

ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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Ref docket # W-20459A-08-167~~168~~

W-20459A-08-168

RECEIVED

December 14, 2009

2009 DEC 14 P 1:53

Members of the AZ Corporation Commission:

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Attached are six letters emailed to me by property owners in Christopher Creek, AZ. These letters are in support of a rate increase requested by Utility Systems LLC, our water company in Christopher Creek.

All of these letters are identified by the property owner's name, address, email address and, often, phone number. I notified these folks of your meeting scheduled for December 15/16, 2009, regarding the above referenced case, and asked if they wanted to make a statement in support of the rate increase. There were no emails/letters received opposing the requested rate increase.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gary Anderson, 1310 E Woodman Drive, Tempe 85283, 480 839-3542, gwander@gmail.com
And
413 Apple Ashby, Payson 85541, 928 478-4075

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

DEC 14 2009

DOCKETED BY

Ref docket # W-20459A-08-167~~458~~

W-20459A-08-168

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Members of the Commission,

We are property owners in Christopher Creek, Arizona. We are served by Utility Systems LLC, our water company. Utility Systems LLC serves about 270 customers in our small mountain community. We have no other source of water. Those property owners who are not customers of the water company have their own wells. These wells have been in existence for many decades. It is not feasible, obviously, for current water company customers to drill their own wells. The community depends upon our water company as the life-blood of our existence.

The members of the Commission know better than most the extreme difficulty in providing quality water to Arizona citizens, especially in rural mountain communities. One only needs to say the words "Pine-Strawberry" to set off a panic among rural community property owners. Christopher Creek does not want to become the next Pine-Strawberry.

I have no first hand knowledge, but it stands to reason that delivering water to less than 300 customers in a rural mountain community costs appreciably more than it does to communities in the Valley. It is part of the Commission's job to regulate utilities in the state of Arizona. However, the Commission must strike a balance between regulating rates (we all love them low) and allowing the utility companies enough revenue to serve their customers well and make a profit.

We are part time Christopher Creek residents. Our water bills range from \$20-25 per month. We would readily pay more, \$5-10 per month more, to know that it helped maintain the economic and operational viability of our water company. Without our water company, we have nothing.

I urge you to support the rate increase request made by Utility Systems LLC, my water company.

Thank you,



Gary and Marjorie Anderson
413 Apple Ashby Dr
Christopher Creek, AZ
928 478-4075

And
1310 E Woodman Dr
Tempe, AZ 85283
480 839-3542

Ref docket # W-20459A-08-167~~468~~

W-20459A-08-168
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Members of the Commission,

I am a property owner in Christopher Creek, Arizona. I am served by Utility Systems LLC, the water company in our community. Utility Systems LLC serves about 270 customers in our small mountain community. We have no other source of water. Those property owners who are not customers of the water company have their own wells. These wells have been in existence for many decades. It is not feasible, obviously, for current water company customers to drill their own wells. The community depends upon our water company as the life-blood of our existence.

The members of the Commission know better than most the extreme difficulty in providing quality water to Arizona citizens, especially in rural mountain communities. One only needs to say the words "Pine-Strawberry" to set off a panic among rural community property owners. Christopher Creek does not want to become the next Pine-Strawberry.

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I am a part time Christopher Creek resident. My water bills range from \$20-25 per month. I would readily pay more, \$5-10 per month more, to know that it helped maintain the economic and operational viability of our water company. Without our water company, we have nothing.

I urge you to support the rate increase request made by Utility Systems LLC, my water company.

Sincerely,



Chuck Schmitt
461 Ashby Apple Lane
Christopher Creek, AZ

Ref Docket # W-20459 A -08-0167

W-20459 A -08-0168

From: mmccay2@cox.net

Subject: RE: Christopher Creek water company rate request

Date: December 10, 2009 5:41:09 PM GMT-07:00

To: gwander16@gmail.com

Dear Gary:

My husband and I read both your email and your letter to the AZ Corporation Commission. We agree with you that if some sort of rate increase will enable our Christopher Creek water company, Utility Systems, LLC, the ability to continue to provide us with good quality water and service, then that rate increase should be put into effect.

We have been homeowners and part-time residents of Christopher Creek since 1998 and love our home and community. Our monthly bills also equate to \$20-\$25/month and although times are tight for everyone right now, certainly an extra \$5-\$10/month increase isn't out of the question. We hope to someday make our permanent residence there. Living in such a secluded area will be nearly impossible without adequate utilities. I hope you will add our names to your request for support of a rate increase for water services.

Thank you for taking the time to alert us to this issue and for your efforts on our behalf.

Very truly yours,

Mark and Kelly McCay
1035 W. Columbine Road
Christopher Creek, AZ 85541
And
13101 N. 20th Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85029
(602) 942-1256

Docket #20459A-08-0167

~~071~~-20459A-08-0168

From: sprinkle@amhbnetwork.com
Subject: RE: Christopher Creek water company rate request
Date: December 10, 2009 1:16:35 PM GMT-07:00
To: gwander16@gmail.com

Hello Mr. Anderson:

We respectfully request that you impart to the Arizona Corporation Commission that as home owners in Christopher Creek we completely endorse the context and intent of your letter attached.

We have been homeowners at 286 Columbine for 12 years. Mr. Daniels, Primary Owner of Utility Systems, has certainly worked diligently to provide continuously excellent quality of service. As the CEO of a national company, and a business man for 40 years, I certainly subscribe to the business concept of providing good services to customers and reasonable profit margins. Therefore, Mr. Anderson, and whomever on the Arizona Corporation Commission that elects to read our messages, we encourage you to use sound, reasonable judgment in authorizing the man, and his small company, to survive....and, in so doing, as Mr. Anderson adequately points out, permitting we few customers to also survive. We have no place to go without continuous, quality water service.

Respectfully,

Michael and Julia Sprinkle
602-677-2762

Docket # W-20459 A-08-0167

W-20459 A-08-0168

From: bobritaq@msn.com

Subject: Re: Rate Increase

Date: December 10, 2009 5:23:35 PM GMT-07:00

To: gwander@cybertrails.com

Gary, I just received your e-mail re: the requested rate increase. I mailed a typed letter to the Arizona Corporation Commission, dated Nov. 1, in which I encouraged them to grant the requested rate increase, no matter the actual amount, because of the long-range impact it will have on all of the Christopher Creek residents. As I understand it, Utility Systems LLC is in financial trouble because it needs money to replace one of its pumps. The cost is rather expensive and the company will not be able to replace it without an increase. (See attachment)

I feel I have done my part, but I will be glad to contact others by phone if they do not have a computer. Let me know if I can assist in your effort to inform others who may not realize the importance of this matter.

I can be reached at 602-841-0142 anytime, day or night, because I'm a nightowl.

Sincerely, Bob Quay

Docket # W-20459A-08-0167
W-20459A-08-0168

From: pj29a@earthlink.net
Subject: Re: Christopher Creek water company rate request
Date: December 10, 2009 3:00:43 PM GMT-07:00
To: gwander16@gmail.com
Reply-To: pj29a@earthlink.net

I am happy with the water service, but know Jeff needs to update tanks and some water lines. The water company has not had a rate increase for quite a long time. I would support a rate increase. I hope that the commission would institute a gradual increase that would support the needs of the company.

Phyllis Agnew 387 Columbine Road Payson Ariz. 85541