

ORIGINAL



0000172917

RECEIVED
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

2016 AUG 26 PM 3 24

Memorandum

From the office of
Chairman Doug Little
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. WASHINGTON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
(602) 542-0745

TO: Docket Control
DATE: August 26, 2016
FROM: Chairman Doug Little's Office
SUBJECT: EPCOR WS-01303A-16-0145

Chairman Little's office received 10 emails, 3 letters, and 3 public comment forms, all referencing, and in opposition to, the above docket number. The correspondence can be viewed in Docket or on the Commission website via the eDocket link.

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

AUG 26 2016

DOCKETED BY	Handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "DL".
-------------	---

Andrea Gaston

From: Eric Siburg <esiburg@siburgco.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2016 1:51 PM
To: Tobin-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: Docket No. WS-01303A-16-0145

This consolidation proposal is Robin Hood in reverse; take from the poor and give to the rich, with Epcor being the richest of all. The Sun City wastewater district has low rates which enable many of the less well off to live here. Consolidation will have the effect of making Sun City residents subsidize other, more affluent, districts and giving Epcor a gift as a bonus. This is a betrayal of those of us who chose to live here in the first place. No!

William E. and Carolyn R. Siburg
11021 W Crestbrook Dr
Sun City, AZ 85351-1057
623-974-6587 (home)
402-630-6975 (cell)

Andrea Gaston

From: Ray Schmidt <raansc2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 8:14 PM
Subject: Docket #WS-o1303A-16-0145

The homeowners in Sun City are of retirement age and typically are one or two person households with one or two bedrooms. Many of the these homeowners are on fixed incomes.

One of the communities that EPCOR wants to "equalize" the wastewater rates with Sun City is Anthem. Anthem is a large community with younger families owning large expensive multi-bedroom homes. I'm sure that when those owners bought their homes and did their due diligence, they were aware of higher cost of utilities in Anthem.

I think that it is unfair to force the homeowners in Sun City to subsidize the Anthem wastewater rates - if anything, they should help the people in Sun City!

Similarly, I think it unfair to force Sun City homeowners to subsidize wastewater rate payers in Aqua Fria, Mohave, and Sun City West.

Please vote against the EPCOR wastewater rate proposal.

Raymond Schmidt
10515 W. Roundelay Circle
Sun City, AZ 85313

Andrea Gaston

From: LaVerne Porsche <lporsche27@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 6:11 AM
To: Tobin-Web; Little-Web; Forese-Web; Stump-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: Docket Number: WS-01303A-16-0145 (EPCOR Waste Water Rate Request)

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Docket Number: WS-01303A-16-0145 (EPCOR Waste Water Rate Request)

I am writing to you regarding the proposal by EPCOR Corporation that the waste water processing rates for Sun City and four other districts be equalized. This proposal takes unfair advantage of the rate payers residing in the Sun City district. It isn't only a request for a rate increase, it is a request for one group of rate payers to subsidize another group. In fact, the proposal is perilously close to being communistic.

EPCOR has not made a compelling argument for why the Sun City rate payers should have their waste water treatment rates almost doubled. EPCOR's proposal ignores the specific situations that contribute to the higher rates in the Agua Fria, Mojave and Anthem districts.

Agua Fria is made up of new construction, which required expensive new infrastructure. As part of their due diligence, prospective buyers should have determined the monthly costs above their mortgage before purchasing a home. If the Agua Fria district homeowners have a problem with their waste water rates, they should pursue that with the developers and perhaps the Arizona Corporation Commission. This is not the Sun City rate payers' problem.

Rates in the Mojave and Anthem districts were separated by district, but Mojave saw an increase because there are fewer customers in that district. Again, this is not the Sun City rate payers' problem.

Sun City's water and sewer infrastructure is over 50 years old, but the rate increase requested in this proposal makes no allowance for that. It appears that EPCOR intends to almost double Sun City's waste water rates now, and then probably come back to the Arizona Corporation Commission within a year or two with another rate increase request to cover Sun City infrastructure replacement or repairs.

Almost all of the Sun City rate payers are living on fixed incomes. We've chosen to live here because the housing is more affordable and the other costs of living have been more reasonable.

More Sun City residents that you might realize are living on small social security payments that barely cover their monthly expenses. There was no social security increase in 2016, and the prospects of an increase in 2017 aren't good. The expectation that costs incurred in one waste water district can be passed on to rate payers in another district is totally unacceptable.

As this proposal currently stands, I am not in favor of any of the three options. An option needs to be presented for Sun City that does not subsidize EPCOR's other waste water districts, but does take into account both the Sun City waste water and water delivery system maintenance costs that are likely to be incurred in the foreseeable future; the next one to three years, for example.

This request is one more example of a corporation failing to be responsible to its customers. Like most corporations, EPCOR doesn't care who pays for their services as long as they get paid. It means nothing to EPCOR that a widow living on her husband's social security is cutting her food budget to pay increased waste water charges. Charges that benefit someone who either bought a home knowing what the waste water charges would be and now wants relief or worse, made an uninformed decision when they purchased their new home and can't afford the upkeep.

In preparing this proposal, EPCOR has taken a very simplistic approach to a complex situation. Equalization is the most cost effective option for EPCOR. Minimal changes are required to their billing system, which keeps their administrative costs down. Although if EPCOR had an efficient billing system, it shouldn't matter if different districts have different rates. Consolidation represents the path of least resistance for EPCOR.

If EPCOR had done their due diligence when they bought these districts several years ago, they should have been aware of the waste water rate discrepancies. These discrepancies obviously weren't addressed in the purchase negotiations. Or did EPCOR and the Arizona Corporation Commission know that these discrepancies existed, but there was a tacit agreement that a rate adjustment would be forthcoming?

As you consider this proposal, please look at the underlying circumstances that EPCOR has failed to address in this very self-serving request:

- + It's socialistic premise; robbing Peter to subsidize Paul
- + The original sources of the rate inequalities.
- + The financial hardships for Sun City rate payers.
- + EPCOR's lack of due diligence in preparing this proposal.

I ask you to stand with the residents of Sun City and reject all three EPCOR waste water proposals. This is one battle a corporation shouldn't be allowed to win.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

La Verne M. Porsche

Sun City, AZ

Andrea Gaston

From: jeanlan@cox.net
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Little-Web
Subject: EPCOR

August 21, 2016

Dear Mr. Little,

As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

EPCOR shows their cost of service for our district is approximately \$25 per month and the consolidation rate would be more than \$40 per month for district ratepayers.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts.

We urge you vote against full consolidation.

Docket No. WS-o1303A-16-0145.

Respectfully,

Jean H. Lancisi
10449 West Highwood Lane
Sun City, AZ 85373

Andrea Gaston

From: TOM PRESTON <diatom1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 10:11 AM
To: Little-Web
Subject: Wastewater district consolidation *WS-01303A-16-0145*

From: TOM PRESTON <diatom1@yahoo.com>
Date: August 22, 2016 at 10:00:33 AM PDT
To: little-web@azcc.gov
Subject: **Wastewater district consolidation**

Mr. Little,

As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of its wastewater districts. We are paying the fair price for our product in Sun City. You have admitted this. Why should we pay for others? This is not a socialist country where you get things for free. You are encouraging an entitlement that is not deserved. And, while we are at it, have you considered going from house to house to see how many of those residents are legal?

We have worked hard for our retirement and live on a fixed income. We don't have the capability to get another job to cover extra expenses. We don't have half a dozen TV's in the house, 4 cell phones, a boat and other toys. We live conservatively because this is what we can afford and don't ask for handouts. How many seniors will cut back on their medicine to meet this increase? Is this what you would do to your own mother and father?

Please vote against full consolidation.

Diane Crosetto
10827 White Mountain Rd
Sun City

Sent from my iPad

Andrea Gaston

From: Paula Scholz <scholz.paula@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:41 AM
To: Little-Web
Subject: EPCOR Wastewater Rate Proposal

Dear Mr. Little,

I am an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City/Youngtown resident. I **strongly** object to EPCOR'S recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

EPCOR shows their cost of service for our district is approximately \$25.00 per month and the consolidated rate would be over \$40.00 per month for our district ratepayers.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts.

We urge YOU to vote against full consolidation!

Docket Number WS-01303A-16-0145

Sincerely,

Paula Scholz
14230 N. Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351

Andrea Gaston

From: Wendy A Schade
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 7:07 PM
To: Little-Web
Subject: Sun City resident says NO to full consolidation, Dockett # WS-01303A-16-0145

Dear Doug,

I am a widow and have been a resident of Sun City for 13 years.

Currently my water bill with Epcor is \$50 per month, and the thought of it increasing by 54% over the next three years is unfathomable!

Therefore, I am asking you to say NO to Epcor's proposal, for I do not want to subsidize Anthem, Agua Fria, Mohave and Sun City West's infrastructure.

Thank you.

Wendy Schade

Sun City AZ

Andrea Gaston

From: Sue Bossert <sueboss1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 5:54 PM
To: Little-Web
Subject: EPCOR- Docket: WS-01303A-16-0145

Dear Mr. Little,

As an EPCOR rate payer and Sun City resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR waste water districts.

Current rate payer should bear only legitimate costs of providing service to them by EPCOR. To force us to subsidize other district rate payers beyond EPCOR's cost to do so is well beyond being just and reasonable and is without justification.

Please vote against full consolidation.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bossert
13625 N 110th Ave.
Sun City, Az. 85351

Andrea Gaston

From: Jan's Here! <janralexander@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:29 PM
To: Little-Web
Subject: Docket Number WS-01303A-16-0145

As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City Resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts.

Thank you, Janet Alexander

Andrea Gaston

From: glenda michalak <glmich@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 2:28 PM
To: Tobin-Web; Forese-Web; Little-Web; Stump-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: Oppose Consolidation *WS-01303A-16-0145*

As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

EPCOR shows their cost of service for our district is approximately \$25 per month and the consolidation rate would be more than \$40 per month for district ratepayers.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts.

We urge you vote against full consolidation.

Docket No. ~~WS-01303A-0145.~~

Thank You,

Glenda Michalak
17034 N. Pinion Ln
Sun City, AZ 85373

Date: 8/24/16

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

Dear Mr. Little:

As an EPCOR ratepayer and **Sun City** Resident, I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

EPCOR shows their cost of service for our district is approximately \$25.00/month and the consolidated rate would be over \$40.00/month for our district ratepayers.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts. This is the USA after all.

Please "vote against full consolidation"!

Respectfully submitted,

Frank + Helen Fleurguen
Signature

13642 N. 109th AVE Sun City AZ 85351
Address

August 23, 2016

To whom it may concern

WS-01303A-16-0145

As an Epcor ratepayer and a Sea
City resident, I strongly object to
Epcor's recommendation for full
consolidation of the Epcor waste-
water districts resulting in the same
rates for all districts.

Epcor shows their cost of service
for our district is approximately
\$25.00 per month and the proposed
consolidation rate would be approx-
imately \$41.02 over a three year
time frame for our district rate-
payer. That's 64.1% higher than
necessary. Our increase is being
used to subsidize the three
districts whose rates would drop
dramatically.

Our generation has maneuvered
away from our responsibility to learn

→

Our way and pay for the costs
we incur. We should not be
forced to subsidize the other
districts. They should bear the
responsibility of the choices they
made.

I am a 92 year old widow
It is hard enough to be
able to pay what I have to
pay now -

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen McInture

10338 Prairie Hill Cr.

Been City, Az 85351

August 24, 2016

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2996

RE: Docket No. WS-01303A-16-0145

Attn: Commissioner Andy Tobin
Commission Tom Forese
~~Commissioner Tom Forese~~
Commissioner Bob Stimp
Commissioner Bob Burns

Gentlemen:

As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City resident, I strongly object to EPCOR'S recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.

EPCOR shows their cost of service for our district is approximately \$25 per month and the consolidation rate would be more than \$40 per month for district ratepayers.

Our generation has never shied away from our responsibility to earn our way and pay for the costs we incur.

We should not be forced to subsidize the other districts.

I urge you to vote against full consolidation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Zoe Gocke
10832 W. Kelso Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351
(623) 933-8245

Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Utilities Division

1200 W Washington Street

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone: (602) 542-4251

First Name:	Last Name:	Date:
FloLuella	Derrick	8/18/2016 1:05:58 PM

Address:
18413 Welk Dr

City:	State:	Zip Code:
Sun City	AZ	85373

Phone Number:	Phone Extension:	Phone Type:
(623) 974-8324		Home

Alternate Phone Number:	Alternate Phone Extension:	Alternate Phone Type:

Email Address:

Company Name:
EPCOR Sewer *AAWC

Docket Number:	Position:
WS-01303A-16-0145	Against

Docket Description:
In the matter of the application of Epcor Water Arizona Inc. for determination of the current fair value of its utility plant and property and for increases/decreases in its rates and charges based thereon for utility service by its Agua Fria, Anthem, Mohave, Sun City, and Sun City West wastewater districts and for consideration of consolidation and de-consolidation proposals.

Opinion:
i AM TOTALLY OPPOSED TO THE CONSOLIDATION. It is highway robbery, Sun City subsidizing the other areas. Our developer put all of the facilities in, and they have been paid for. Most developers do not do likewise. Consolidation would raise our rates to become prohibitive, as so many retirees in Sun City are on extremely limited income. It is absolutely unfair. Let us handle repairs as they come and not worry about the future. People in the other areas should have checked about their utilities before they purchase there.


Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Utilities Division

1200 W Washington Street

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone: (602) 542-4251

First Name:	Last Name:	Date:
Martin	Oudenhoven	7/19/2016 10:04:13 AM

Address:
10318 W. Cameo Dr.

City:	State:	Zip Code:
Sun City	AZ	85351

Phone Number:	Phone Extension:	Phone Type:
(623) 933-0631		Home

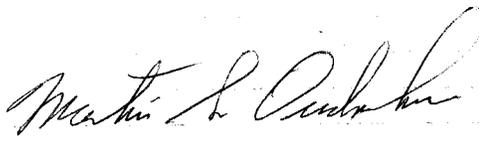
Alternate Phone Number:	Alternate Phone Extension:	Alternate Phone Type:

Email Address:
odnhvn@cox.com

Company Name:

Docket Number:	Position:
WS-01303A-16-0145	Against

Docket Description:
In the matter of the application of Epcor Water Arizona Inc. for determination of the current fair value of its utility plant and property and for increases/decreases in its rates and charges based thereon for utility service by its Agua Fria, Anthem, Mohave, Sun City, and Sun City West wastewater districts and for consideration of consolidation and de-consolidation proposals.

Opinion:
As an EPCOR ratepayer and Sun City resident ,I strongly object to EPCOR's recommendation for full consolidation of the EPCOR wastewater districts.


Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Utilities Division
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Phone: (602) 542-4251

First Name:	Last Name:	Date:
linda	harland	8/16/2016 2:59:21 PM

Address:
10847 w. white mountain rd

City:	State:	Zip Code:
sun city	AZ	85351

Phone Number:	Phone Extension:	Phone Type:
(623) 974-4999		

Alternate Phone Number:	Alternate Phone Extension:	Alternate Phone Type:
(623) 974-4999	x85351	

Email Address:
lharland1@cox.net

Company Name:

Docket Number:	Position:
WS-01303A-16-0145	Against

Docket Description:
In the matter of the application of Epcor Water Arizona Inc. for determination of the current fair value of its utility plant and property and for increases/decreases in its rates and charges based thereon for utility service by its Agua Fria, Anthem, Mohave, Sun City, and Sun City West wastewater districts and for consideration of consolidation and de-consolidation proposals.

Opinion:
As a EPCOR ratepayer in Sun City, I strongly object to EPCOR consolidation wastewater districts. We are a retirement community and should never be combined with young households with children, who do 10 times more laundry and showers. Not fair. Why would you even look at our community and think we should help pay their water bills.