

COMMISSIONERS
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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2009

To: Docket Control **ORIGINAL**

RE: Arizona American Water Company - Customer Comments
Docket Nos. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-0227

Please docket the attached 9 customer comments **OPPOSING** the above filed rate case.

Customer comments can be reviewed in E-docket under the above docket numbers.

Filed by: Utilities Division – Consumer Services

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

MAR - 4 2009

DOCKETED BY 

RECEIVED
2009 MAR - 4 A 10: 10
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

~~October 21, 2008~~

Feb 22, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2929

Dear Corporation Commission Members:

The customers of American Arizona Water (A.A.W.) listed below request that you reject the company's application for a rate increase.

Re: SW01303A-08-0227

To counter said application, the following facts are provided:

- A.A.W. purchased the existing waste water plant and its pipeline structure in 2002.
- According to company supplied information, there were 570 customers at the time of purchase and the treatment plant was capable of handling 250,000 gallons per day.
- The current customer base is 1246 and the waste water treatment plant has been upgraded to handle 500,000 gallons per day. This work was completed in September, 2008.
- The applicant is requesting an increase of 79.4%, from \$49.65 per month per customer to \$89.10 per month, which they claim will benefit customers (see attached letter from A.A.W. to existing customers).

If A.A.W. had done their due diligence prior to purchasing this business, which we are sure they did, they would have known that if projected population increases held true, the treatment plant would have to be upgraded.

Using the A.A.W. supplied customer base information of 1246, multiplied by an increase of \$39.45 per customer per month; the gross income would increase by \$49,154.70 per month or \$589,856.40 per year. Also, using the figure expended to upgrade their pipe line and water treatment facilities of \$4,740 million, A.A.W. would retrieve its investment in 8.025 years, using the rate increase only to pay it back. The expansion would allow more customers to be added, each new customer would be charged \$89.10 per month.

We are being asked to pay for A.A.W.'s upgrade in its entirety and ensuring them an enormous future profit before the upgrade is actually needed.

The treatment plant handled 188,000 gallons per day in July 2008, 75% of its capacity. There was no need to increase the treatment plant capacity based on these numbers.

A.A.W. is asking you to approve an increase, which sits squarely on the shoulders of current and future customers. We all would be burdened financially by a huge \$89.10 per month waste water treatment bill.

Sincerely,

Mohave Valley Water District Protest Members

Direct questions and response to
T. C. Courtney
2061 E. Desert Lakes Drive
Ft. Mohave, AZ 86426
928-768-9037

*PLEASE INFORM ME WHEN
THIS LETTER + LIST IS RECEIVED
T.C. COURTNEY*

Attachments

FORT MOHAVE PROTEST MEMBERS
FOR MOHAVE WASTE WATER DIST. CUSTOMERS ONLY

NAME ADDRESS - PHONE #

KARL JONES 928-201-0181
6204 KODIAK EAST Fort Mohave

Karl Jones

Christo Rowley 928-763-1568
4673 S NICHOLAS, FORT MOHAVE

Christo Rowley

EITA ROWLEY 928-763-1568
4073 S NICHOLAS FORT MOHAVE

Eita Rowley

Kenneth Keel 928-758-1416
~~4065~~ 4065 S. Nicholas Ft. Mohave

Kenneth Keel

Marjorie Keel 928-758-1416
4065 S. Nicholas Ft. Mohave

Marjorie Keel

James M. Matlock 928-763-7244
4081 Nicholas Dr Fort Mohave

J Matlock

Sheila Matlock 928-763-7244
4081 Nicholas Dr Fort Mohave

Sheila Matlock

February 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

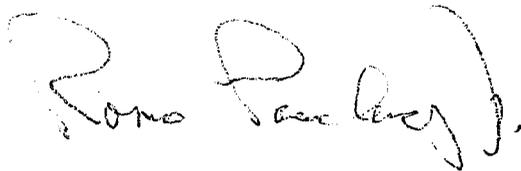
Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

I live in Sun City West, Arizona and am appalled at the ridiculously high rate increase requested by Arizona American Water. I am retired on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect me and other retirees by drastically reducing the rate increase you grant AZ/AM Water. Arizona American Water is asking for a 500% increase in operating income at a time when the entire country is in a financial quagmire. Your careful consideration will be greatly appreciated by all of us residents in Sun City West.

Sincerely,



Romeo Passalacqua
12823 W. Maplewood Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375-4856

February 24, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

We live in Sun City West, Arizona and are saddened by the ridiculously high rate increase requested by Arizona/American Water Company. We are retired on a limited income and it would be a struggle to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect us by drastically lowering the rate increase requested by Az/Am Water for operating income at a time when we and the entire country are in a financial crises. Your approval of a much lower and "fair" rate increase will be greatly appreciated by us.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Hinnen

Gay M. Hinnen

Donald J. Hinnen

and

Gay M. Hinnen

20808 N. 147th Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375

26 February 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St. Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

We live in Sun City West Arizona and are appalled by the ridiculously high rate increase requested by AZ/AM Water. We are retired on a fixed income and do not have any extra income to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect us by drastically slashing the rate increase you allow AZ/AM Water to have. AZ/AM Water is asking for a 500% increase in operating income at a time when we and the entire country is in a financial mess. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated by us and all of the residents of Sun City West.

Sincerely,



Don and Barbara Wade
18026 N. 132nd Avenue
Sun City West, AZ 85375

February 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

I live in Sun City West, Arizona and am appalled at the ridiculously high rate increase requested by Arizona American Water. I am retired on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect me and other retirees by drastically reducing the rate increase you grant AZ/AM Water. Arizona American Water is asking for a 500% increase in operating income at a time when the entire country is in a financial quagmire. Your careful consideration will be greatly appreciated by all of us residents in Sun City West.

Neomia Rhodes
Sincerely,

NR

Neomia Rhodes
12815 W Maplewood Dr
Sun City West, AZ 85375-4850

February ^{26,} 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

I live in Sun City West, Arizona and am appalled at the ridiculously high rate increase requested by Arizona American Water. I am retired on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect me and other retirees by drastically reducing the rate increase you grant AZ/AM Water. Arizona American Water is asking for a 500% increase in operating income at a time when the entire country is in a financial quagmire. Your careful consideration will be greatly appreciated by all of us residents in Sun City West.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Smith
12938 W Desert Glen Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375

February 19, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Services Section
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix AZ 85007

Re:

Docket for Comment: Proposed Emergency Application for Interim Rates and Charges
(Expedited Action Requested) for Far West Water & Sewer
Case or Utility Name: Far West Water and Sewer Company, Yuma, Arizona
Docket #WS-03478A-08-0608
Position on the Docket: Con

Far West Water and Sewer Company is trying to expedite a rate change by requesting an interim rate increase. This increase comes to over 100% of the existing rate of \$21.75 per month now charged whether the consumer is using his/her property and therefore sewer services for twelve months, for six months or even only for one month per year.

It is not unreasonable to expect a company to make a profit, but it is unreasonable to allow a company to gouge its customers in order to do so. In assessing whether or not to allow this interim sewer rate increase, particularly one so outrageous, it should be remembered that the potential "insolvency" problem described in their request is the result of the business practices of Far West Water and Sewer and not the current consumers.

The current consumers purchased their properties, a good percentage of them originating from the development company also under the same ownership as the water and sewer company, expecting that the company had installed a fully functional sewer system. This was not the case, as determinations made by the ADEQ have proven. It should not be the responsibility of the consumer, who in good faith purchased property expecting a fully operational system, to finance the errors made by the company.

Sincerely,

Earl R Maxwell
13391 E 53rd St
YUMA AZ 85367
928-345-1351

Earl & June Maxwell
13391 E. 53rd St.
Yuma, AZ 85367

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St. Room 1
Phoenix, Az. 85007

Docket No. W-01303 A-08-0227 and SW-01-303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners:

Please protect us by disallowing the 79% increase proposed by Arizona American Water.

Arizona American Water is asking for a 500% operating income increase. This is the worst possible time for this raise. Many families are struggling to put food on the table. Many are without jobs. Many are on fixed incomes trying to cope with everything going up while incomes are reduced or stagnant.

This obvious disregard for the state America is in seems unamerican of Arizona American Water! Therefore, we are depending on you for any assistance you can give the citizens of Arizona.

James E. & Jennifer Moore
Sincerely,

J. Moore
19217 N. 115th Dr.
Surprise, Az. 85374

February 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Room 1
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket No. W-01303A-08-0227 and SW-01303A-08-2007

Dear Commissioners,

I live in Sun City West, Arizona and am appalled at the ridiculously high rate increase requested by Arizona American Water. I am retired on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay an increase of 79.96% in water rates.

Please protect me and other retirees by drastically reducing the rate increase you grant AZ/AM Water. Arizona American Water is asking for a 500% increase in operating income at a time when the entire country is in a financial quagmire. Your careful consideration will be greatly appreciated by all of us residents in Sun City West.

Sincerely,

Larry H. Reinhardt

Marcie Reinhardt



M. Reinhardt
12931 W. Maplewood Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375-4852