

W-01445A-08-0440



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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMIS

ORIGINAL

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Al Amezcua

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 81503 Date: 8/27/2009

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

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Bradley

Edwards

Account Name: Bradley Edwards

Home:

Street:

Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Bisbee

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 85603

is:

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2009 SEP - P 3:28
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Utility Company: Arizona Water Company

Division: Bisbee

Contact Name: Tom Harrell

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

BISBEE Eastern Group

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MM

COMMENTS FOR ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING ON
APPLICATION FOR RATE INCREASE BY ARIZONA WATER COMPANY
DOCKET NUMBER W-01445A-08-0440

I protest the rate increase which Arizona Water Company is requesting to charge me, as one of their water user customers in Bisbee This is a time when I am trying to retire, and the large part of my income which comes from investments has declined to a distressing point. At 61, I am somewhat younger than when most seniors try to retire, but there is a reason for this When my mother died less than a month shy of 5 years ago, I was faced with closing my business in Colorado, where I was self-employed, and moving into our family home here, or seeing it trashed by renters or lost in a sale By moving here, I came to where my chances of starting up my business again are very low, before I reach a more normal retirement age.

With the economy the way it is, my income is not able to afford utility rate increases While prices in the competitive economy have not risen but have even fallen slightly in some places, utility monopolies like Arizona Water Co don't have to compete and face possible insolvency during our economic decline, so they don't have to lower rates, like competitive companies are lowering prices. Instead, they are trying to RAISE rates to offset losses because of bad management.

One of your Commissioners, Paul Newman, should remember from his tenure as a Cochise County Supervisor a few years ago, when the Arizona Water Co lost a court case with the city of Bisbee over a water line location dispute. The water company's profitability suffered a reverse because of the court's findings that the company improperly managed its operations. Now the company is trying to pass along this loss from its poor management, along to its customers.

As if there won't be enough insult to injury when this rate increase is approved, the Arizona Water Co. will probably be one of those Arizona Corporations, who will be benefitting from the 0.65 BILLION dollar corporation

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tax CUT in the state legislature's new budget, according to what recent news reports have described. I'm also a property owner whose taxes will be rising to help pay for this tax cut. Is this the year when our Corporation Commission is going to join the legislature in contributing to bail-outs for the corporate sector during our economic suffering? This sector knew in ore about who was responsible for, and was itself more responsible for- our economy's collapse-- than we citizen taxpayers and customers of monopolies knew and were. The ailing economy is hurting US, to.

Truthfully yours,

Bradley Edwards
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

8/27/09 I called and explained to the customer that we had received his opinion and will docketed it for the record. CLOSED.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 8/27/2009

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