

Filing Receipt

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Control Number - 56354

Item Number - 2920

PUC DOCKET NO. 56354

RATEPAYER COMMENTS/REQUESTS TO INTERVENE

If you wish to PROTEST the proposed rate change, you must complete this form and file it electronically using the PUC Interchange Filer (http://www.puc.texas.gov/industry/filings/E-FilingInstructions.pdf) or mail the original to:

Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

No hearing will be held and the rates will be effective as proposed <u>unless</u> protests are received from at least 10% of ratepayers or from any affected municipality, or the Commission Staff requests a hearing.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION (please provide all of the requested information)

First Name: VICTOR Last Name: 1LIESCU Phone Number: 832-829-3376 Fax Number:

Email Address: Victor, iliescu. 2024@ Jmail. Com Address, City, State: 3.902 Whispering Woods LN, Rich-Hond, TX

Location where service is received: 77406 (if different from the mailing address) Please fill out the following: I wish to PROTEST the following proposed rate action/s: M I wish to be a COMMENTER. I understand that: I am NOT a party to this case; my comments are not considered evidence in this case; and I have no further obligation to participate in the proceeding. Public comments may help inform the PUCT of the public concerns and identify issues to be explored. Please provide comments below. Attach a separate page, if necessary. Please see the following pages for detailed description of the PRITEST ☐ I am requesting to INTERVENE in this proceeding. As an INTERVENOR, I understand that: I am a party to the case; I am required to respond to all discovery requests from other parties; I may be required to attend hearings, and if I file testimony, I may be cross-examined in the hearing; if I file any documents in the case, I must provide a copy to every other party in the case; and I acknowledge that I am bound by the Procedural Rules of the PUCT and the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). Signature of Ratepayer: Date: 21-01-2025

Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al

1-888-782-8477

Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones may contact the PUCT's Customer Assistance Hotline at **512-936-7136**

Updated: September 29, 2021

21.01.2025

Victor Iliescu

3902 Whispering woods Ln. Richmond, TX 77406

832-829-3376/victor.iliescu.2024@gmail.com

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Filing Clerck

1701 North Congress Avenue P.O. Box 13326

Austin, TX 78711-3326

Re: Formal Protest Regarding Proposed Water Rate Increase by Undine Texas LLC

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to formally protest the proposed water rate increase by Undine Texas LLC for customers with a 1" pipe diameter connection. Currently, our rate is \$127,33, and the proposed rate of \$172.01 constitutes a staggering 35.1% increase. This level of increase is both aggressive and unreasonable, particularly for an essential utility such as water.

Below are my primary points of concern:

1. Excessive and Predatory Increase

A 35.1% rate hike is far beyond ordinary cost-of-living adjustments or inflationary changes. This proposed rate seriously impacts the financial well-being of households in our community and appears unjustified without clear, detailed explanations of the cost drivers.

2. Essential Nature of Water

Water is not a luxury item; it is an essential resource for drinking, cooking, sanitation, and overall public health. Any company providing such a critical service should be held to the highest standards of fairness and transparency in pricing.

3. Lack of Clear Justification

Typically, utilities that request significant rate increases must demonstrate a clear need—such as infrastructure improvements, regulatory compliance costs, or necessary upgrades to meet health and safety standards. If Undine Texas LLC has provided any such justification, it has not been clearly communicated to the affected customers.

4. Potential Financial Hardship

A large percentage of residents are on fixed or modest incomes. Increasing water bills by more than a third threatens to impose disproportionate hardship, especially for seniors, low-income families, and small businesses.

5. Request for Thorough Review

I respectfully urge the Commission to thoroughly investigate the necessity and reasonableness of the requested rate hike. If the increase is found to be unjust or not sufficiently justified, I request that the PUC either deny the request or mandate a more modest adjustment in line with legitimate operational costs and documented improvements.

Conclusion

I strongly believe that Undine Texas LLC's proposed rate increase is disproportionate and detrimental to the interests of customers. I trust that the PUC will conduct a detailed review to ensure that any approved rates reflect a balance between fair revenue requirements and the public's need for affordable, essential water service.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my protest. I appreciate the Commission's dedication to protecting consumers and ensuring that utility rates remain fair, transparent, and equitable. Should you need any additional information, documentation, or clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Victor Iliescu