

ORIGINAL



From: FRED W. SCHENCK <fws4taa@aztecfreenet.org>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/25/03 4:11PM
Subject: Question

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2003 DEC -3 P 12: 41

AZ CORP COMMISSION
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E-mail to: mgleason@cc.state.az.us.

WS-01303A-02-0867
WS-01303A-02-0868
WS-01303A-02-0869
WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

Date: November 25, 2003

re: "AZ-Amerikanisch Wasser Gesselschaft" Rate Request

Dear Mr. Gleason,

Thank you for your response to my e-mail. In your letter dated November 21, 2003 you stated, "For this rate case and for other water utilities, the Commission staff has recommended a 3-tier inverted block rate structure. The cost of water increases as more water is conserved."

I would HOPE that you meant CONSUMED instead of CONSERVED.

As you are no doubt aware, the existing rate structure results in the cost per gallon INCREASING as one uses LESS water; I was recommending the exact opposite.

Sincerely,

Fred Schenck

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

DEC - 3 2003

DOCKETED BY *CM*

--
Fred & Carol Ann Schenck
20014 N LakeForest Drive
Sun City, AZ 85373-1113

Telephone: (623) 876-8527
E-mail: fws4taa@aztecfreenet.org
U.S.A.

From: <pfark@juno.com>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/28/03 5:34PM
Subject: Re: water rates

WS-01303A-02-0867
WS-01303A-02-0868
WS-01303A-02-0869
WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

Dear Mr. Gleason:
We are concerned about the proposed raise of water rates and appreciate your concern also. Thanks for your work in this area.
Arden & Pete Frey
Sun City West

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From: <tom.scw@cox.net>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/29/03 7:09AM
Subject: Water & Electric increases

Rising rates are to be expected but the 40% increase in water rates are way out of line. The electric rate increase should be looked into, please uncover and hidden charges.

Thanks

Tom Gundlach
20822 N Desert Glen Dr
Sun City West, AZ 85375

WS-01303A-02-0867
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tom.scw@cox.net

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A. Back
19434 N. Star Ridge Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375

WS-01303A-02-0867
WS-01303A-02-0868
WS-01303A-02-0869
WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

11/28/03

Dear Mr Gleason:

As a resident of
Sun City West, I have
a concern about the
44% water increase.
I feel it is exhorbitant
for all of us seniors.

Sincerely,

A Back



From: <Donthom1@aol.com>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/21/03 3:34PM
Subject: SC COA input for AA Water Company rate increases

WS-01303A-02-0867
WS-01303A-02-0868
WS-01303A-02-0869
WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

Dear Commissioner Gleason:

The Sun City Home Owners Association (SC HOA -Floyd Brown, Pres) was apparently asked by you to provide comments on the Arizona American Water Company's proposed water rate increases, now under consideration by the Arizona Corporation Commission. Floyd passed your request to the Sun City Condominium Owners Association (SC COA) to provide a Condominium point of view.

An Arizona-American news release dated 11/25/02, that I found on the Internet, forecast an increase of from \$11 to \$14 per unit per month for Sun City, and phased the increase in over a two-year period beginning in 2004. I surmise from the Surprise, AZ water-only increase that the bulk of the Sun City increase is for sewer rather than water use. We understand that processing wastewater is getting more costly by the year because of stricter regulation at all levels of government.

Sun City's homes and condominium units are not new. Many dwellings are 40 years old. The cost of maintaining these units is not a yearly constant: its yearly rate of increase exceeds that of new homes. Property values are low compared to those of homes in new developments in the same West Valley area. Many present retiree owners found that they could afford to buy a used unit in Sun City, when they could not have afforded a home in a new development. Family incomes are often "fixed", and are on average lower than in surrounding communities.

Like the Water Company, owners have a responsibility to maintain their infrastructure, as well. The cost for this increases each year. Yearly increases in Social Security for the elderly, in actuality, don't quite match even the increases in Federal Medicare premiums costs - so, there is no gain in disposable income for many of our retirees.

SC COA understands the need for some increase in rates. Should Sun City's use of water decrease because of water saving programs, the potable water delivery and waste water recovery systems infrastructure (pipes, pumps, reservoirs, meters and the like) must still be maintained by the Arizona American Water Company. We know that repair and replacement material costs have increased. We realize that labor costs have risen with inflation. We know that the "rolling stock" (vehicles, tractors, front loaders, pavement cutting machines and the like) wears out and must be replaced by items that cost more than they once did.

We have observed that when Condominium Boards of Management raise monthly assessments to maintain the common elements of the association (including paying water bills on behalf of their residents), they do so in small increments. If the monthly assessment is \$135, a \$5 per month increase may create a hardship for a number of residents of the Association, but they usually swallow the increase and tighten their belts.

It is my opinion, as president of SC COA, that should water saving programs be instituted (example: installation of desert landscaping or other water saving ground cover on Condominium Associations' "common ground"), unit owners

within the association should be rewarded for their efforts, not penalized.

In summary, if the Corporation Commission approves some water rate increases, we ask that these increases be phased in over a three-year period in lieu of the proposed two-year period. This will allow our community to adapt with its fixed incomes. We also ask that some form of credit be allowed for water saving efforts by individual condo associations.

Respectfully,

Don Thomson, President, SC COA

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From: <Donthom1@aol.com>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/26/03 7:01AM
Subject: Fwd: SC COA input for AA Water Company rate increases

Thank you Commissioner Gleason for your timely and informative response to SC COA's water rate increase comments. We know that you have a great deal on your table right now and we appreciate the time that you devoted to this response.

Respectfully, Don Thomson, CS COA

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WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

From: Bill and Gloria Harrison <bharrison2@prodigy.net>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/29/03 3:22PM
Subject: Proposed Water rate Increase

Dear Mike,
I am opposed to the proposed increase in our water rates in the Sun City West area. I would appreciate any action you can take to oppose such an increase.

Thanks much.
William Harrison
13502 Spring Meadow Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375

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From: "Homer/Virginia Willard" <hwww@mindspring.com>
To: ACC_DOMAIN.ADMIN_PO(MGleason)
Date: 11/29/03 4:33PM
Subject: Proposed Rate Increase by the Arizona American Water Company

To: Mike Gleason, Corporation Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission

From: Virginia V. Willard
15170 W. Gunsight Drive
Sun City West, Arizona 85375

WS-01303A-02-0867
WS-01303A-02-0868
WS-01303A-02-0869
WS-01303A-02-0870
W-01303A-02-0908

Re: Proposed Rate Increase by the Arizona American Water Company

Dear Mr. Gleason,

I own a home in Sun City West, Arizona and, as such, I am a customer of the Arizona American Water Company

I understand that the rate increase of over 44 percent, as proposed by the Arizona American Water Company, was based on replacement value of their equipment. I feel that is unrealistic, resulting in a financial burden for the customers of the Company.

I request that you (and the entire Commission) vote for the much lower percentage rate increase, which was recommended by the Commission Staff, as it is based on the investment value of their equipment (the usual business practice) .

Thank you for your favorable reading of this request.

Virginia V. Willard

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