

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING A JOINT POLE RATE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2025, AND RESCINDING ALL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT POLE RATES

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") to establish and recommend electric rates sufficient to cover all costs of the operations and maintenance of the electric department, including but not limited to joint pole, purchase payments, debt service, and asset replacement; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such rates is subject to approval by the City Council and the Needles Public Utility Authority ("NPUA"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that rates for joint pole connections be sufficient to cover the City's cost to provide such service, now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, on October 2024, the Board accepted a proposal from Raftelis and K.R. Saline & Associates to prepare a cost of service study for the three utilities, including a cost of service analysis for the joint-use attachment fees; and

WHEREAS, K.R. Saline & Associates completed an analysis of the NPUA's electric joint-use attachment fees and determined the current fee of \$7.78 per pole is underpriced compared to the analysis outcome of \$22.41 per pole.

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2025, the Board voted to accept the K.R. Saline & Associates, PLC Cost of Service Joint-Use Attachment Fee Study dated September 3, 2025, and recommend a phased approach to avoid negative financial impacts to the communication entities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Needles Public Utility Authority hereby accepts the Board of Public Utilities of the City of Needles, California, recommends and approves a phased joint-use rate of \$15.10 effective December 1, 2025, and \$22.41 effective December 1, 2026

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Needles Public Utility Authority hereby rescinds all prior resolutions of the Authority related to the establishment of joint-use rates

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rates for the joint-use attachments shall take effect on December 1, 2025 and December 1, 2026, and a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) shall be added to all rates on January 1st of each year beginning January 1, 2026, subject to a proration of the initial COLA as noted in the paragraph below. COLA shall be automatically adjusted by using the then-current rates plus the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. West - Size Class B/C CPI based on the June value of the appropriate price index.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the NPUA/City Council of the City of Needles, California, held on the 23rd day of September 2025, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Janet Jernigan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Candace Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Lena Wade, Deputy City Attorney