

**ORIGINAL**

**Jennifer Ybarra**



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W-01427A-09-0120

**From:** chunn@peoplepc.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2010 12:14 PM  
**To:** Newman-Web  
**Subject:** Water rate increase for Litchfield Park

I am a longtime resident of Litchfield Park, and I read about the proposed rate increase sought by Liberty Water in our local paper. I won't be able to attend the public meeting, but I want to say that the amount of the increase seems to be excessive. Utilities are basically monopolies, and their natural inclination is to gouge their customers as much as possible--unless they are held in check. That is where the ACC comes in; it is your purpose to act as a brake on the inherent greed of these utilities and to protect the public.

I am not against the water company recovering the money it has invested in improvements, but I think a lower amount of increase would be sufficient--considering the increased number of households in this service area since 2002, giving a larger customer base to pay it.

Liberty is asking to double everyone's water bill, permanently, and they have invoked the holy name of conservation to justify it. I can guarantee you they are not concerned with conservation but only with profit. If you grant this rate increase now, they will be back in a year or two asking to double it again--and why not? They have opened with an inflated request, fully expecting to negotiate downward. But if you let them have this rate, they will see the ACC as spineless and the captive customers as easy prey. Please fulfill your function and protect us from these bullies--you are our only defense. Thanks for your attention.

Clifton Hunn  
300 Pacifico Circle  
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340  
623-935-1757

Arizona Corporation Commission  
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**JAN 25 2010**

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