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August 25, 2014

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

To: **Bob Burns** – Rburns-web@azcc.gov
Susan Bitter-Smith – BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce – Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump – Stump-web@azcc.gov
Brenda Burns – Burns-web@azcc.gov

2014 NOV 18 AM 11 19

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

NOV 18 2014

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

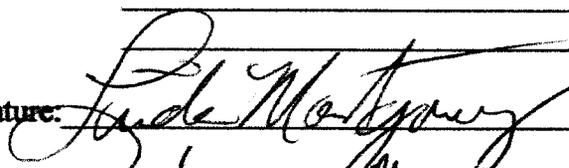
DOCKETED BY 

Re: **Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-01303A-09-0343, Wastewater Rate Design Examination**

STRONGLY
I am opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

I am not opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

Comments: _____

Signature: 

Printed Signature: Linda Montgomery

Zip Code: 85351

Linda M. Campbell
14958 W Buttonwood Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375
linda351@gmail.com

Bob Burns
Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

October 10, 2014

Commissioner Burns,

I am writing to you because I am very concerned about EPCOR's proposed plan to consolidate five water districts, including Sun City West.

I believe that this plan would be discriminatory not only to Sun City West but also Sun City. It would obviously require the two largest retirement communities to completely subsidize reduced rates to the other 30% of the customers. That would put a significant financial burden on a group of senior citizen's, many of whom, live on a very limited fixed income.

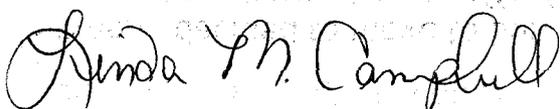
When I decided to move to Sun City West in 2009, I took into consideration not just the price of the house I could afford buy but what living expenses I could reasonably expect to pay in the area I would live. Utility costs were part of that evaluation. I assume other's make trade offs about the life style they desire and the area they choose to live too.

This consolidation, also, wouldn't be limited to base rate cost sharing, it would require customers of all the consolidated districts to share in the costs of future capital projects. Sun City West has a smaller capital project on the horizon than some of the other districts. If the proposed consolidation becomes a reality, they would be obligated to pay a significantly larger amount than if they continue taking care of the whole cost of their own capital projects as they have done in the past.

As I understand it, this consolidation plan evolved from a few thousand Corte Bella customers being concerned about their high base rates. EPCOR has used this as a chance to propose consolidation. While it would probably be administratively easier for EPCOR to have all these districts consolidated, I sincerely don't think it's a fair or well thought-out solution to the high rate issue that was created in Corte Bella when the Anthem district was originally split.

One of my other concerns is that this 'consolidation' move by EPCOR, if approved, would open the door even further to other consolidation proposals that will include Sun City West subsidizing other districts.

Sincerely,



Linda Campbell
linda351@gmail.com



Sun City's Advocate
Since 1963

All residents are encouraged to be certain emails, letters and direct web comments are completed and sent to the commissioners at the Arizona Corporation Commission to ensure defeat. Local groups are not able to defeat the consolidation initiative; only rate payers are able to accomplish this. You may email or mail the letter below.

SHARE THE INFORMATION WITH NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS!

Arizona Corporation Commission address: **Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

September 17, 2014

To: **Bob Burns – Rburns-web@azcc.gov
Susan Bitter-Smith – BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce – Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump – Stump-web@azcc.gov
Brenda Burns – Burns-web@azcc.gov**

Subject: **Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-01303A-0-0343,
Wastewater Rate Design Examination**

- I am opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.
- I am not opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

Comments: PLEASE DO WHAT YOU CAN FOR US ON FIXED INCOME
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR
PUBLIC SERVICE!

Signature: 
Printed Name: M. J. KHAN
Zip Code: 85351

City of Volunteers

10401 W. Coggins Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351 • Telephone: 623.974.4718 • Fax: 623.977.7095
www.suncityhoa.org

October 10, 2014

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: **DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-0303A-0-0343,**
Wastewater Rate Design Examination

Attn: Bob Burns

As a Sun City, AZ resident I am requesting you do not allow full consolidation of all the EPCOR wastewater districts. Based on the figures supplied by EPCOR, each Sun City wastewater user would experience a 90% rate increase if full-district consolidation was to be approved by the commission.

EPCOR noted in their ACC response they have projected additional capital improvement costs for the Sun City District of \$9.3M over the next five years. 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 equates to subsidizing other district costs in the amount of \$13.2M. We cannot and should not be required to subsidize other districts for poor planning and choices.

If the rate increase is approved as requested it will place an additional financial burden on many of the residents of Sun City. Most have moved here because of the economic advantages of this retirement community, such as Real Estate taxes and insurance rates. Most residents are retirees and live on fixed incomes. Some may have to make choices in their living standards to compensate for this increase. Hopefully they will not have to make choices with their budget regarding food or medical expenses.. It seems unreasonable for us to be burdened with the expense of correcting problems created in other water districts due to poor planning.

Thank you for your consideration and a vote to deny full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

Respectfully yours,

Ronald E. Hunter

October 10, 2014

Commissioner Bob Burns
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington
Second Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Carol Sagun
17435 N Palo Verde Dr
Sun City, AZ 85373

**Subject: Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-0303A-0-0343,
Wastewater Rate Design Examination**

Dear Commissioner Bob Burns,

As a resident of Sun City, I had to take my social security at 62 and I have no pension and a limited 401K plan. I have been working as a barista at a local Starbucks for minimal wage for seven years to supplement my income. I will be 66 in February with no retirement in sight. I am lucky that my health allows me to stand on my feet and work a younger person's job. At my age, finding another job is not going to happen. I don't have long-term nursing insurance and probably never will be able to afford it. I moved to Sun City eight years ago because it is the best low-cost senior living community. A 90% rate increase is excessive and I do not believe it is in our city's best interest to consolidate our water system to subsidize other communities that did not plan well. According to Carole Studdard SCHOLA marketing director, the numbers do not add up and has Sun City subsidizing these other communities. This is not right and should not occur. I want you to know this would be a great hardship for me and I imagine for many other seniors that are barely getting by.

I plead with you to leave Sun City out of any water consolidation. Sun City by itself can afford any future overhaul at a lower cost to its residents should it be needed sometime in the future. Since I have been to several meetings and have reviewed the future costs that may be needed, it is very obvious that it would be much less expensive for Sun City remaining alone rather than participating in the proposed consolidation. Tapping into resources from seniors should not be a consideration to offset costs to appease a few. Remember one day you will be a senior and be in my shoes.

Sincerely,


Carol Sagun

Carol Sagun

According to Carole Studdard SCHOLA marketing director, the numbers do not add up and has Sun City subsidizing these other communities. This is not right and should not occur.

October 14, 2014

Commissioner Bob Burns

Commissioners Wing

1200 W. Washington

Second Floor

Phoenix, AZ 8007

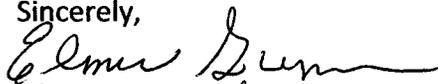
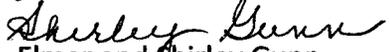
Commissioner Burns,

We are writing to voice our concerns regarding Epcor's request to consolidate five wastewater districts in their service area. We are a retirement community in Sun City. We live on a fixed income, as do most of our neighbors. We would be paying for the have larger homes and in most cases larger families (many with children), whereas most of us in Sun City have smaller residences with only one or two occupants. We use less water and generate less wastewater per household than the homes in the other districts. Why should those of us who live on fixed incomes pay for the residents of these other communities. With costs of food and medicine, we are already stretching our budgets to the maximum and simply cannot afford 89 per cent increase in our sewer bills.

Please say NO to Epcor's request for consolidation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elmer and Shirley Gunn

10314 W Desert Rock Drive

Sun City, AZ 85351

MARK F BRAUN

13243 W. Ballad Drive

SUN CITY WEST, AZ 85375
623 584 5896 brauntcuunion@gmail.com

October 16, 2014



Mr. R, Stump, Chairman
Commissioners Wing
1200 W Washington St Second Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Chairman Stump

Reference Docket #SW-01303A-09

I WISH TO VOICE MY OPPOSITION TO THE ABOVE REFERENCED DOCKET, CONCERNING THE "EPCOR" PROPOSAL TO CONSOLIDATE THE WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES COVERING SUN CITY, SUN CITY WEST, Northeast AQUIA, ANTHEM, AND VERRADO WHEREIN IT IS PROPOSED TO CONSOLIDATE THESE WATER/SEWER SYSTEMS INTO ONE.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON TO CONSOLIDATE THEM, WE ARE NOT CONTIGUOUS TO ANY OF THEM, AS A MATTER OF FACT ON REVIEWING A MAP OF THE PROPOSAL INDICATES THAT WE ARE MILES AND MILES AWAY FROM VERRADO, ANTHEM AND THE PROPOSAL COVERING MOHAVE.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION TO DENY THE "APCOR" PROPOSAL, AND LEAVE US SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE SUN CITIES ALONE AND DO NOT USE US TO PAY FOR FACILITIES, THAT ARE MILES AWAY AND IN ESSENCE WILL SUBSIDIZE THOSE AREAS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE BACK OF US SENIOR CITIZENS.

PLEASE HEAR OUR APPEAL AND DENY THE ABOVE REFERENCED DOCKET

SINCERELY YOURS

Mark F Braun
MARK F BRAUN

Mr Burns!

*PLEASE OPPOSE THIS CONSOLIDATION
We are on a fixed & low income*

August 25, 2014

To: Bob Burns – Rburns-web@azcc.gov
Susan Bitter-Smith – BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce – Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump – Stump-web@azcc.gov
Brenda Burns – Burns-web@azcc.gov

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

From:

Re: Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-01303A-09-0343, Wastewater Rate
Design Examination ^{AND}
DOCKET NO. WS-01303A-14-0010, WATER CASE
+ WATER

(X)

I am opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

()

I am not opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

Comments: NO DEEP POCKETS

Signature: Roxie Geese

Printed Signature: ROXIE GESE

Zip Code: 85351

August 25, 2014

To: Bob Burns – Rburns-web@azcc.gov
Susan Bitter-Smith – BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce – Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump – Stump-web@azcc.gov
Brenda Burns – Burns-web@azcc.gov

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

From:

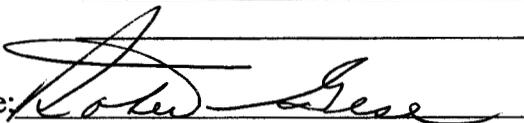
Re: **Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-01303A-09-0343, Wastewater Rate
Design Examination**

*AND
Docket No. WS-01303A-14-0010, WATER CASE*

I am opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

I am not opposed to full consolidation of all EPCOR wastewater districts.

Comments: _____

Signature: 

Printed Signature: ROBERT GESE

Zip Code: 85351

cc: MAILMASTER @ AZ CC. GOV

October 23, 2014

Commissioners Wing

1200 W. Washington, Second Floor

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Commissioner Bob Burns:

I would like to say I am opposed to this waste water consolidation of these five districts. As an entire community of people with fixed incomes, it would put a hardship on most of us. Please vote NO and do not raise our sewer bills by 89%!

Thank You,

Cindy Grace

10573 W. Coggins Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351

November 1, 2014

Dear Commissioner Burns,

I writing to request you **reject** EPCOR Water's request to consolidate water and sewer rates for the communities of Sun City, Sun City West, Aqua Fria, Anthem, and Mohave. This consolidation discriminates against the communities of Sun City (SC) and Sun City West (SCW) **by subsidizing the rates and expansion cost of the Aqua Fria, Anthem and Mohave.**

Listed below are the points that I believe discriminate against Sun City and Sun City West.

1. When Del Webb Corporation built the two Sun Cities he capitalized the water and sewer systems and **included such costs in the cost of building parcels?** If consolidation requires the two Sun Cities to help pay for water and sewer expansion in the other cities to be served by consolidation this clearly discriminates against all citizens of Sun City and Sun City West.
2. SC and SCW are retirement communities and as such many property (outlet users) are on fixed income and the consolidation would increase water and sewer rates by 11-88% and in addition require further increases to cover system expansion in Aqua Fria, Anthem and Mohave. Again, this is discriminatory against senior citizens to the advantage of new communities for all ages.
3. This proposal would end for SC and SCW cost of service that was built into the cost of operation of the water and sewer systems in our communities.
4. This consolidation would have SC and SCW the two largest communities affected subsidize current rates in Anthem, Aqua Fria and Anthem by nearly 100%.

The data used to put together this proposal by EPCOR is 8 years old not accurately reflecting current cost and user bases.

As you are well aware in most areas of Arizona and in most other states the developer pays for the cost of water and sewer infrastructure and build costs into property costs. What is the rationale for requesting that two communities made up of senior citizens be asked to subsidize the water and sewer rates and infrastructure costs of other communities??

In closing I would urge you to **REJECT** EPCOR's request for consolidation of water systems in Sun City, Sun City West, Anthem, Aqua Fria and Mohave.

Respectively



Mike Bjur
13904 W. Parada Dr.
Sun City West, Az. 85375



Frank L. Martin

4014 N. Limebell Street
Buckeye, AZ 85396
Home: (623) 242-7455
Frank's Cell: (909) 851-6526
fvmartin@earthlink.net

**Attention Bob Burns, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

Dear Mr. Burns:

I am a 100% Disable Combat Marine living from V.A. and Social Security Disability income. I am 70 Years Old. My wife Vicky is 64 and has only Social Security Income. Our income is dramatically stressed by our \$250.00 per month average water bill. Vicky and I are the only people living in our home in Verrado. Vicky and I recently attended a meeting during which the waters rates of other communities we listed compared to ours in Verrado. We were stunned.

The implore you to lead the way for Full Consolidation of the water Districts listed below or at least those closely related to a full Consolidation will be yours and the other members top priority. This disparity in charges is staggering and insulting. I voted for you as did my wife, Daughter, and son-in-law, who live just five blocks from us in Verrado.

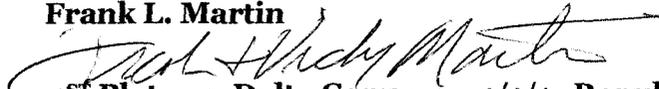
In the United States Marine Corps, I served in 1966 and 1967 with 1st Platoon, Delta Company, 1/1/1. I served and a Rifleman for 10 months and was involved in more than 115 Firefight and two very large scale battles each lasting 15 days in the jungle covered hills of the DMZ against a several Divisions consisting of more than 15,000 North Vietnamese army Soldiers. I also served for a number of months as our Battalion Night Sniper. Sire I love our country and have fought long and hard suffering hearing loss and Cancer from exposure to Agent Orange. I was supposed to die by mid-2000 but by the grace of God was spared. The extremely high waste water charges are hard to make and to accept. I have given much to our country and rely of good people like you to help us with full consolidation and relief from the high charges.

The chart included was provided by WAC Volunteers. Needless to say we were shocked.

Thank you for reading my letter. I hope to hear from you in the near future. Please sir, help us.

Sincerely,

Frank L. Martin



1st Platoon, Delta Company, 1/1/1 Republic of South Viet Nam

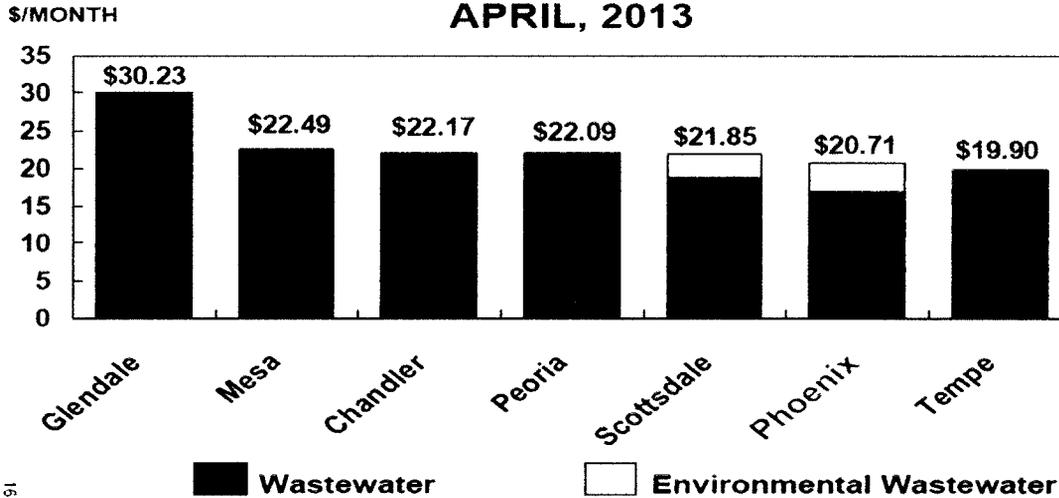
By the Numbers:

According to a recent EPCOR assessment, Agua Fria customers use an average of 11,000 gallons a month in water. Wastewater consumption is calculated at 100% of your regular water usage and is capped at 7,000 gallons of usage.

In Verrado, and across the entire Agua Fria Wastewater district, customers pay approximately \$106 each month for just wastewater. You can only pay a little less if your total water usage is below 7,000 gallons a month.

Here's a chart from a 2013 study about the average rates across Phoenix:

**WASTEWATER RATE COMPARISON RANKING
AVERAGE SINGLE-FAMILY MONTHLY BILL
PHOENIX METRO AREA
APRIL, 2013**



That means, on average, these areas are paying \$22.78 for wastewater. Verrado residents are paying **more than 400%** of the average Phoenix customer.

And here are the real-dollar impacts based on EPCOR's three options:

District rates (current)

- Agua Fria/Basic charge \$57.36/volume 7k x 6.9782 (48.85) = \$106.21
- Anthem/Basic charge \$33.28/volume 7k x 4.3587 (30.51) = \$63.79
- Sun City/Basic charge \$18.11/no volume charge = \$18.11
- Sun City West/Basic charge \$30.96 no volume charge = \$30.96

Next scheduled wastewater increase(Agua Fria)/decrease (Anthem) in January/February 2015.

- Agua Fria/Basic charge \$66.12/volume 7k x 7.97 (55.79) = \$121.91
- Anthem/Basic charge \$30.00/volume 7k x 3.75 (26.25) = \$56.25

Proposed wastewater fee for Anthem/Agua Fria reconsolidation

- Basic charge \$39.84/volume 7k x 4.99 (34.93) = \$74.77

Proposed wastewater fee for full consolidation: \$34.30 (no volume charge)

Jess Medina
21011 W. Eastview Way
Buckeye, AZ 85396

September 26, 2014

Mr. Bob Burns, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission - Commissioners Wing
200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Subject:
ACC Docket SW 01303A-09-0343 and W-01303A-09-0343

Dear Commissioner Burns:

As a resident of Verrado in the Agua Fria wastewater district, I am writing to urge you to support a vote for FULL CONSOLIDATION of the five EPCOR districts and for immediate rate relief to those of us who are facing some of the highest waste water bills in the nation.

The Residential Utilities Consumer Office (RUCO), and other parties, would rather stall this process and delay any decision until a full rate case can be completed, an expensive venture that would delay relief a year or more. The irony here is that RUCO's argument also presents the biggest flaw in their thinking. Specifically, there is no rate case before the Commission at this time for wastewater, because EPCOR is ALREADY authorized to receive the total revenue described in their proposals. The decision on that point has already been made by the ACC.

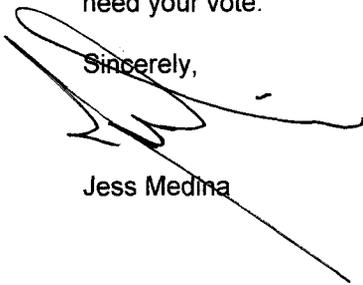
The question on the table now is whether we should continue as ratepayers to provide that revenue in a manner that is unfriendly both to consumers and to growth into an unwieldy system, or whether we should promote efficiency and economy of scale with a single and simplified rate structure. Should we continue to pit community against community in a bid to create winners and losers among individual ratepayers in providing an essential service? Or should we recognize that a strong and efficient utility provider is a solution which will benefit everyone in the long term?

And all at the same revenue point already authorized to the provider.

Agua Fria is ready to grow. As we speak, the Verrado community is preparing to add 4,000 new rooftops with no additional infrastructure requirement. This represents a tremendous influx of ratepayers and taxpayers to further bolster the economic health of everyone impacted. But we need growth - friendly policies to support and encourage buyers, or we risk falling flat. A \$121 wastewater charge contributing to a \$200 - \$300 bill is antithetical to growth.

I'm not an attorney, and I'm not being paid to spend my time lobbying. I'm just a resident, trying to pay my bills and earn enough of a living to care for my family. Please, we need your help. We need your vote.

Sincerely,



Jess Medina

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W Washington Street - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

September xx, 2014

To: ✓ Bob Burns – Rburns-web@azcc.gov
Susan Bitter-Smith – BitterSmith-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce – Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump – Stump-web@azcc.gov
Brenda Burns – Burns-web@azcc.gov

Subject: **Docket Nos. W-01303A-09-0343; SW-01303A-0-0343**

Wastewater Rate Design Examination

We support FULL consolidation of all EPCOR Wastewater Districts

We are residents of Corte Bella, a community served by EPCOR Water Company. Corte Bella is currently consolidated into the Agua Fria Water/Wastewater District. The Agua Fria District is experiencing water/wastewater rates among the highest in the nation. It is our understanding that EPCOR Water Company has proposed full consolidation before the Arizona Corporation Commission as a means to remedy these exorbitant, discriminatory rates.

Since full consolidation, as proposed by EPCOR, would restore fair, just and reasonable rates to all, we would like to go on the record as totally supporting FULL consolidation of all of EPCOR's wastewater districts.

Signature(s)

John J. Bail, Jr.
Joan E. Bail

Printed Name(s)

John J. Bail, Jr.
Joan E. Bail

Street Address

22408 N. Padaro Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85375

Zip Code

Dr Peace Ezeogba-Odoemena

2344 N. Alsap Rd

Buckeye, AZ 85396

Bob Burns Commissioner

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Commissioner Burns,

RE: CONSOLIDATION REQUEST SW-01303A-09-0343 and W-01303A-09-0343

My name is Dr. Peace Ezeogba-Odoemena a resident of Verrado and one of Verrado community leaders. I have heard from residents and seen the pain in most residents due to the increase in waste water.

We are members of your constituency and urge you to please critically consider Full-consolidation.

Per EPCOR research Full-consolidation will be a Win-Win to all your constituents.

We appreciate you consideration and your time.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PE' followed by a long horizontal line.

Dr. Peace Ezeogba-Odoemena

10506 W. Signal Butte C
Sun City, AZ
October 10, 2014.

Bob Burns, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission

Dear Sir,

We are opposed to the proposal
from EPCOR Water for consolidation
and ask for your vote to be NO.

Thank you -
Cheryl R. Clapton
ME Clapton