

Department Requesting Code Change:

Department of Public Utilities (Columbus Water & Power)

Drafter:

Madison Hill

Email and Phone:

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Columbus City Code Title Being **Amended/Created/Repealed:**

CCC 221.01, 221.05, 4307.27, and various sections in CCC Chapters 11, 31, and 33.

What is the overall purpose of this code change? *Summarize the general themes of the code change(s) and the need for these changes. Please utilize language and descriptors that would be easily understandable by the general public.*

The overall purpose of the code change is indicate that the Department of Public Utilities is also going to be known as “Columbus Water & Power” and the Division of Sewerage and Drainage name is formally changed to “Division of Water Reclamation.” There is a major rebranding underway to move forward with a name that provides clarity on the essential services that we provide.

Why is this code change needed? *Examples: Correcting a drafting error; bringing code into alignment with changes to state law. For other policy changes, it may be necessary to provide a much more in-depth rationale in the section.*

The code change is necessary to communicate and explain the new name and branding with the Department of Public Utilities. Updating the division name from “Sewerage and Drainage” to “Water Reclamation” will more accurately describe the sustainable function of our work and reflect the evolution across the industry regarding treatment of sanitary and stormwater as an essential resource.

What would be the impact of not adopting this code change?

The name “Columbus Water & Power” would not be connected to the Department of Public Utilities and there would be no name change for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage.



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Are there any operating or capital budget cost/savings implications for this code change?

These may be direct or in-direct, and please also consider long-term impact.

There are no budget implications for this code change.

Describe the community engagement process regarding this code change. What residents, impacted parties, and constituents may be affected? Have they been engaged, and how so? How was their feedback incorporated (or not incorporated) into this code change?

The name change affects the 1.4 million customers water customers and the 19,000 power customers in Central Ohio. There was an extensive engagement process before any decisions were made to change the department's name and logo. Extensive research was conducted to examine how our customers viewed the Department of Public Utilities. We conducted focus groups with diverse members and the response was resoundingly that they were confused about the services that we provide. Their feedback was the main reason for the name change / code change. Almost all agreed that Columbus Water & Power was the best name option because it provided clarity on the valuable services that we provide. We valued the public's input enough to make this critical change to our organization.

Will this code change take effect with the ordinance, or is there a delayed effective date?

Code change will be effective with the ordinance.



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