

COMMISSIONERS
KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
PAUL NEWMAN
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
BOB STUMP



0000094368

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

March 6, 2009

ORIGINAL

To: Docket Control

RE: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc. - Customer Comments
Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

Please docket the attached 26 customer comments **OPPOSING** the above filed rate case.

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

Filed by: Utilities Division – Consumer Services

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

MAR - 9 2009

DOCKETED BY	
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RECEIVED
2009 MAR -9 A 9:21
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

WS-03478A-08-0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Carmen Madrid

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 77292

Date: 3/6/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: Last:
Richard & Lois Reimers

Account Name: Richard & Lois Reimers

Home: [REDACTED]

Street: [REDACTED]ve

Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Yuma

CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ Zip: 85367

is: E-Mail

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division: Water

Contact Name: n/a

Contact Phone: n/a

Nature of Complaint:

Concerning Docket Number: WS-03478A-08-0608
WS-03478A-08-0454

Richard & Lois Reimers 03-04-2009
13521 E. 54th Drive, Yuma, AZ [REDACTED]
Far West Water & Sewer rate increases WSO 3478A-08-0608
WSO 3478A-08-0454

Far West Water & Sewer CON
[REDACTED]

Far West Water & Sewer originated as a subsidiary for and by H & S Developers when developing the RV and home lots east of Yuma, AZ. The company originally sold lots near \$1500 per site and are currently selling lots \$80,000 to \$100,000. In my experience with developers, they are supposed to provide water and sewer expansions as they continue to develop and sell more sites, as well as curb, gutters, and various other site improvements as required by local jurisdiction. I personally have in excess of 30 years experience in real estate support businesses.

The H & S Developers / Far West Water & Sewer have a captive audience that has already been gouged once by increasing fees from use during occupation months for part-time residents, to year around fees according to ownership. We cannot install a septic system, hence we would have to pay the fees or sell our properties. Either way will create a hardship for many homeowners either seasonal or year round. Raises of 109.6% and 252% are extremely unreasonable for the majority of fixed income property owners.

H & S has completed several new subdivisions since we originally purchased our site in 1999 without

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

substantially increasing sewage plant capacities. The lots were originally sold with the covenant that two sewer connections would be used. What is being done about those that abuse this right? In a one block area, I have counted six or more lots with more than three sewer hookups in use. Why should those of us not in violation be expected to pay for those who abuse this system? Why has Yuma County continued to allow these expansions without requiring H & S to provide adequate sewer disposal services?

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Opinion noted and docketed in WS-03478A-08-0608 and WS-03478A-08-0454. closed

End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/6/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77292

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the Consumers Services Assistance Form for complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

Step 2

YOUR NAME DWAIN A. REILLY	DATE MAR 1 - 2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 14126 E. 51st RD., YUMA AZ 85364	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 925-345-9266
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS-03478A-08-0454	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME FAR WEST WATER & SEWER Co.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

THE RATE RAISE IS COMPLETELY OUT OF LINE
 COMPARE TO OTHER PRIVATE COMPANIES IN THIS ARBA
 AND ~~IT~~ WILL CAUSE UN DUE HARDSHIP ON PERSONS
 LIVING ON SOC. SEC. PLUS THE FACT THAT APPROX.
 50% OF CURRENT RESIDENCE ARE HERE ONLY 5-6 MOS.
 BUT ARE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR THE ENTIRE 12 MOS.
 IN LIGHT OF OUR CURRENT ECONOMIC RECESSION I FEEL
 IT IS UNREALISTIC FOR SUCH AN EXORBINAT INCREASE
 TO BE REQUESTED

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
 Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
 Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

March 1, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 W. Washington Street, Room 1

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioners:

We join many other retired citizens in our community to speak against the proposed exceedingly high water rate increase requested by the AZ/AM Water.

We do not feel that such an increase is warranted at a time when there are very serious problems with our entire economy. Food, gas and health care, among many other costs, are going up at an alarming rate and those of us who are living on a fixed income will be especially adversely affected by this drastic increase.

Please help and protect us by drastically reducing the rate increase requested by AZ/AM Water. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated by all the senior residents of Sun City West.

Sincerely,

Address:

Bill W. Dleggo
SCW - 853915

February 20, 2009

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

Re:

Docket for Comment: Proposed Rate Increase for Far West Water & Sewer
Case or Utility Name: Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma, Arizona
Docket #WS-03478A-08-0454
Position on the Docket: Con

I am amazed and appalled at the Far West Water and Sewer Company's proposed increase in sewer fees.

It is quite apparent that the proposed increase has been requested in order to pay off debt incurred to finance the improvements needed to bring the current system into compliance with the ADEQ requirements and to allow for future development of the system. The cost of these improvements should not be the responsibility of the present consumer; it should be the responsibility of the company which **obviously ignored** the requirements in the first place.

It should also be noted that by increasing the capacity of the system, the family which also owns much of the vacant land and the major development business in the Foothills area will stand to gain by being able to further develop their land without a major investment on their part.

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 sewer rate increase, particularly one so outrageous, it should be remembered that the shortfall is the result of the business practices of Far West Water and Sewer, Inc., and not the current consumers.

Sincerely,

Harold Ayle

14509 E 54th Dr

Yuma, AZ
85367

Ayle

14509 E 54th Dr

Yuma, AZ

85367

Dr. Kella B. Price, SPHR
10579 E 37th Pl
Yuma, AZ 85365
928.276.3009 home/FAX
252.622.8119 cell
johnkella@aol.com

To the commission:

I oppose the sewer rate increase requested by Far West Water & Sewer Company (Far West) under the above referenced docket. While a private utility company such as Far West is entitled to a reasonable profit, a rate increase of 300 (+/-) per cent is not and has not been justified or proven necessary. The management and operations of a company an independent audit of its operation, management methods, and financial record keeping. This is certainly not justified and will cause undue hardship to all of the customers that Far West serves.

As a party currently being served by Far West, I request the current application be dismissed without further action and an independent audit completed at the cost of Far West. The audit information should then be made available to the public in the area serviced by Far West and the Commission for a period of time sufficient to permit an adequate review of the same. If the audit indicates the management and operations of Far West are comparable to similar types of operations, a new rate increase application could then be considered during appropriate public hearings. I believe that this company's financial concerns are the result of poor management and operational practices. The commission should consider assuming operations and run this company as a public utility.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kella Price

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME SHIRLEY A. HETTERVIK	DATE 7-27-2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP P.O. Box 25150 - YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-706-2814
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Request for Permanent Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS CAMPERS-2@HOTMAIL.COM	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Far West Water & Sewer Co. (FWWS) customers protest the proposed rate hike. According to the joint news release from ADEQ and the Arizona Attorney General's Office, dated September 10, 2008, FWWS has had long standing violations. The neglect of their responsibility to construct and maintain their sewer system resulted in their present crisis. FWWS apparently cut corners to save money and the owners profited in the continued growth as they developed other business interests. This, combined with inadequate planning to maintain compliance with ADEQ regulations resulted in their self made crisis. Now that ADEQ has required them to bring all treatment sites up to standards, FWWS wants customers to pay for the mismanagement. Please deny the FWWS request for a rate hike. Any alleged financial hardship appears to be associated with poor management and greed and therefore, is not the responsibility of the customers.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

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P.O. Box 25150
Yuma, AZ 85367

Step 2

YOUR NAME Don A. HETTERVIC	DATE 2-27-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP P.O. Box 25150, YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-726-2814
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Request for Permanent Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input checked="" type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS CAMPERS-2@HOTMAIL.COM	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Far West Water & Sewer Co. (FWWS) customers protest the proposed rate hike. According to the joint news release from ADEQ and the Arizona Attorney General's Office, dated September 10, 2008, FWWS has had long standing violations. The neglect of their responsibility to construct and maintain their sewer system resulted in their present crisis. FWWS apparently cut corners to save money and the owners profited in the continued growth as they developed other business interests. This, combined with inadequate planning to maintain compliance with ADEQ regulations resulted in their self made crisis. Now that ADEQ has required them to bring all treatment sites up to standards, FWWS wants customers to pay for the mismanagement. Please deny the FWWS request for a rate hike. Any alleged financial hardship appears to be associated with poor management and greed and therefore, is not the responsibility of the customers.

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007:
or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

ROBERT L. & F. LOUISE EVERETT

13696 E. 53rd LANE
YUMA, AZ 85367
Cell - 208-315-0206
928-345-1686

March 3, 2009

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

Gentlemen:

Re: Docket - Emergency WS-03478A-08-06 08
Permanent, WS-03478A-08-0454

We live at the above address 3 months per year - Jan., Feb., & Mar. When we first moved here we were allowed to pay the sewer bill for only the time we used it. We planted trees and paid for the water monthly. When Far West decided to charge us for sewer for the whole year even though we did not use it, our sewer expense went up 4 times to \$240 per year. Now we are notified that they need to increase the amount to \$653 for next year, \$770 the following year and \$892 the third year.

We love coming to Yuma during the Winter. We are on a fixed income and have to budget carefully in order to be able to travel and stay here. If we cut down all the trees and try to shut off all our utilities, how much will Far West want to charge us to reconnect?

Does a time come when Far West can stop adding new developments to their current sewer system? Perhaps they can provide new services for the new additions (subdivisions) they plan to develop so we do not have to pay for them.

Please do not allow these exorbitant rates.

Robert L. Everett
F. Louise Everett

**Donald & Karen Hermance
9097 Purdy Lane
Granite Bay, CA 95746
916-791-7148**

February 28, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Service Section
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona, 85007

Subject: Docket #WS -03478A 08-0454
Property address: 13692 So. Selina Drive
Yuma, Arizona

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose the West Water and Sewer Inc. placing their financial woes on the property owners that have already paid their sewer fee when they purchased their property initially.

It is my understanding that Far West Water and Sewer Inc. and the land developer are one and the same and have over developed the area. Everywhere you go you can see a large inventory of vacant and unsold lots. Now they want to build more lots and golf courses during an economic downturn. It appears that the developer wants the existing property owners to foot the bill for the utilities in the new subdivision.

I have been in the construction business for over 40 years and this is the same trick; push the cost on to everyone else so the developer's profits are larger. I believe the new property owners should absorb the cost of the utility in the new subdivision or be charged the hook-up fee.

The foothill area consists of mostly senior citizens on fixed incomes and snowbirds which are seasonal. We don't water lawns, wash RVs or cars and take clothes to the laundrymat and don't run dishwashers. We have minimal impact on the land use and the environment.

When I purchased my lot in January 2001, public sewers were **completed** (ie: Foothills Mobile Estates #27 Registration DM00-275716), with a hook up fee of \$40 and a monthly fee of \$20. The \$20 monthly

sewer fee was waived and only charged when your water was turned on. The ACC imposed the tariff schedule and raised it to \$240 a year. We currently pay \$261 a year.

Now Far West is requesting a three phase price increase; \$74.32 a month times 12 which equals \$891.84 a year plus taxes. **What's next.... The water fee???**

Presently I spend approximately six weeks a year in the foothills on my lot. At this rate I will be paying about \$150 a week for sewer usage with 46 weeks dormant. The sewer fees are going to be higher than the property tax.

If and when I decide to sell my property, who in their right mind would purchase a lot with such a ridiculous fee!!

I urge you to oppose this fee increase!!

Sincerely,
Donald Hermance
Karen Hermance
Donald & Karen Hermance

February 14, 2009

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

Jack N. and Joan A. Pettigrew
11393 S. Kingman Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85365

Re: Far West Water & Sewer Rate Increase

I am writing to strongly protest the sewer rate increase currently being requested by Far West Water & Sewer Company in Yuma, Arizona. This is outrageous. How can you even begin to seriously entertain allowing an almost 215% increase. The area that will be impacted by this request increase is home to a large number of senior citizens on a fixed income (whose annual COLA increases over 15 years would not even come close to the 214.5% increase they are requesting), military and other working families who are already financially pressed. If Far West Water & Sewer cannot keep up with expanding services without increasing rates to long existing customers then they need to stop expanding or find another source of funding. Perhaps they need to take a hard look at what they pay their CEOs and owners then go on a diet just like the rest of us.

You keep allowing APS to increase their rates until it is all we can do to keep up and now all the other utilities want an even bigger piece of the pie. Enough already. Stop this madness.

My husband and I are long time Yuma residents, retired, and living in a townhome that has a drip system for plants with no large grass lawn. Our current water/sewer bill runs from \$50 - \$65 a month. With the raises of Far West we will soon be over \$100 a month.

Surely Far West could find alternate funding and/or better management practices.

JOAN and JACK PETTIGREW
11393 S. KINGMAN AVE.
YUMA, AZ 85365
928-726-8039

February 19, 2009

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

Re:

Docket for Comment: Proposed Rate Increase for Far West Water & Sewer
Case or Utility Name: Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma, Arizona
Docket #WS-03478A-08-0454
Position on the Docket: Con

I am amazed and appalled at the Far West Water and Sewer Company's proposed increase in sewer fees.

It is quite apparent that the proposed increase has been requested in order to pay off debt incurred to finance the improvements needed to bring the current system into compliance with the ADEQ requirements and to allow for future development of the system. The cost of these improvements should not be the responsibility of the present consumer; it should be the responsibility of the company which **obviously ignored** the requirements in the first place.

It should also be noted that by increasing the capacity of the system, the family which also owns much of the vacant land and the major development business in the Foothills area will stand to gain by being able to further develop their land without a major investment on their part.

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 sewer rate increase, particularly one so outrageous, it should be remembered that the shortfall is the result of the business practices of Far West Water and Sewer, Inc., and not the current consumers.

Sincerely,

Marceline Mercier
13452 E 53rd St
Yuma, Az 85367

Marceline Mercier
13452 E. 53rd Street
Yuma, Arizona 85367

March 4, 2009

RE: Doc# WS-03478A-08-0454

DEAR COMMISSIONER:

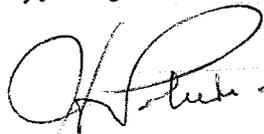
I AM A CANADIAN WINTER VISTOR WHO LIVES ON HIS OWN LOT IN A PARK MODEL FOUR MONTHS OF THE YEAR. AT THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE, I COULD BE PAYING OVER \$200 PER MONTH FOR THE TIME I USE THE SEWER. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. I UNDERSTAND FAR WEST WATER AND SEWER'S PROBLEM, AND WHAT THEY NEED IS A LARGER CUSTOMER BASE. EVERY PIECE OF PROPERTY SHOULD PAY FOR THE SEWER WHETHER THEY ARE USING OR NOT IF THE SEWER RUNS PAST THEIR PROPERTY. IT WAS BUILT FOR THEIR FUTURE USE. AS A PRIVATE COMPANY, I CAN SEE THAT FWWS CAN NOT CHARGE A PERSON THAT HAS NOT SIGNED UP FOR WATER, BUT THE COUNTY CAN TAX US AND GIVE THE MONEY TO FWWS. THIS COULD BE AN AMOUNT OF \$10 PER MONTH WITH A LARGE TAX BASE. THEN FWWS COULD CHARGE THE USERS A FAIR RATE BASED ON WATER USAGE, WHEN THE CUSTOMERS WERE ACTUALLY USING THE SYSTEM.

YOU CAN NOT EXPECT A FEW CUSTOMERS TO PAY FOR A SYSTEM THAT WAS BUILT FOR A MUCH LARGER CUSTOMER BASE IN THE FUTURE.

YOURS TRULY

HENRY POBUDA

13858 E 50th STREET



HENRY POBUDA
13858 E 50th ST.
YUMA, AZ

March 2, 2009

To whom it may concern,

She is retired and on a fixed income. It would be about \$900.00 a year after 3 years, which is way out of our budget.

Please take into consideration of the young, retired and all the snow birds in your project.

She retired, bring in a lot of income for the city of Yuma especially the snow birds. She, as many other would not be returning if it gets to the 200% you are looking for.

She pay our taxes & etc which are very reasonable, but 200% increase is ridiculous.

Please look at this asap before you consider a 200% increase.

Many of our friends have paid new taxes & would love to see

This message goes through.
Thank you,

Bob Stearns

Nancy Thomason

9567 E 33rd Place

Yuma, Arizona 85365

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the _____ for complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

YOUR NAME <i>Richard & Shirley Morgan</i>	DATE <i>2-17-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>13815 E. 51st PL. YUMA, AZ. 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928 345-9015 509 680-2810</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FAR WEST WATER + SEWER</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

If far-west wants to develop more lots, they should pay for their own bills, & not expect others to do it. In case they don't know lots of us are on a fixed income, & can not afford this outrageous raise.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

*Richard & Shirley Morgan
13815 E. 51st Place
Yuma, AZ 85367*

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Mr. Wayne Tole</i>	DATE <i>3-3-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>13656 E 53rd Ln Yuma Az 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-342-9251</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Request for Permanent Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Far West Water & Sewer Co. (FWWS) customers protest the proposed rate hike. According to the joint news release from ADEQ and the Arizona Attorney General's Office, dated September 10, 2008, FWWS has had long standing violations. The neglect of their responsibility to construct and maintain their sewer system resulted in their present crisis. FWWS apparently cut corners to save money and the owners profited in the continued growth as they developed other business interests. This, combined with inadequate planning to maintain compliance with ADEQ regulations resulted in their self made crisis. Now that ADEQ has required them to bring all treatment sites up to standards, FWWS wants customers to pay for the mismanagement. Please deny the FWWS request for a rate hike. Any alleged financial hardship appears to be associated with poor management and greed and therefore, is not the responsibility of the customers.

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Jesse Newman *Paula Newman* Step 2

YOUR NAME JESSE & PAULA NEWMAN	DATE 3/04/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13557 E. 49TH LANE, YUMA AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-342-9554
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Request for Permanent Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input checked="" type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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or

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mailmaster@azcc.gov

Jesse Newman
13557 E 49th Ln
Yuma AZ 85367-6512

Step 1

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Lulu M. Ivy
13493 E 52nd St
Yuma, AZ 85367

Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Jack & Lulu Ivy</i>	DATE <i>3-03-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>13493 E. 52nd St. Yuma, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-305-1485</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Sewer Increase</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>#WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME _____	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS _____	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We fully agree with the sentiments expressed in this letter to the Editor! When #25 has hundreds of lots being developed, but not sold, we think it is time for them to invest their own money, in repairing their mistakes, not ours!

Lulu M. Ivy

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Stanley Patricia A. EVANS</i>	DATE <i>3-1-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>55 Kootenai Dr. Libby, MT 59923</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>406-283-1004</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>EVANS2349@roadrunner.com</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, we the customers of Far West Water and Sewer Co., would like to ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to NOT APPROVE the application submitted by Far west water and Sewer Company. Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454.

A. Far West provides water and sewer services to the Foothills area east of Yuma. There are approximately 8000 residential and commercial customers in this unincorporated area of Yuma County, who would receive a rate increase of over 200% over a period of three years. Once approved this new rate will be the permanent rate and will continue until Far West decides to raise the rates again.

Please see the Next 2 Pages

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
**Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
 Phoenix, Arizona 85007;**

or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

**Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page**

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

B. Far West Water and Sewer Co and H&S Developers has been fined and is required to pay penalties, for numerous repeated alleged water and air quality violations dating back as far as 1989 and as recently as the 50 counts filed September 9, 2008 that could amount to a judgment of millions of dollars. H & S Developers is also named because it provided the services until forming Far West as a separate company in 1998 and transferring drinking water and wastewater facilities ownership to the new company.

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D. H & S Development Co. recently opened El Rancho Encantado a new subdivision of RV Homes which consists of 219 sites with two RV hookups including Electrical service, sewer dump & water on each site. This is phase one of the project with two more phases to come. We question whether or not this latest request for a rate increase is designed to help pay for the new Wastewater Plant needed to support this new development?

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F. Of the Year round Foothills residents there is still a large majority of Retirees living on a fixed income. Many more are the working class. If the proposed increase passes it would only succeed in further devastating the local economy. There are many folks who live paycheck to paycheck as it is. A fee increase as proposed could potentially force many people to sell or foreclose. With the housing market as it is today, this will only add to the declining economy.

In Conclusion

- We don't feel that Current customers should incur the costs necessary to cover a new Wastewater Plant needed to compensate for future growth. At most this cost should be absorbed by impact fees on the new lots being developed.**
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Continued on the Next Page.

**Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page**

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

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Dated this 12th day of February, 2009

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Tucson: \$23.61/month Rate Increase of 9.5% initiated July 1, 2008

Phoenix: \$28.50/month Proposed Rate increase of 5%

Arizona Corporation
Service Section
1200 W Washington
Phoenix AZ 85007

13245 E 46 St
Yuma AZ 85367

Janet DeBruin
13245 E 46th St
Yuma, AZ 85367-8607

Dear Sir -

In reference to Far West Sewer
and water request; Docket # W 50378A-
08-0454 - increase & W 50378A 0628

I am against these amounts!

I feel if they hired the correct qualified
people they wouldn't have all of the
problems they have. Like perk pools on
deep clay ground - that aren't working -

men being killed on jobs etc - I don't
feel we should be paying for Company
mistakes - I live here in Yuma due to
poor health and I am a widow on Social
Security if these raises go up I will
have to give up my home - I don't
know where I'll be able to afford
with today's prices - Also at meetings
the co - stated they had plenty of money
for sewer water - I questioned it therefore

Sincerely

Janet M DeBruin

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Stanley & Patty Ewers</i>	DATE <i>3-1-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>14723 E. 2ND Dr Yuma, AZ</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-345-1006</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>montana.patt@comcast.net</i>	

Step 3

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Public Comment Form
Continuation Page**

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Continued on the Next Page.

**Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page**

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Phoenix: \$28.50/month Proposed Rate increase of 5%

*Let the developers add an impact fee
to all new lots they want to sell
they need to take some of the
millions they have already rec'd & take
care of their own business!*

Roy and Karen Hollandsworth
13566 E 55th DR
Yuma AZ 85637

March 2, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Services Station
1200 West Washington
Phoenix AZ 85007

Re: Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

We are opposed to the proposed increase in the water/sewer rates by Far West Water & Sewer Company. The proposed increase in rates is ridiculous. The first year it proposes a 150% increase over current rates, the second year a 195% increase over current rates and the third year another increase. The residential rates would go from \$21.75 a month to \$74.32 a month in a three year period. A majority of the residents on the water/sewer system with Far West Water & Sewer are elderly retired fixed income homeowners. A reasonable rate increase would be understandable. With the economic conditions that are affecting our country this does not seem reasonable at all. Far West Water & Sewer should put in for some of this federal stimulus package that is supposed to be for infrastructure and increase jobs.

Sincerely

Roy and Karen Hollandsworth

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Jenae Bailey	DATE 3-3-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 974E 38th place Yuma AZ 85305	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (978) 539-0822
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS Destineelb@aol.com	

Step 3

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Public Comment Form

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Continued on the Next Page.

Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Continuation Page

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Opinion noted and docket in SW-03478A-08-0454. closed
End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/5/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77259

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

This increase is excessive when compared to comparable rates for surrounding communities. There has been no explanation offered for the purpose of these funds.

Step 4

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

I replied by e-mail with the following:

Dear Mr.Washington

I received your e-mail regarding the proposed rate increase application for Far West Water and Sewer Company ("Company"). I appreciate the time that you have taken to express your comments regarding this matter.

Your letter regarding the Company's rate case has been entered into our database and filed with the Docket Control Center of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") to be made part of the record. The Commissioners will consider your comments before a decision is rendered in the Company's application.

The concerns raised in letters received from customers will assist the Commission in the review of the rate application. The Commission's independent analysis of the utility and its rate request attempts to balance the interest of the utility and its customers.

Commission Staff is very sensitive to the burden that high utility rates can place on the consumer, and though constitutionally required to allow a fair return to the utility, does everything within its authority to protect the consumer.

You may call me toll free at 1-800-535-0148 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Reg Lopez
Public Utilities Consumer Analyst II
Utilities Division

I e-mailed Lupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to please have this OPINION placed in the appropriate stack and have this docketed towards docket no. WS03478-A-08-0454 only, under Far West Water & Sewer. File closed.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/3/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77122

WS.03478A.08.0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Reg Lopez

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 77122

Date: 3/2/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: Ernest Last: Washington

Account Name: Ernest Washington

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: [REDACTED]

Work:

City: Yuma

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 8 [REDACTED]

is:

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division: Water

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

-----Original Message-----

From: Cheryl Washington [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 7:24 PM
To: Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: Docket # WS03478-A-08-0454 and WS03478-A-08-0608

Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Ernest Washington DATE February 27, 2009

ADDRESS, 10360 Summer Avenue, CITY, STATE AND ZIP Yuma AZ 85365 YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-345-9358

DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS03478-A-08-0454 AND WS03478-A-08-0608 DOCKET NUMBER same

CASE OR UTILITY NAME YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET Far West Water, Yuma AZ

CON

YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS washington979@earthlink.net

Step 3

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

This increase is excessive when compared to comparable rates for surrounding communities. There has been no explanation offered for the purpose of these funds.

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Arizona Corporation Commission

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/3/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77122

WS-03478A 08.0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Richard Martinez

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: ([REDACTED])

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 77184

Date: 3/3/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Jason & Kayla Holiman

Account Name: Jason & Kayla Holiman

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: [REDACTED]

Work:

City: Yuma

CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ

Zip: [REDACTED]

is: E-Mail

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division: Water

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

(Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454)

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

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Dated this 1st day of March 2009

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

*Average Sewer Rates around Arizona:

Sierra Vista (Rate increase of 5% total initiated Jan. 1, 2009): \$14.68/month

Tucson : \$23.61/month Rate Increase of 9.5% initiated July 1, 2008

Phoenix: \$28.50/month Proposed Rate increase of 5%

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

na

End of Response

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

I emailed this OPINION to Guadalupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to have this docketed towards Far West Water & Sewer, Inc. Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0608. FILE CLOSED.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 3/3/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77184
