

ORIGINAL

To: The Arizona Corporation Commission



March 18, 2009

0000094704

Kristin K. Mayes Chairman  
Gary Pierce Commissioner  
Paul Newman Commissioner  
Sandra D. Kennedy Commissioner  
Bob Stump Commissioner

RECEIVED

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

2009 MAR 19 P 1:33

I'm sorry that I am unable to attend the meeting in Phoenix but we had my Dad's brother pass away on March 15, and since our parents are in their 80's, we had to take them back to Nebraska. Because I am listed as an intervener, please read my letter at the meeting, Thursday, March 19, 2009.

I'm opposed to any increase by Arizona American Water for Docket No. SW-01303A-08-0227. The AZ Corp. Commission in 2006 allowed AZ American Water to increase the sewer rate effective May of 2007. AZ American Water claimed that rates had not changed for 15 yrs. I say to you that AZ American Water did not buy the Wishing Well until 2002, so they owned the company for only 4 years before the requested rate increase. From the 2002 to 2006 the rates were \$39.00 with no expansion done to the plant. For 6 years, they were receiving payments higher than average sewer payments in AZ. Where did all that money go?

I was one of 16 persons invited to attend a meeting in Ft. Mohave in Feb. We discussed the issues and took a tour of the Wishing Well plant.

I questioned the representatives from Am. Water about why they needed a rate increase since they just received a 40% increase last year to approximately \$50 per month. It was very interesting to hear them say that they needed this increase to keep their stockholders happy and to make sure they received a good return on their investment. They also said that AZ American Water will be in the Black by 2010. To operate in the BLACK means to be making MONEY! Having once owned an RV business, it would have been wonderful to raise the rates 39% and then one year later ask everyone for another 81% increase. After hearing everyone complain, can you imagine reducing the rate increase to 66% and telling them we just saved you 15%? The people would have moved their rigs to another park. The only difference is that we just can't pack up the house and move it to a lot that we can put a septic on, or pick someone else for our sewer service.

I would like to add that the sewer rates in Ft. Mohave are among the highest in the state of AZ. Also, your own commission which has done appraisals on this believes there should be a \$4.00 decrease in billing per month. I agree with the staff of the AZ Corp. Commission about the decrease.

Ft. Mohave is a resort area and many residents are not here year round yet they pay their monthly sewer fees. The sewer is not based on water usage but on a flat rate, you have to have the water shut off which makes it difficult to water outdoor plants even though you are not using the sewer system. I might add that the sewer plant is operating at less than 50% of its capacity because of the expansion.

I believe this is an unfair rate increase and that we are already paying over and above what we should be paying. I believe the decrease of \$4.00 on our monthly billing would be the right choice.

Regards,

Steven D. Colborn  
1932 E. Desert Greens Lane  
Ft. Mohave, AZ 86426  
Cell # 1.928.210.0649

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

MAR 19 2009

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**SERVICE LIST FOR  
ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY  
DOCKET NO. W-01303A-08-0227  
DOCKET NO. SW-01303A-08-0227**

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