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May 10, 2005

SW-04002A-02-0837

Docket Nos.

WS-02987A-02-0837

A-02-0837
-04-0465

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Commission,

I am writing in regards to the customer notice we received on our wastewater utility service. Pertaining to the almost 30% increase to our bill that may start in a couple months. How can a utility justify that percent of an increase.

I do understand that Johnson Ranch took over the waste utility when AUSS filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy. My understanding is they were contracted, being paid a specified amount. If they were able to do it with the contracted amount, how can there be any justification in raising the bill 30%.

The reason we did not purchase a home in the Johnson Ranch area was because of the utility charges they have. Now we will still end up paying them living in Queen Creek, Cambria area.

Another issue, at one of the HOA (Home Owners Assoc.) meetings the fact that some home owners in this area are not paying any waste utility bill at all. They had contacted the AUSS but never received any bill. These people have not paid since they moved here. My understanding from calling the phone number on the customer service notice, is that they will not have to pay any back bills. That doesn't seem quite right, especially since we bought in April of 2004 and only moved here in August 2004. No one was in this home for four months and we still payed our bill. Possibly if these home owners had to pay their back bills the price would not need to be raised 30%.

With the rates going up so drastically, maybe Johnson Ranch should consider some sort of measuring percent usage, based on the amount of water usage in each household and charging accordingly. There are only two people in our household. In our neighborhood, there are homes with up to 11 or 12 people living in them. If water utilities can measure water usage, then the waste utilites can measure waste based on water usage or installing meters.

In our household we do NOT support the increase.

Steven Kriesel
Helen Kriesel

Steven and Helen Kriesel
Adobe Canyon Cambria

Arizona Corporation Commission

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