



Control Number: 52797



Item Number: 219

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

RECEIVED

2023 MAY -4 AM 11:24

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION¹ May 2023
FILING CLERK

Commissioners:

A letter to inform our representatives of the impending water/sewer rate increases and the significant impact such increases will likely have on all residents in the associated utility district.

A follow-up to previous letters associated with Docket No. 52797

Formerly, sewer rates were based on usage and typically amounted to approximately \$45.00 per month.

With the increases, the rate is now fixed at \$75.00 and is proposed to increase to \$110.00 per month, with no apparent modification of services. This represents an approximately 56% increase now and about 130% in 3 years.

Water costs were also based on usage, with typical bills for 1000 gallons less than \$30.00 per month. With the new rates a typical bill for 1000 gallons will likely be greater than \$58.00 per month. Again with no apparent modification of service. This represents a nearly 100% increase.

Such high percentage increases seem totally out of line for a utility which provides a commodity that is not only an absolute necessity, but also available from only a single source.

Past experience with rate increases by utility companies providing an essential service are typically limited to single digit percentages. Therefore it seems beyond outrageous that such double digit rate increases should be allowed to occur.

Furthermore, in much of the service area affected, the residents consist of older, retired homeowners typically living on fixed incomes. Such severe increases will undoubtedly have a significant effect on their lifestyles.

We respectfully request that this rate increase situation be carefully reviewed, taking into consideration previous single source utility provider policies and the economic impact on the affected residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Nielsen

52 LaCosta Drive

Montgomery, TX 77356

Tel. 936-276-9481

Email-renran5226@gmail.com