



Filing Receipt

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DOCKET 52370

East Houston Utilities requests that the temporary rates be set at \$51.00 as a base rate for the first 5,000 gallons and \$2.00 per gallon over that.

In our experience, this amount would cover minimum operating costs or a portion of the fixed costs associated with this water system. This is assuming that no repairs or replacements will be necessary until a final tariff is established.

We also believe this is agreeable to the interveners, as two of them made statements indicating during testimony that this number would be acceptable as a permanent base rate.

We believe that a 25% increase, if our math is right, would amount to a \$5 increase in the base rate, and would not be sufficient to cover the additional needs of this system. It may not even be enough to cover the accounting costs associated with changing our accounting methods and the additional use of a technician to change in our utility billing program.

We very much appreciate the court and the PUC's continuing urgency in this matter, given the fact that there are still no resources to provide service in the case of a lost critical item to the system.

Thank you,

Stephen Krebs

EHU