

ORIGINAL



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Antonio Gill

From: Dave Kansorka [jdkansorka@cox.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 11:28
To: Newman-Web
Cc: Burns-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: Water Rate Hike

Arizona American Water
W-01303A-10-0448
In Opposition

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, I am writing to you on the proposed rate hike for the Water company. First of all there should not even be any meetings for the proposal it should be a flat denial and let them come back with something more realistic. I have been out of work since August 2007 and can not find a job. My IRA has been wiped out and no one will even talk to me about a job because of age, of course they can't and don't say that. So gas is up, food is up, Social Security is not going anywhere and everyone wants a raise. So to even consider anything is wrong. You are all smart people but, come on. JUST SAY NO.

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

AUG 31 2011

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2011 AUG 31 P 4: 32

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Antonio Gill

From: Kim Bearden [ar@cohaco.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 1:21 PM
To: Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web; Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; Newman-Web
Cc: 'kim bearden'; 'Kim Bearden'
Subject: Arizona American Water Co Rate increase
Importance: High

I would like to thank you for listening to the residents in Surprise area in regards to their complaints with Arizona American Water Company. I have been a resident in Surprise for the past 11 years and I am appalled over the possible rate increase. There is no justification for the rate increase. AZ AM Water made the mistake to build the facility in question, not the residents. When the housing market took a dump, they had the choice to downsize the facility, but chose not to. Again, not the residents mistake.

If the increase is approved there will be more vacant homes in the area to deal with. I don't want to loose my home due to their error. I pay my bills on time, they need to do the same without taking it out on us (the residents).

Thank you,

Kimberly Bearden


Surprise, AZ 85374

Antonio Gill

From: Walt Kearns [walt@wekearns.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 1:45 PM
To: consumerinfo@azag.gov
Cc: Pierce-Web
Subject: Potential RUCO Conflict of Interest in Corporate Commission Dockets SW-01303A-09-0343,W-01303A-10-0448, and W-01303A-11-0101

To the Attorney General:

The Residential Utility Consumer Office(RUCO) has notified the Administrative Law Judge presiding over ACC Docket SW-01303A-09-0343 that RUCO's Director, Jodi Jerich, is the daughter of Ron Jerich, who is a Board member of the Anthem Community Council, who also is a party in that case. The case involves splitting the Anthem community from the Arizona American Water Company (AAWC) Agua Fria wastewater district. The impact would raise wastewater rates from the remaining AAWC Agua Fria customers by 137.9% while lowering rates for Anthem residents.

I recognize that the Corporate Commission will decide this case and that RUCO asserts there is no conflict of interest as RUCO is not the decision maker.

My question is whether this gives RUCO a free pass to provide testimony clearly favoring Anthem over all the other utility customers which they have or should they have recused themselves from this and other related cases? Would the Corporate Commission or the ALJ be entitled to reject RUCO's testimony as biased?

Walt Kearns


Corte Bella Country Club,
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Antonio Gill

From: Dorothy Greening [dgreening@cox.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2011 2:57 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Stump-Web; Kennedy-Web; Newman-Web; Burns-Web; Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: Docket No. SW-01303A-09-0343 and W-01303A-09-0343--Increase in Aqua Fria Water/wastewater rates

Commissioners:

Asking homeowners to absorb a 139.7% increase in wastewater rates plus an 82% increase in water rates (Docket No. W-01303A-10-0448) is outrageous and morally unjust! I live in Corte Bella, which is a senior community. My husband and I are on fixed incomes and have not seen a cost-of-living increase in the past two years. And it looks at this time, that we will continue with stagnant incomes again this year. We simply cannot handle such a drastic increase in water rates!

What is even more outrageous and egregious is the fact that the Commission is seemingly willing in these unprecedented, unfavorable economic times to favor a younger group (Anthem) who for the most part is in its formative earning years over the residents of Corte Bella who are dealing with both fixed incomes and a myriad of health-related issues. This proposed deconsolidation action is disproportionately unfair, and should not be approved under these circumstances.

We have had to drastically reduce our expenditures in the last several years just to cover our basic living expenses. To try to absorb the resultant increases that deconsolidation would produce, would mean making a choice between health care/food/and other essentials. So we urge and implore you not to push this proposal forward as it will cause an undue financial, emotional, and psychological hardship on us.

No matter how much planning one does in preparation for retirement, you simply do not consider that your utility rates will increase to stratospheric heights and with such magnitude. I can't say it often enough, this increase will be catastrophic for me and my husband.

Respectfully,

Theron & Dorothy Greening-Mercomes

Antonio Gill

From: Walt Kearns [walt@wekearns.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 8:20 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Stump-Web; Kennedy-Web; Newman-Web; Burns-Web
Subject: Docket W-01303A-11-0101

Dear Commissioners,
Gary Pierce, Chairman
Bob Stump
Sandra D. Kennedy
Paul Newman
Brenda Burns

Subject: Docket W-01303A-11-0101

The Application by EPCOR to buy Arizona-American Water (AAWC) is now before the Commission.

The Commission should get satisfactory answers to the following questions in considering this application:

- How does this acquisition help the consumers of AAWC services?
- How does this acquisition improve on AAWC's record of submitting applications that ignore the Commission's directions to properly develop their rate cases? Will the new company continue to ignore repeated requests that short term debt be included in the Cost of Capital? Or that continues to request an Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharges when the Commission has indicated this should only be considered in a general consolidation of AAWC districts.
- How does this application improve AAWCs near term and long term service planning? AAWC data indicates that that hookup fees counted on to pay for the White Tanks Plant nearly 18% by the end of 2006, yet AAWC planners went ahead with plans for that plant starting construction on the White Tanks Plant began on November 1, 2007. Would EPCOR have done the same?
- What would be the impact on this application if the applications in SW-01303A-09-0343 and W-01303A-10-0448 were denied in part or in entirety?

RUCO and Staff will tell you that nothing will change as a result of the sale. But that is the problem: if nothing changes AAWC will continue to manipulate the Commission; communities will still be pitted against other communities; RICO will still favor one community over others; and AAWC's customers will still be charged the highest water rates in Arizona.

Approval of this sale should come with the most stringent conditions—

- Immediate application for consolidation of all AAWC water and wastewater districts fully compliant with Commission decisions on Capital Structure, Accumulating Funds Used During Construction; Declining Residential Usage Adjustments; Irrigation Rates; Winter Rates; Infrastructure System Replacement; and a 5-year phase scheme to minimize rate shock.
- Public disclosed near-, mid- and far-term planning subject to customer comments and ACC approval.