



Control Number: 50017



Item Number: 18

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Public Utilities Commission of Texas  
PO. Box 13326  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

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2020 FEB 19 AM 9:11

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

REF: Docket 50017

UNDINE TEXAS, LLC, NOTICE OF INTENT TO PURCHASE FACILITIES AND TO TRANSFER ALL OF WATER SERVICE AREA UNDER CCN NO. 12072 FROM PURE UTILITIES, LC IN LIBERTY, POLK, SAN JACINTO, AND TYLER COUNTIES AND TO ADD UNCERTIFICATED AREA, AND TO DECERTIFY A PORTION OF CCN NO. 12072 IN LIBERTY AND POLK COUNTIES, TEXAS

Gentlemen:

Intervention requested. We, undersigned and attached are totally against not only Undine Texas purchasing the above captioned water company but any water company who intends in any way increasing the amount it's customers pay for water, the fluid absolutely essential to life and free right from the ground, just as the oxygen we all breathe.

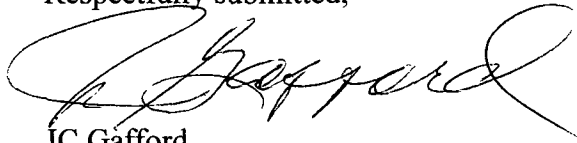
I reference the "20 Texas Cities That Paid the Highest Water Bills in 2015". An article written by John Egan in his article of City Rankings, Water. This is the newest information that could be found on such short notice for research. This certainly will give us a parameter for where prices are and should be. The prices may have slightly changed but normally a water bill hardly fluctuates especially in the base rates. In this article, Wichita Falls, TX pays \$516.43 annually per household with the usage of 60,000 gallons per household or a cost of \$00.00860717 per gallon. It doesn't give the base rate in gallons, just the total usage. The current base water rate per year would put our community with Pure Utilities at \$362.76 annually per household with the usage of 24,000 gallons per household or a cost of \$00.015115 per gallon. If we had the capability to get actual figures from Pure Utilities, the dollar amount and gallons of usage would both change since most bills run over the minimum 2,000 gallons and it would put our community with Pure Utilities paying even higher per gallon prices. If Wichita Falls households paid the per gallon water rate of Pure Utilities Communities, (base rates) their water bills would be \$906.90 annually. Comparing oranges to oranges, the Pure Utilities Communities are already paying the highest per gallon rate in the state of Texas. Also the non-water rates are exorbitant.

Based on the information we have available to us at this time, it appears that the Undine Texas organization has no regard in terms of water rates for the retired folks of Southeast Texas that they can't possibly pay. Please take into consideration the information provided and deny the sale of Pure Utilities to Undine Texas.

Money is the bottom line these days with any transaction, not the well being of the community. Please take into account that retired citizens living on Social Security occupy the majority of homes in these communities. The amount Undine Texas is asking for in the new rates would put so many of these individuals at risk, choosing between water, food or prescriptions each month. Social Security just awarded a Cost of Living increase to Social Security Recipients of 1.6%. That is hardly enough to pay for a lunch once each month and here, they are being forced into an increase for water as stated herewith. Please do not allow this to

occur. The proposal of Undine Texas will raise the base rates from \$30.23 to \$58.30 or 92.85% increase. This increase would be on top of a recent water rate hike by Pure Utilities. Please understand what is happening here. There must be logic in your decisions and the welfare of the citizens of Texas should be right up top.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JC Gafford', written in a cursive style.

JC Gafford  
423 Lakeshore Dr.  
Cleveland, TX 77327

Enclosures,  
Petition Signatures



PETITION

February 10, 2020

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF TEXAS

We, the undersigned are totally opposed to action connected to the UNDINE TEXAS, LLC, NOTICE OF INTENT TO PURCHASE FACILITIES AND TO TRANSFER ALL OF WATER SERVICE AREA UNDER CCN NO. 12072 FROM PURE UTILITIES, LC IN LIBERTY, POLK, SAN JACINTO, AND TYLER COUNTIES AND TO ADD UNCERTIFICATED AREA, AND TO DECERTIFY A PORTION OF CCN NO. 12072 IN LIBERTY AND POLK COUNTIES, TEXAS Docket No. 50017

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