

## **JCUA DETERMINES FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET AND RATES**

In accordance with its contracts the Jackson County Utility Authority has approved the 2019 Fiscal Year Budget for wholesale sewer treatment. This enterprise, the JCUA "Fund 100", is for sewer treatment of all sewer delivered to it in Jackson County. The JCUA provides "wholesale treatment" to both residential and industrial sewer generated in the cities of Pascagoula, Moss Point, Ocean Springs, Gautier, the West Jackson County Utility District, and several other smaller utility districts.

The "treatment" rate for fiscal year 2019 will be \$3.03 per 1,000 gallons of sewer delivered to the JCUA. This rate is a \$.05 per 1,000 gallons increase from the rate of \$2.98 the JCUA has used for the past four years. This increase is the first rate increase by the JCUA in five years, and amounts to a 1.65% rate increase.

The rate was determined to be fair and reasonable, and in light of the consumer price index of 2.9%, the 1.65% increase is needed to continue its operations and fund depreciation for the JCUA's wholesale treatment enterprise.

The \$.05 increase per 1,000 gallons amounts to an increase of \$.20 per month, or \$2.40 for the year for a typical household that uses 4,000 gallons of water.

During the preceding fiscal year, 2017 - 2018, the sewer flow from the municipalities and utility districts to the JCUA amounted to 13.12 million gallons per day over the prior three year average of 11.53 million gallons per day.