

WS-01303A-16-0145



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Arizona Corporation Commis
Utilities Complaint Form

ORIGINAL

Investigator: Richard Martinez Phone: <<< REDACTED >>> Opinion Date: 8/30/2016
 Opinion Number: 2016 - 134267 Priority: Respond within 5 business days
 Opinion Codes: Rate Case Items - Consolidation In Favor Closed Date: 8/30/2016 1:45 PM

First Name: Richard & Sharron Last Name: Howell Account Name: Richard & Sharron Howell
 Address: <<< REDACTED >>>
 City: Buckeye State: AZ Zip Code: 85396

Company: EPCOR Water *AAWC Division: Water

Nature Of Opinion

Docket Number: WS-01303A-16-0145

Docket Position: For

Dear Sirs,

I am a resident of Verrado in Buckeye and a customer of EPCOR. I am writing to strongly encourage you to decide in Favor of Full Consolidation in the rate case WS-01303A-16-0145.

Opponents of consolidation say their infrastructure is already paid for. But no infrastructure is ever paid in full. It has continuing value and requires continuing capital to maintain essential service. Opponents also say they shouldn't be forced to subsidize new communities. They would not. In fact, across many categories, EPCOR's expenses are allocated to Sun City customers at a significantly reduced rate, per capita. Those burdens should have always been shouldered equally by all customers as a cost of doing business.

Opponents say that consolidation has been rejected. But consolidating pricing is the standard practice in Agua Fria and has been to multiple expansions for almost 15 year, all without objection by the Commission or any other party. The truth is, those opposed to consolidation have not made their case base on all of their facts, but rather this simple universal truth: nobody wants their bill to go up. This is understandable, but not, in itself, justification for a policy decision by state regulators.

Sun City objects to a potential increase of \$20, but Agua Fria customers have been made to absorb \$50 fluctuations in previous decisions, and are currently paying at 180% of the maket rate for wastewater service. We are all on fixed incomes, when it comes down to it.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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We are sensitive to the needs of those whose bills would increase, and are open to gradually implementing the change. But schedules, rating factors, and discounts should begin with a consolidation, universal rate. That means FULL CONSOLIDATION for all EPCOR wastewater customers.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter. We look forward to seeing the parties progress toward a solution in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Richard Howell

Sharon Howell

EPCOR Customer

Investigation			
Date:	Analyst:	Submitted By:	Type:
8/30/2016	Richard Martinez	Telephone	Investigation

Entered for the record and filed in Docket Control.
