



Control Number: 47275



Item Number: 63

Addendum StartPage: 0

P.U.C. DOCKET NO. 47275

**RATEPAYER PROTEST**

RECEIVED

2017 JUL 11 PM 12:02

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

If you wish to PROTEST the proposed rate change, you must submit this form and 10 copies 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: Alan Last Name: Rich  
Phone Number: 281-913-7239 Fax Number: NA  
Address, City, State: 402 Vista del Lago Drive, Huffman, TX 77336  
Location where service is received: \_\_\_\_\_  
(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)

The Notice of Proposed rate change is in error, misleading and results in potential rate increases of up to 2556% of the current rate, and must be amended as detailed in Attachments 1 and 2 and resubmitted to the ratepayers with a new timeline given.

Otherwise the existing rate must remain in place until such time that an amended proposal is submitted to the ratepayers with Signature of Protestor: on new timeline.

Ally Rich Date: 07 JUL 17

Si desea información en Español, 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**

## Attachment 1

### P.U.C. Docket No. 47275 Ratepayer Protest

#### **Billing Comparison to be Corrected and Resubmitted:**

The "Billing Comparison" on the P.U.C. Docket No. 47275 Notice of Proposed Rate Change Pursuant to Tex. Water Code § 13.1871 is in error and misleading, and needs to be updated and resubmitted. The rate / 1000 gallons used in the calculations for 10,001 to 30,000 gallons was \$1.90, but should have been \$3.05 for 10,001 to 15,000 and \$3.95 for 15,001 to 30,000 gallons to arrive at an existing rate of \$119.50 / month and proposed rate of \$111.46. The rates provided for the proposed rates on the "Billing Comparison" are for  $\frac{5}{8}$ " or  $\frac{3}{4}$ " meter sizes; whereas the rates could be as high as \$907.50 to \$991.50 / month for 5,000 to 30,000 gallons. This information that is in error and misleading likely leads to an artificially low ratepayer protest rate as the "Billing Comparison" information indicates that the bill will decrease and thus no reason for protest is needed. On this basis the proposed rate change is hereby requested to be corrected to be both correct and representative in the "Billing Comparison" of the true changes (i.e. with the possible minimum to maximum charges for each gallon amount as illustrated below) and resubmitted to the ratepayers with a new timeline given.

#### **BILLING COMPARISON**

##### **Water**

Existing	5,000	gallons:	\$ 35.50	/mo	Proposed	5,000	gallons:	\$ 27.46 to 907.50	/mo
Existing	10,000	gallons:	\$ 45.00	/mo	Proposed	10,000	gallons:	\$ 36.96 to 917.00	/mo
Existing	30,000	gallons:	\$ 119.50	/mo	Proposed	30,000	gallons:	\$ 111.46 to 991.50	/mo

#### **Proposed Base Rate Rejected:**

The proposed rates have a base rate scaled based on the meter size, which is determined by the water company, and not based on minimum usage as is the existing rate. For any meter size 1" or greater the monthly rate is proposed to increase from the existing rate and can be a significant increase as illustrated above and in more detail in the Attachment 2. Our rate will increase from ~\$35.50 / month to \$54.40 / month, which is more than 153% of the current rate. There is nothing to prevent the water company from switching the meter and in fact the water company would be highly motivated to change the meter under the proposed rate schedule to make the monthly rate ~\$991.50, which is more than 2556% of the current rate. There is no evidence provided nor is any apparent to warrant a base rate based on meter size rather than minimum usage. If this rate is justified the basis for that justification must be provided in the proposed rate change along with a means of ensuring that the water company cannot change the meter size unless requested by the rate payer. Otherwise, a new proposed rate with the same basis as the existing rate must be presented. The proposed rate with basis must be amended and resubmitted to the ratepayers with a new timeline given for protest.

# Attachment 2

## P.U.C. Docket No. 47275 Ratepayer Protest Existing and Proposed Rates Comparison Details

Existing	Proposed for 5/8" or 3/4"				Base		\$17.96 % of Existing
	Gallons	\$/1000 gals.	Delta	Total	\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total	
-	5,000	N/A		\$ 35.50	1.90 \$	9.50	77.35%
5,001	10,000	\$	1.90 \$	\$ 45.00	1.90 \$	9.50	82.13%
10,001	15,000	\$	3.05 \$	\$ 60.25	3.05 \$	15.25	86.66%
15,001	30,000	\$	3.95 \$	\$ 119.50	3.95 \$	59.25	93.27%

  

Proposed for 1"				Base		\$44.90
Gallons	\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total		\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total	
-	5,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 54.40		153.24%
-	10,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 63.90		142.00%
10,001	15,000 \$	3.05 \$	15.25	\$ 79.15		131.37%
15,001	30,000 \$	3.95 \$	59.25	\$ 138.40		115.82%

  

Proposed for 1-1/2"				Base		\$89.80
Gallons	\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total		\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total	
-	5,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 99.30		279.72%
-	10,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 108.80		241.78%
10,001	15,000 \$	3.05 \$	15.25	\$ 124.05		205.89%
15,001	30,000 \$	3.95 \$	59.25	\$ 183.30		153.39%

  

Proposed for 2"				Base		\$143.68
Gallons	\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total		\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total	
-	5,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 153.18		431.49%
-	10,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 162.68		361.51%
10,001	15,000 \$	3.05 \$	15.25	\$ 177.93		295.32%
15,001	30,000 \$	3.95 \$	59.25	\$ 237.18		198.48%

  

Proposed for 6"				Base		\$98.00
Gallons	\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total		\$/1000 gal: Delta	Total	
-	5,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 907.50		2556.34%
-	10,000 \$	1.90 \$	9.50	\$ 917.00		2037.78%
10,001	15,000 \$	3.05 \$	15.25	\$ 932.25		1547.30%
15,001	30,000 \$	3.95 \$	59.25	\$ 991.50		829.71%

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE PURSUANT TO TEX. WATER CODE § 13.1871

The Commons Water Supply, Inc.

12781

Company Name

CCN Number(s)

has filed a rate change application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission or PUC). The application may be reviewed online at [interchange.puc.texas.gov](http://interchange.puc.texas.gov). You may also inspect a copy of the rate change application at your utility's office at the address below or at the Commission's office (1701 N. Congress Ave, Austin, TX 78701). The proposed rates will apply to service received after the effective date provided below, unless modified or suspended by the Commission. If the Commission receives a sufficient number of protests, separately or in a combined protest letter, from at least <sup>94</sup> [number of] ratepayers (10 percent of the utility's customers over whose rates the Commission has original jurisdiction) or from any affected municipality before the 91st day after the proposed effective date, the matter will be set for hearing. See Protest Form on the next page for instructions on how to protest.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED INCREASE:**

8/7/2017

(must be at least 35 days after notice is provided to customers and 35 days after application is filed)

(Proposed rates requested by the utility are not final. The Commission may modify the rates and order a refund or credit against future bills all sums collected during the pendency of the rate proceeding in excess of the rate finally ordered plus interest.)

**Reason(s) for proposed Rate Change:**

Allow the utility to generate enough revenue to cover those expenses that are reasonable and necessary to provide service to the ratepayers and allow the utility a reasonable opportunity to earn a reasonable return on its invested capital used and useful.

**BILLING COMPARISON****Water**

Existing	5,000 gallons:	\$ 35.50 /mo	Proposed	5,000 gallons:	\$ 27.46 /mo
Existing	10,000 gallons:	\$ 45.00 /mo	Proposed	10,000 gallons:	\$ 36.96 /mo
Existing	30,000 gallons:	\$ 89.00 /mo	Proposed	30,000 gallons:	\$ 74.96 /mo
119.50			111.46 - 991.50		

The Commons of Lake Houston, The Commons Water Supply, Inc. (PWS #1012078)

**Subdivision(s) or System(s) Affected by Rate Change**

P. O. Box 691008 Houston TX 75751  
Company Address City State Zip

(281) 356-1312

Company Phone Number

144,701.00

Annual Revenue Increase

8/30/2017

Date Notice Delivered

2/5/2011

Date of Last Rate Change

The last week of the month

Date Meters Typically Read

\* Prior to providing notice, the utility shall file a request for the assignment of a docket number for the application.

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE -WATER

CURRENT RATES			PROPOSED RATES		
Monthly base rate including <u>5,000</u> gallons			Monthly base rate including <u>5,000</u> gallons		
Meter Size:			Meter Size:		
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>			<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>		
5/8" or 3/4"	\$	35.50	5/8" or 3/4"	\$	17.88
1"	\$	35.50	1"	\$	44.90
1 1/2"	\$	35.50	1 1/2"	\$	88.80
2"	\$	35.50	2"	\$	143.68
3"	\$		3"	\$	289.40
Other:	\$		Other:	\$	449.00
			6"	\$	898.00
GALLONAGE CHARGE			GALLONAGE CHARGE		
TIER	VOLUME	CHARGE per 1000 gals.	TIER	VOLUME	CHARGE per 1000 gals.
Tier 1	5,001 to 10,000 gals.	\$ 1.80 /1000 gals.	Tier 1	<u>5,000</u> to 10,000 gals.	\$ 1.80 /1000 gals.
Tier 2	10,001 to 15,000 gals.	\$ 3.05 /1000 gals.	Tier 2	10,001 to 15,000 gals.	\$ 3.05 /1000 gals.
Tier 3	15,001 to Above gals.	\$ 3.95 /1000 gals.	Tier 3	15,001 to Above gals.	\$ 3.95 /1000 gals.
The City of Houston Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Fee.....\$0.89 per each 1,000 gallons (Tariff Control No. 46842)			The City of Houston Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Fee.....\$0.89 per each 1,000 gallons (Tariff Control No. 46842)		
MISCELLANEOUS FEES			MISCELLANEOUS FEES		
Tap Fee	\$	1,100.00	Tap Fee	\$	1,100.00
Reconnect fee:			Reconnect fee:		
Non-payment	\$	25.00	Non-payment	\$	25.00
			(Maximum - \$25.00)	\$	25.00
Customer's Request	\$	15.00	Customer's Request	\$	50.00
Transfer Fee	\$	15.00	Transfer Fee	\$	35.00
Late Charge	\$	10%	Late charge: (Indicate either \$5.00 or 10%)	\$	10%
Returned Check Charge	\$	25.00	Returned Check Charge	\$	30.00
Deposit	\$	50.00	Deposit	\$	50.00
			(Maximum \$50.00)	\$	50.00
Meter test fee	\$	25.00	Meter test fee	\$	25.00
			(Maximum - \$25.00)		

Regulatory Assessment of 1% is added to base rate and gallonage charges. Additional fees and meter sizes may be shown on a separate page.

If applicable, list any bill payment assistance programs to low income Ratepayers.

None