

SW-01303A-01-0343  
W-01303A-01-0343



0000155540

Jessica D. Perry

**From:** Georgia Mousaw <lilmoo66@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 22, 2014 6:34 AM  
**Subject:** Epcor Water Rate Increase

Mr Burns,

Please help us stop the price increase for the Sun City residents with the Epcor Water. We need your help. Some of us are on fixed incomes and this will devastate many of us.

Thanks for your help in advance,

Georgia Mousaw

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED  
AUG 26 2014

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RECEIVED  
2014 AUG 26 A 9:56  
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** cols9438@mypacks.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 6:02 PM  
**To:** cols9438@mypacks.net; Pierce-Web; RBurns-Web; Stump-Web; Burns-Web; BitterSmith-Web  
**Cc:** cols9438@mypacks.net  
**Subject:** W-01303A-10-0448 - EPCOR Water costs

Dear Commissioners -

IN THE MATTER OF ARIZONA-) Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343

AMERICAN WATER COMPANY) SW-01303A-09-0343

Information to be posted to above docket:

**COMMENTS:**

The cost of our water is too high compared to other cities in the Phoenix area and the country. I have lived in the Peoria and Surprise areas and find it hard to understand why my water bills should be double and more compared to other areas of the valley. Especially when these two cities include garbage pickup in my bill and EPCOR is only water! I should not be penalized for where I live.

While this cost would seem minimal to many, to me this added expense reduces my available money for other necessities.

It should never been allowed to have such discrepancies in the water bills across the valley to begin with. I also do not want my water bills to be this high, my water bills keep going up, yet my income does not. We still have a pending rate increase coming up. Not sure why my water bill should be higher than my APS bill in many months.

How is it that Anthem was enabled to reduce their rates, yet we are not?

Name: Cecil. Morris

Address: 11916 W. Daley Ln Sun City, Az 85373

Resident of: CrossRiver

Email: [cols9438@mypacks.net](mailto:cols9438@mypacks.net)

Contact info: Cecil Morris

Signature and Date

Attention: ACC docket control

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Linda Weatbrook <linda@weatbrook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 5:00 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** water district consolidation proposed by Epcor for Sun City West

August 20, 2014

Dear Commissioner Burns,

I am writing to you to express my concerns about Epcor's proposal to consolidate water districts.

I live in Sun City West and there were many factors that affected my decision to purchase a home there instead of in another community.

I wanted to be under county governance instead of a city government and I wanted to be in a retirement community.

I considered the population of various communities, the age of the homes available, the cost of upgrading or replacing major items such as a roof, air conditioner, furnace, and kitchen appliances.

I also considered property taxes, association or homeowner dues and the annualized cost of utilities and what future upgrades might be required in older communities over the expected time I would be living there.

All of these things were factored into my home buying decision.

I am opposed to consolidating with Corte Bella and with all of the other water districts as well.

I recognize that some water districts have rates slightly lower than mine, some slightly higher and some drastically higher. I have to assume that the same items that factored into my home buying decision also factored into the home buying decision of the residents in those communities.

Epcor stated in their letter of July 10, 2014 that moving to a consolidated district with a single rate structure mirrors what consumers experience in most municipal districts. I consider Sun City West a municipal district and find it difficult to see how all of these various communities could possibly be called one municipal district. A municipality is usually incorporated and had local governance.

While consolidation may provide reduce administrative costs for Epcor it certainly will not provide any benefits to the residents of Sun City West.

It is my understanding that Sun City West will need to pay for improvements in lift stations, pumps and a pressurized pipe replacement sometime in the next 5 years. The estimated cost for this is 4.9 million.

The argument has been made that consolidation will mean that more ratepayers will be bearing some of the financial burden on those replacement costs.

There are 24,500 homes in Sun City West. I do not know how many businesses there are so I will simply leave them out of the math.

4.9 million dollars divided by 24,500 comes to \$200.00

Consolidating all of the varied water districts would cost the residents of Sun City West considerably more over the next five years that the cost of the required upgrades to the Sun City West System.

I submit to you that Sun City West as a local municipality within the county should have its own water district and not be consolidated with any other municipality or water district.

Sincerely,

Linda Weatbrook

14109 W. Parada Dr.

Sun City West, AZ 85375

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Frances SPREITZER MSN Account <frannies579@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 3:31 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Consolidation of waste water rates

**Categories:** Printed

I am very much opposed to the consolidation of waste water rates. I have been living on a fixed income for 28 years and would find an increase in my waste water rates to be a hardship. It would be unfair to force us in Sun City West to equally divide these rates with other higher-income cities.

Frances Spreitzer

Sent from Windows Mail

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Lawrence <l.eastep@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 2:30 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Re: Epcor's request for Waste Water Rate Increase

**Categories:** Printed

Dear Commissioner:

All five water districts in question are diverse in age, geographical spread, time of original construction and other factors that result in different utility costs.

The commissions previous decision, in 2012, was that it would not be in the public's best interest for the water company (American Water Company) to implement a full system consolidation.

The cost-causers were expanded because of the dramatic expansion of the Northwest Valley. A number of communities were developed without a long term plan. The Sun Cities retirement communities were developed and built out in the 1980's and 1990's while other development communities and municipalities continued their development growth.

If it wasn't in the public's best interest to consolidate two years ago, it certainly isn't prudent to do so today.

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry Eastep  
217 622-3805  
2307 Silver Stone Court  
Springfield, IL 62704

Winter  
17536 W. Vinca Court  
Surprise AZ 85378

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Chip Skauge <chipskauge@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 12:11 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Water Rate Review

Dear Mr. Burns,

As a resident of Sun City I would like you to know that I am not in favor of a consolidating the water districts. Our communities of Sun City in Sun City West contain hundreds and hundreds of retirees we cannot afford to be consolidated with other districts.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully yours

Chip Skauge

Sent from my iPhone

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Lisa Moffett <Immoffett@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 19, 2014 3:31 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** My EPCOR Water Story

Dear Commissioner Burns,

I hope you can help us. Here is my EPCOR Water story:

I thought I was all alone in this high water bill problem, and I was to blame. I have spent many hours trying to figure out why my bill was so high. Were we using too much water? Did we have a leak in our landscaping? Did we have a leak in our pool? We checked everything.

What a relief to find out that everyone is having the same problem and that somebody decided to take a stand. I was discouraged to find out that EPCOR Water is unfairly applying costs to its customers.

I'm now concerned that my water rates will also affect my ability to sell my house.

I do have hope that the ACC will make sure that are water costs are applied fairly.

Thank you for listening and please take action.

Sincerely,

Lisa Moffett

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Jeffrey Lehrer <jclehrer@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 19, 2014 8:45 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** No to the Wastewater rate increase

Dear Commisioner Burns,

I am apposed to the 89% increase that has been proposed for the residents of Sun City. I can understand an increase, but 89%???? I am a full time resident, I vote and my memory is still quite sharp!!!

Regards,

Jeffrey C. Lehrer

10832 W Sarabande Circle

Sun City, AZ 85351

Sent from Windows Mail

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Jim & Julie Powell <jnj8040@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2014 11:28 AM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Epcor Wastewater DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-0303A-0-0343

I am not in favor of consolidation of the Wastewater district. I am a 3rd generation senior to retire to the original Phase I of Sun City because of a need to know my budget due limited fixed income. I am from an area that always required water conservation because we were on a well and private septic system. We bought a home where we knew we could afford the expenses. It is unfair to make us pay for newer housing developments which should have their costs covered by their residents.

It will be a great financial burden to many in the Sun City Senior Overlay Zone if we are required to pay nearly \$35 per month just for this wastewater consolidation expense. Please do not vote for consolidation.

Julie Powell  
11062 W. Florida Avenue  
Sun City AZ

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Matt Bigham <MBigham@wgis.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2014 9:28 AM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** RE: \*The wastewater reference docket/case # is: SW-01303A-09-0343

RE: \*The wastewater reference docket/case # is: SW-01303A-09-0343

Dear Honorable Commissioner,

I am a 12 year resident of metropolitan Phoenix and moved my family to Verrado in Buckeye three years ago. My wife and I along with her parents invested in Buckeye and opened a preschool in one of the toughest economies in recent history creating 20 jobs. Having lived in central Phoenix prior to Buckeye I am shocked at the cost of our water bill both for the residence, and the commercial property we own. I am well aware of and practice water conservation efforts being employed in the agricultural industry but am shocked to see a bill breaching \$400 a month for my home and \$1100 a month for our business.

To say the least these costs are prohibitive and unwarranted. Epcor's pricing is way out of line and I hope you will use your authority to help realign the water cost issue to a more consistent basis.

Respectfully,

Matt Bigham  
20966 W. Glen St  
Buckeye, AZ 85396

Buckeye/Verrado Goddard Preschool, Owner

Matt Bigham, AFIS, CLCS  
Sales Manager  
Phoenix, AZ | Irvine, CA  
602-757-7869 cell  
602-266-6147 ex: 7452 office  
949-809-8968 efax  
[mbigham@wga.com](mailto:mbigham@wga.com)  
[www.WGInsuranceServices.com](http://www.WGInsuranceServices.com)  
*Learn more about Western Growers*



**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** eileen purdy <eileenpurdy001@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2014 1:36 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** EPCOR- Waste Water Consolidation

M. Burns

I am contacting you to oppose the EPCOR Waste Water Consolidation. As a resident of Sun City I have neighbors who are barely surviving on small pensions and people who are taking showers at the Recreation Centers to save on their water bills. Please remember, you were elected by the voters not EPCOR.

Thank you,  
Eileen Chaves

EPCOR Waste Water Consolidation  
Docket W-013031-09-0343 SW-013031-09-0343

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Leslie Marshall <leslieparis28@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2014 3:21 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Verrado Water Charges

Dear Mr. Burns:

Our family have been residents of Verrado since 2009. In that time, our water bills have increased from an average of \$240 to close to \$300 with no change to our habits. After speaking with Arizona residents throughout the state, it is painfully obvious that these charges are excessive and punitive to the residents of Verrado.

We appreciate the advantages of living in this community, but when our water bill is two to three times higher than neighboring communities; we have to insist that something be done. Subsidizing is not the answer.

We are

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** David Wang <wangdm.357@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2014 10:48 AM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** EPCOR Wastewater District Consolidation

Bob Burns

Commissioner

Arizona Corporation Commission

Dear Commissioner Burns:

I urge you to oppose any and all schemes to consolidate “high cost” wastewater districts with the district supporting Sun City West. There is no doubt a problem with prospective significant increases in wastewater charges for residents supported by the Agua Fria, Anthem and Mohave districts. That said, it does not logically or equitably follow that the solution to some one else’s problem is to jack up rates for residents of Sun City West who have nothing to do with wastewater service for the Agua Fria, Anthem and Mohave districts. Full consolidation would obviously be the easy solution but that in no way makes it an equitable or fair solution. Don’t fall for it.

We could have located in Corte Bella (we looked) but chose Sun City West instead in part because of significantly lower monthly living costs. Having made that decision, and investing a substantial amount to upgrade our home, it doesn’t seem right that we should now be asked to shoulder higher costs simply because Corte Bella and other communities have a higher cost base for wastewater service.

Again I urge you to oppose consolidation of “high cost” wastewater districts with the district supporting Sun City West.

Should you wish to contact me my e-mail address is [wangdm.357@gmail.com](mailto:wangdm.357@gmail.com), my phone number is (808) 772-2298 and my full address is David M Wang, 12402 W Candlelight Drive, Sun City West AZ 85375.

Thank You.



**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Stewart Romain <sjromain@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 22, 2014 6:41 PM  
**To:** RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** Epcor Waste Water Consolidation DocketNo: W-013031-09-0343 and SW-013031-09-0343

Dear Commissioner Burns,

My wife and I are new residents in Sun City. Before we finalized our plans to retire in Sun City, and knowing that we would be on a fixed income, we did our best to investigate what the actual cost of living is here in this area. We investigated the cost of the utilities which included the costs of Southwest Gas, of Arizona Public Service (APS) Electric, and of course Epcor Water, along with other factors such as housing, food, and entertainment. Our investigations found that we would be able to afford retirement in the Sun City area.

Now, because of some ill-advised purchases of some other water districts, such as Anthem and other areas, Epcor Water is proposing the consolidation of its waste water rates across all of its Arizona districts. As I understand it, this could mean an 89% rate increase. This would cause an unjust burden on my fixed income budget.

I understand that in 2010, you may recall, Epcor's predecessor, American Water, also requested this same consolidation and it was voted down. The residents of Sun City were opposed to this consolidation at that time. We are still opposed to this consolidation proposal! Most of us are on a fixed income.

Epcor has projected additional capital improvement costs for the Sun City District of \$9.3M over the next five years. Even if this full \$9.3M of improvements does come to bear, it would be less than half of what Epcor wants the Sun City residents to pay in their full consolidation proposal. If a full consolidation were to take place, Sun City users would be required to pay an additional \$22.5M over the noted five-year period. This means that the Sun City residents would be subsidizing other district costs in the amount of \$13.2M, with our fixed income.

We can't afford to subsidize other areas of Epcor's water districts, and we shouldn't have to. Just like my family did our investigations, Epcor Water should have known what they bought when they purchased it and how much each area would cost to provide them with a reasonable profit. If they didn't, shame on them! We shouldn't be made to pay for their mistake. We don't ask other areas to

pay for us and we don't want to pay for them. Let Epcor absorb the loss for their failure to do proper investigation before they bought these other water districts.

It's not right to make Sun City, or Youngtown or any other district make up for their failure!

I hope you will vote AGAINST this consolidation!

Thank you,

Stewart Romain, Sun City

***Stewart Romain***  
Sun City, Arizona 85351  
[\*sjromain@gmail.com\*](mailto:sjromain@gmail.com)

**Jessica D. Perry**

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**From:** Randy Hamburg <nuclear\_randy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2014 11:22 AM  
**To:** Stump-Web; Pierce-Web; RBurns-Web  
**Subject:** case # is: SW-01303A-09-0343

\*The wastewater reference docket/case # is: SW-01303A-09-0343

I noticed Mr. Stump, Mr. Pierce and Mr. Burns all voted for deconsolidation causing Verrado Water rates to sky rocket. I will be campaigning against your re-election and going door to door as it is obvious the ridiculous rates the a Verrado homeowner is charged is nothing more than you NOT doing your job and protecting consumers. I hope you can get your needed votes from the Sun City voters as you are in there back pocket as highlighted by your vote. I will be campaigning vigorously from the rest of Phoenix consumers to see you are voted out.

Randy Hamburg  
Verrado Homeowner and paying ridiculous water rates because of YOU

Bob Bevens,

Please do not combine  
our district, (waste water) with  
any other district. I am a  
retiree and my income is  
limited. Many other retirees  
in Sun City West live on  
limited incomes.

Thank you,

BETTY A. MYERS  
15513 W. WHITEWOOD DR.  
SUN CITY WEST, AZ  
85375

2014