



Control Number' 46245



Item Number' 207

Addendum StartPage 0

**MARILYN READ**  
702 Eagle Point - Graford, Texas 76449  
(432) 267-2362 home  
cread#@rbmsllp.com

RECEIVED  
2016 AUG 23 AM 9:30  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

August 13, 2016

Attn: Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are the required ten (10) copies of my Ratepayer Protest form concerning P.U.C. Docket No. 46245 and the water and sewer rate increases proposed by Double Diamond Utilities Company of Dallas, Texas servicing The Cliffs Resort on Possum Kingdom Lake to be effective October 1, 2016.

These proposed rate increases are egregious. The proposal for the water Base Rate increase is + 38 %. The 0-3,000-gallon rate is a + 35 % increase and the 3,001 – 10,000 gallon increase is + 33 %. Usage at 10,001 – 15,000 sees the rate go up + 28 %. How can this possibly be justified?

The proposed rate increases for sewer are just as onerous. They want the sewer Base Rate to go from \$ 49.37 to \$ 72.00, an outrageous + 46 % increase. For every thousand gallons processed above the minimum of 3,000 gallons, they want the rate to go from \$ 8.25 to \$ 12.00, an almost equally high + 45 % increase.

In addition to these incredible increases, Double Diamond is proposing what they call a Rate Case Expense Surcharge which is to be determined. What it appears they are trying to do is pass on their costs to defend themselves in a rate case hearing caused by protest. Absurdly, they want the ratepayer to pay for their legal costs to defend indefensible rate increases.

Additional information that the P.U.C. and the TCEQ need to know is this water system being run by Double Diamond is an absolute disaster. The infrastructure used to deliver water and sewer services to ratepayers on their system is woefully constructed and experiences multiple failures on a regular basis. Our water pressure ranges between 50 psi and zero. We have experienced at least a dozen breaks in the water delivery lines this year alone and may set a new record for needed repairs in the current calendar year. We experience regular periods of no water delivery for up to six hours at a time. Over the Independence Day holiday, we were out of water or had little or no pressure for nearly fourteen hours. Every time the water pressure dips below the required minimum

we have to boil our water for a specified period to remove harmful bacteria and contaminants. This procedure has happened a half a dozen times since the first of the year alone and is not only horribly inconvenient but patently unsafe.

I would encourage the TCEQ to look into the practices and procedures of Double Diamond and initiate some kind of investigation into the crumbling infrastructure of their system which utilizes the water from Possum Kingdom Lake. Double Diamond is claiming that the 'current rates [are] not providing adequate recovery of revenue requirements. If these proposed rate increases or any rate increases are approved, I sincerely hope that Double Diamond will be monitored closely to ensure that the money goes into permanently repairing and improving the infrastructure and not into Double Diamond's pocket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilyn Read".

Marilyn Read

P.U.C. DOCKET NO. 46245

### RATEPAYER PROTEST

If you wish to PROTEST the proposed rate change, you must submit this form and <sup>FILING P.C.C.</sup> to.

Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Unless protests are received from at least 10% of ratepayers or from any affected municipality, or the Commission Staff requests a hearing, no hearing will be held and the rates will be effective as proposed.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION (to be completed by customers submitting protests)

First Name: Marilyn Last Name: READ  
Phone Number: (432) 267-2362 Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address, City, State: 2304 Roberts Dr Big Spring TX 79720  
Location where service is received: 702 Eagle Point, Garfield TX  
(if different from the mailing address)

Please fill out the following.

I wish to PROTEST the following proposed rate action/s:

- Water Rate Change     Sewer Rate Change     Both Water and Sewer Rate Change  
 Other (please specify below)

Signature of Protestor:

Marilyn Read

Date: 8-18-14

Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al  
**1-888-782-8477**

Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones may contact the PUC's Customer Assistance  
Hotline at  
**512-936-7136**