

W-02514A-14-0343

Arizona Corporation Comm



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Utilities Complaint Form

Investigator: Michael Buck

Phone: <<< REDACTED >>>

Completion Date: 8/28/2015 8:00 AM

Priority: Please respond within 5 business days

ORIGINAL

Opinion Number: 2015 - 124215

Opinion Codes:

Opinion Date: 8/27/2015 4:53 PM

Rate Case Items - Opposed

First Name: Kathy

Last Name: Hamilton

Account Name: Kathy Hamilton

Street Address: <<< REDACTED >>>

City: Green Valley

State: AZ

AUG 28 2015

Zip Code: 85614

<<< REDACTED >>>

DOCKETED BY [Signature]

RECEIVED 2015 AUG 28 P 3:02 AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

Company: Quail Creek Water Co., Inc.

Division: Water

Steve Soriano

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Nature Of Opinion:

Docket Number: W-02514A-14-0343

Docket Position: Against

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the public hearing and express concerns regarding the inequity of the proposed water rate increase.

It's important to remember that Quail Creek is a retirement community with one or two person households, which is probably not the typical customer base for a water rate case. While it was good to find out that if those of with 1" water meters use 17,000 gallons a month, we'll get a price break compared to those with 5/8" water meters, it is highly unlikely that anyone will ever benefit from that based upon the average water consumption.

In fact, our average usage is about 3,300 gallons per month, so our increase would actually be more than the 73.8% increase proposed for 1" meter customers with average usage of almost

6,000 gallons per month. This is because of the higher base fee, which does not take into account any water usage.

I discussed the 1" water meter situation with a representative from the Sahuarita Planning & Building Department both prior to and after the public hearing. Neither the local or state building codes require a 1" meter for a home with a fire suppression system. The codes do require a fire suppression system for homes meeting certain size requirements, along with adequate pressure to support the system. According to the City of Sahuarita, the necessary pressure can be achieved through various means, and Robson (Quail Creek) chooses to use 1" meters. This is a choice, and not all homes in Sahuarita with fire suppression systems are "required" to have 1" meters. The choice is being made by the same entity owns Quail Creek Water Company, which then turns around and charges higher rates for something that was their decision.

Please see the attached letter written by the Sahuarita Building Safety Manager which states, "Installing fire sprinklers does not determine that a 1" water meter is required per the Town's adopted code." and also, "The water company may require a certain meter size since this is part of their system." These statements confirm that the 1" meter installation is a choice made by the Quail Creek Water Company.

This does not seem fair, and I respectfully ask that this be taken into consideration when approving the final rates.

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Arizona Corporation Commission

Utilities Complaint Form

Notes:

Date:	User:	Submitted By:	Note Type:
8/27/2015	Michael Buck	Web Submission	Investigation
Docket and noted for the record.			

Date:	User:	Submitted By:	Note Type:
8/28/2015	Michael Buck	Web Submission	Investigation
Inquiry No. 124224 sent to Company.			
