

W-01445A-12-0348



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ORIGINAL

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMM
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Tom Davis

Phone: ()

AZ CORP. COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

2013 APR 30 AM 8 43

Opinion No. 2013 - 110414

Date: 4/29/2013

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

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

APR 30 2013

Complaint By: Richard Holthausen

DOCKETED BY JM

Account Name: Richard Holthausen

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street:

Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Sedona

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 86351

is:

Utility Company: Arizona Water Company

Division: Sedona

Contact Name:

Contact Phone: ()

Nature of Complaint:

OPPOSED

W-01445A-12- 0348

WATER

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed permanent rate increase by the Arizona Water Company for its Northern Group Systems. I live in the Village of Oak Creek so my specific concern is with the Verde Valley unit of Arizona Water.

I live in a house that is required to have a 1" meter because the fire district required installation of sprinkler systems in houses throughout our subdivision. Despite having a 1" meter, my water use is moderate and yet I still pay premium prices for water. For example, in the month of March my water use was only 1700 gallons which translates to 58 gallons per day. But my water bill was a hefty \$73.86. As far as I know, this is the highest price charged for domestic water by any water system in northern Arizona. Under the proposed rate increase, this bill would increase again by nearly 25% to approximately \$90. This is simply an outrageous charge for domestic water.

In addition to prices that are simply too high, the rate structure used by Arizona Water does nothing to encourage water conservation. At the current time, my base monthly charge is a whopping \$57.75, and any water use up to 10,000 gallons in a month is charged only \$1.9147 per 1000 gallons. This means that I can use up to 10,000 gallons and my bill would only increase by \$19.15 to \$76.90 (exclusive of arsenic surcharge, map surcharge, taxes, etc.). In the wonderful state of Arizona where water ought to be a primary concern, this rate structure provides no incentive for conservative use of water.

I do not know what justification Arizona Water is using in its request for a rate increase. But I do know that their rates are already much higher than other water companies in the area and that their rate structure does nothing to discourage wasteful water use. I urge you, no I beg you, to deny this rate increase and to require Arizona Water to restructure their rate table in a way that encourages conservation.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Sincerely,
Richard Holthausen
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

4/29/13: Entered for the record and docketed

CLOSED
End of Comments

Date Completed: 4/29/2013

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