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Public Utility Commission of Texas by Undine Development LLC

1701 N. Congress Avenue PO Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326

DOCKET #52797

Commissioners,

Please accept this letter as a formal protest against the astronomically high rate increases proposed by Undine Development LLC which represent, for a basis of 2000 gallons of water usage per month, a 270% increase in water rates (from \$29.70 to \$81.22) and a 250% increase in sewer rates (from \$44.27 to \$110). These exorbitant rate increases reflect the greed and price gouging of private corporations which are steadily increasing their market share of water systems. These corporations are utilizing rate hikes to maximize profits (which by definition is their bottom line) and inflate executive salaries. But these rate hikes will put undue hardship my wife and me who are retirees on a fixed income. Because living without water is not an option, we will be forced to cut back on other essentials to pay for this service.

I urge the commission to intervene on the behalf of the affected residents to ensure that our community has access to affordable water. At a very minimum, I urge you to demand that Undine Development LLC be accountable and transparent and share with their customers the basis for this astronomical price increase.

Respectfully, C.E Drake and Alice A. Drake 84 La Costa Drive Montgomery, TX 77356 <u>Alicedrake13@gmail.com</u> 936-524-1537