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COMMISSIONERS
MIKE GLEASON - Chairman
WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
JEFF HATCH-MILLER
KRISTIN K. MAYES
GARY PIERCE

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



RECEIVED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Olme

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Direct Line: (602)542-3935

Fax: (602)542-0752

E-Mail: wmundell@azcc.gov

2008 APR 18 P 3:00

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

April 17, 2008

Arizona-American Water Company, Sun City West Wastewater District;
Fire Flow Improvement District; Docket No. W-01303A-07-0209

I appreciate that you took the time to communicate your opinion concerning the fire flow issue. I will make your email a part of the official docket in this matter. It has not come before the Commission for final action.

Unlike the legislature, a city council, or the board of supervisors, the Arizona Corporation Commission is a quasi-judicial body. We are similar to judges and have different rules and statutes we are required to follow. We can not state how we will vote on an issue until after we have reviewed all the evidence, listened to the arguments of the parties and comments of the public. This will occur at a Commission Open Meeting.

You can visit the Commission's website for information to determine when this matter will be scheduled for final action at the Commission by going to www.azcc.gov. Listed on the Commission's Home Page, click the topic of Schedules, and then double click the subject of Open Meetings.

Thank you for sharing your viewpoint with me. I will give it every consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

William A. Mundell, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission

cc: Docket

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

APR 18 2008

DOCKETED BY nr

William Mundell

From: Ban2az@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 8:37 AM
To: Mundell-Web
Subject: AZ-AM fire flow project

Please don't allow the proposed fire flow project to be charged to Sun City when it is for the benefit of Youngtown and not us. Let AZ-AM and Youngtown pay for it NOT Sun City. The plan unfairly forces Sun City residents to pay for Youngtowns problems.

Thank you,
Barbara Noesges
Sun City, AZ

Planning your summer road trip? Check out [AOL Travel Guides](#).

William Mundell

From: on behalf of Mundell-Web
To: mwedl
Subject: RE: AZ-Am 's fire flow improvement plan

From: mwedl [mailto:mwedl@cox.net]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 1:46 PM
To: Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail
Subject: AZ-Am 's fire flow improvement plan

SUN CITY RESIDENTS SMHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR IMPROVEMENTS FOR YOUNGTOWN!!!!!!

Margaret Wedl

10734 W. Wedgewood Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351

William Mundell

From: mwedl [mwedl@cox.net]

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 2:17 PM

To: Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-web!@azcc.gov

Subject: Water problems-Youngtown/Sun City

I do not want to pay for Youngtowns problems!!!!!!!!!! Please tell AZ-AM Water Co. to get thier act together!!!!!!!!!!

Norbert L. Wedl

10734 W. Wedgewood Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351

William Mundell

From: Nancy Ross [nRoss@colbymgt.com]

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 3:22 PM

To: Gleason-WebEmail

Cc: Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web

Dear Commissioners:

We strongly agree that AZ-AM's proposed fire flow improvement plan unfairly forces Sun City residents to pay for Youngtown's problems.

Fred and Nancy Ross
12237 N. 111th Avenue
Sun City, AZ 85351

William Mundell

From: O'Connor Appraisals [oconnorappraisals@cox.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2008 8:02 AM
To: Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web
Subject: Arizona American Water Fire Flow Improvement Project

I am a resident of Sun City, Arizona

I am totally against this project since

in the month of Feb 2008, only 3 of the 898 incidents to which the Sun City Fire Department responded were actual fires;

the ACC requires potable water to be delivered at 20 psi and there is no requirement for 15000 gallons per minute fire flow

No other comparable Arizona-regulated water utility has ever oversized its system beyond ACC standards

The Residential Utility Consumers' Office (RUCO) believes fire flow modifications are discretionary and is not in favor of AZ-AM obtaining approval for a surcharge to fund the cost of oversizing its system.

Carol O'Connor
Carol O'Connor & Associates, Inc.
13614 North 108th Drive
Sun City AZ 85351
623 815-0420 Office
623 815-0670 Fax

William Mundell

From: O'Connor Appraisals [oconnorappraisals@cox.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2008 8:02 AM
To: Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web
Subject: Arizona American Water Fire Flow Improvement Project

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Carol O'Connor
Carol O'Connor & Associates, Inc.
13614 North 108th Drive
Sun City AZ 85351
623 815-0420 Office
623 815-0670 Fax

William Mundell

From: Richard Murphey [murphey@cox.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2008 12:30 PM
To: Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web
Subject: Arizona American Water Fire Flow Improvement Project

Dear Esteemed Commissioners:

I admit there are some things I don't know about the project, but I am asking that you deny Arizona-American Water's effort to charge the cost of upgrading the Youngtown Fire Flow Improvement project to those of us in Sun City, Arizona.

Discussion:

I have drawn some conclusions from a message from several of the leading volunteer organizations in leadership in Sun City. Some is their information.

Sun City has a capable Fire Department, but responds to VERY FEW fires each year. In fact, one month this winter, they answered only three fire calls of nine hundred total callsthat were actual fires.

I note that Az-Am Water have raised the cost of their project from three million to almost five million in just two years. If their costs have increased that much, how much more difficult will it be for those of us on fixed and limited incomes to pay for this project.

Their planned action would adversely affect those of us who are Condo owners, perhaps more than most.

I ask that you review the Arizona-American Water survey responses for the difference between Youngtown and Sun City resident's position.

I am a Homeowner Association Board member, but I speak primarily for myself and my wife in this matter. I am Treasurer of the Bolfor 103 Condo Assn. of Sun City.

There are a number of residents in Sun City who are well to do, but I believe the majority of us are living from month to month on pensions that are limited in annual increases. I know one of mine receives an annual increase, but the other has not in several years. And, Social Security increases about as much as the increase in the cost of Medicare. I know that over recent years, I have apparently been using portions of our savings to live without purchasing new cars and upgrading our home.

I appreciate your difficult position to mediate these matters, but I believe this is a

case of the large corporation tramping on the daily lives of residents not affected by the project.

Sincerely,

Richard B. and Elizabeth E. Murphey
10225 W Bolivar Dr
Sun City, Az 85351

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Richard B. Murphey, Sun City, Arizona <><  
Phoenix Police, Captain, Retired  
City of Mesa, Az., Communications Manager, Re-Retired  
Traffic Institute, Northwestern University (1966)  
Maricopa Assn. of Governments, 9-1-1 Project (1979-88)  
Fifth Air Force Assn.  
E-Mail Add [n7dic@arri.net](mailto:n7dic@arri.net)

Ham Call - N7DIC  
American Radio Relay league.  
West Valley Amateur Radio Club  
Horn Toad Acres Wireless Assn.  
Tricity Amateur Radio Club

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Mary Ruth Linde [marylinde@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 12, 2008 3:28 PM  
**To:** Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail  
**Subject:** Water Fire Flow Improvement Project

Dear Commissioners,

Please donot pass this Fire Flow Improvement Project. It is unfair to Sun Citizens to pay for this expensive project.

Mary Ruth Linde, Sun City

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Mary Jane [maryjane\_baumgarten@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 13, 2008 12:59 PM  
**To:** Mike Gleason; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Fire Flow

It should not be the problem to pay for the Fire Flow project for Youngtown, I never received a survey on this project, were we surveyed? If so what was the survey out come?

The folks in Sun City have enough increases in dues, water, sewer, APS, etc. Each town or incorporated area should pay for their own utilities.

Thank you,

Mary Jane Baumgarten  
135637 N. 108th Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351  
623 974 1968

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Myron Noben [rmnoben@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2008 10:42 AM  
**To:** Mundell-Web  
**Subject:** RE: Doc #W01303A-07-0209 Fire flow improvement

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**Subject:** Doc #W01303A-07-0209 Fire flow improvement

My support favors the position of the Sun City Taxpayers Association requiring AZ-AM to front the investment cost up-front. Also, a equitable arrangement is needed to distribute increased rates to actual locations of fire flow hydrant. One of our main concerns was proper fire protection and it would seem we have already paid for that improvement..

Myron Noben  
13813 North 103 Way  
Sun City, AZ 85351

**William Mundell**

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**From:** WILL ROSS [slotshot\_ross@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2008 12:08 PM  
**To:** Mundell-Web  
**Subject:** Arizona American Water Company:

Willard Ross  
P.O. Box 2513  
Sun City, AZ. 85372  
623-972-1767

Arizona Corporation Commission,

Attn. Commissioner William Mundell:

In regards to Arizona American Water Co. request for an increase in fees to improve fire safety in Sun City, I feel this is not a good time for further rate increase.

The economy in a down turn and inflation at an all time high with a forecast of gasoline to reach \$4.00 per gallon by summer, the price of food, clothing, gasoline and milk have doubled in the past two years, the RCSC raised our Recreation Center fees in January and the Commission just approved an increase for both APS and AAWC.

Your actions will only place another burden on our city. Now it is our turn and we expect you to use good judgment and vote against this and future requests for rate increases from American Arizona Water Co.

The need to improve the water flow is another scam by AAWC to bleed us for money that many of us don't have at this time. I have been in Sun City for 13 years and only heard of one fatality fire where a daughter and her mother were victims.

Sun City soon will be 50 years old, the home owners should have working home fire extinguishers, smoke detectors that have been checked by our fire department annually. This is the best defense for Stove and Dryer fires that spread rapidly.

I would appreciate a reply to my e-mail with an explanation as to why this item is so immediately important after a water increase has already been approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Sincerely,  
Willard and Patricia F. Ross

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Eugenia Lewis [eugenialewis@webtv.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2008 2:06 PM  
**To:** Gleason-web@azcc.gov Mayes-web@azcc.gov Mundell-web@azcc.gov Hatch-web@azcc.gov  
Pierce-web@azcc.gov  
**Subject:** Fire Flow Improvement Project

Dear Commissioners,

We are against the fire flow surcharge mechanism. This will not help Sun City and will hurt condo owners such as us.

Please do not grant this request by Arizona American Water.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Don and Jeannie Lewis  
13653 N. 108th Dr.  
Sun City, AZ 85351  
(623)972-5133

**William Mundell**

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**From:** gemmacc37@juno.com

**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2008 3:05 PM

**To:** Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web

**Subject:** Fire Flow Improvement Project

We are strongly against the proposed Fire Flow Improvement Project. It is not to our benefit.

John & Anita Navin. 10610 W.Camden Ave, Sun City 85351

**William Mundell**

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**From:** spainter2 [spainter2@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 8:34 AM  
**To:** Mundell-Web  
**Subject:** AZ-AM's proposed fir flow Improvement Plan

Mr. Mundell,

We definitely disagree with the plan that forces Sun City to pay for Youngtown's problems.

This survey did not treat us all fairly. Please vote NO on this plan!

Thank you,

William and Suzanne Painter  
9221 W. Briarwood Cir N.  
Sun City, AZ 85351

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Fred Steele [fsteele2@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 1:37 PM  
**To:** Mundell-Web  
**Subject:** Arizona American fire flow plan

April 16, 2008

Dear Commissioner Mundell,

I am opposed to Arizona Americans fire flow plan. If February, 2008 is typical, only 3/10 of 1 percent of the calls to the fire department involved fire. It seems buying an ambulance to respond to health emergencies instead of sending out fire trucks would be a logical improvement rather than over building the water system.

Arizona American has been sending out letters to sell insurance on the water system for the portion between the meter and the house (the part the home owner is responsible for). Increasing the water pressure will probably cause hundreds of ruptures in the water lines and generate more money for the water company.

Raising the rates is probably necessary but charging customers 5 million dollars for unnecessary improvements for the fire flow project is unnecessary.

Sincerely

Fred Steele  
9701 W. Briarwood Cir  
Sun City, AZ 85351

4/17/2008

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Ken Svee [kbsvee@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 4:35 PM  
**To:** Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Docket #W-01303A-07-0209 Fire Flow AAW

Arizona Corporation Commission members.

I read again in the Daily News Sun the article regarding the Sun City Fire Department's concern that there is opposition to the propose project. Chairman of the Sun City Fire Board and the Fire Chief are very critical of anyone being opposed to this project.

The project, as proposed, was initiated by the Arizona -American Water Company , not the Fire Board or the Fire Department. If the Board or the Fire Department was so concerned about the safety and ability to provide proper coverage, why did they not initiate this sooner. Probably because one concern is to have a good Fire Rating by the ISO. Sun City has a rating of---4--- that is very good.

Another reason these groups , and individuals such as myself, are opposed to the proposal, is the unacceptable procedure of doing a surcharge assessment prior to the project being completed. That is really fiscally unacceptable. You have everyone telling all persons having work to be done, DO NOT PAY UPFRONT. What is this but payment upfront. I say if the project is that needed ---do it then apply for compensation!!! That, is the way previous projects have occured.

If this project is so necessary, and supported by the Fire Department then the Fire Department and the AAW should provide the Arizona Corporation Commission with evidence that the project will provide a better fire rating by the ISO and what the insurance savings will amount to. I cannot believe that the fire rating is as good as a 4 and the fire safety factor is , according to the Fire Department , so low.

I feel that the Arizona Corporation Commission should deny this request at this time. When the Arizona American Company can justify this project then it should be considered and only after completion.

Kenneth Svee

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**William Mundell**

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**From:** Yvonne [yvnel@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 4:42 PM  
**To:** Gleason-WebEmail  
**Cc:** Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-web@azcc-gov  
**Subject:** FIRE FLOW SURCHARGE

Since I will be unable to attend the community meeting on April 22, 2008 due to prior commitments, I am sending this e-mail to request that you vote NO to the Arizona American Water Company's request for an increase in water rates for the Fire Flow Surcharge.

At the time I answered their original survey in regards to the concept on paying for new fire hydrants, I did not have all of the facts. I feel that residents of Sun City should not have to pay a surcharge for something that they will not benefit from. If Youngstown need the Fire Flow improvements, then the residents of that community should pay the surcharge not Sun City residents. Also, I do not think anyone should pay any company a surcharge rate for any product or service before it is received. Sometimes when things or services are paid for before receiving them, they are never received or as effective as they are advertised to be.

Thank you for reading this e-mail and listening to my opinion.

Yvonne Nelson,  
a concerned Sun City resident

**William Mundell**

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**From:** Wally [waarro@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 6:46 PM  
**To:** Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** FW: Docket #W-01303A-07-0209 Fire Flow AAW

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**From:** Ken Svec [mailto:kbsvec@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008 3:35 PM  
**To:** gleason-web@azcc.gov; mayes-web@azcc.gov; mundell-web@azcc.gov; hatch-web@azcc.gov; pierce-web@azcc.gov  
**Subject:** Docket #W-01303A-07-0209 Fire Flow AAW

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Kenneth Svec  
Wallace A. Roholt

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