

## **Filing Receipt**

Filing Date - 2023-08-30 06:06:25 PM

Control Number - 50788

Item Number - 381

Date:

August 30, 2023

To:

The Commissioners of the Public Utility Commission of Texas

Subject:

Letter of Support for PUC Staff and Ratepayers in Ratepayers Appeal of Windermere Oaks Water Supply Corporation Rates (PUC Docket 50788)

## Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this letter is to express our support of the PUC Staff and Ratepayers position in Ratepayers Appeal of the Windermere Oaks Water Supply Corporation Rates, PUC Docket 50788.

As the leadership body representing the Windermere Oaks Property Owners Association (WOPOA) our primary responsibility is to advocate for the best interests of our property owners. Our association encompasses a diverse membership including approximately 158 homeowners who are also ratepayers and 114 owners of undeveloped lots who pay standby fees. The 158 ratepayers consist of fulltime residents, short term rental owners, year-round renters and those who own vacation homes. Approximately 90 property owners reside in Windermere Oaks year-round which include ratepayers that are retirees, couples with children, single parent families and individuals who are on fixed incomes. The current rates implement by the Windermere Oaks Water Supply Corporation back in 2020 has caused considerable financial burdens and hardships for many of these property owners for the past three and half years.

While we acknowledge the necessity of reasonable utility rates to sustain the operation and maintenance of services and that not all property owners will share the same perspective on matters such as financial hardships, it is just as equally essential to point out that these rates should be fair, just and reasonable for all ratepayers. It's a real concern for our property owners when having access to electricity costs less than having water and sewer service and to make matters worse, especially when a large percentage for the utility service is allocated to paying for law firms that have totaled well over one million dollars. To clarify, our property owners current pay \$160 for water and sewer service a month which doesn't even provide a drop of water, while the same amount for electricity covers your usage for the whole month. This situation raises serious questions about what is just and reasonable for the ratepayers in our property owner's association.

This letter of support serves as voice of many of our property owners and we stand united in our belief that the PUC Staff and Ratepayers position aligns with the best interest of many of our property owners as ratepayers.

Thank you for attention to this serious issue which has had a tremendous financial impact to our residents.

Sincerety

Paul Hischar/President WOPO

Marda Waters Transver WOPOA

Tom Nelson/Director

Allen Hicks/Vice President WOPOA

Oleh Kulas/Secretary WOPOA

Mark Carpenter/Depotor

C.C. Windermere Oaks Water Suppy Corporation, PUC Statt and Ratepayer Reprensentative