of the city. The rules address water use only within Laramie's corporate boundary, not outside its corporate limits. The ordinance will require Laramie residents or occupants to use water from the municipal water utility unless the City Council grants them permission to use non-municipal water. There could be an indirect effect on an "extraterritorial" well owner but only if they seek to import water into the city limits.

Will this rule prevent the University of Wyoming from irrigating Jacoby Golf Course, or other turf areas, with untreated water from wells?

No. Ordinance No. 2015 would have the University of Wyoming obtain permission from the City Council prior to irrigating Jacoby Golf Course, or other turf acres, with untreated water from non-municipal wells. Ordinance No. 2015 is necessary to carry out the provisions of Wyo. Stat. §§ 15-7-701 *et seq.*

Do other municipalities have rules like this?

Yes. It is common for municipalities that operate public utilities to adopt these kinds of rules to protect the financial investment its residents have made to build, maintain and operate utility systems. In Laramie, a similar rule is in place for the community's solid waste utility.

Will this rule increase the amount paid by the University to purchase water from the municipal water utility?

No.

Will this rule increase the amount paid by any other user to purchase water from the municipal water utility? And, will this rule increase sewer fees? If so, which users will pay more and how much more will they pay?

No. Ordinance No. 2015 does not cause any user to pay more for water or sewer services. One of the important reasons for Ordinance No. 2015 is to prevent any increase in water fees that would be caused by users switching to non-municipal water sources. Ordinance No. 2015 protects the community's investment in its water utility and preserves its future fiscal integrity.

Will this rule prevent well owners from using their existing wells?

No.

Will well owners be charged a fee under this new rule?

No.

Does this rule prevent new wells from being drilled inside the city? Or, outside the city?

Ordinance No. 2015 requires Laramie landowners to obtain permission from the City Council prior to drilling a new well if the groundwater is to be used within Laramie's corporate limits.