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Public Utility Commission Austin Texas

Reference 56610-18

The ratepayers of the Leroy-Tours-Gerald Water Supply (LTG) respectfully request the PUC to conduct a hearing and that our case proceed to be heard. If the PUC can evaluate our evidence and make a ruling without a hearing, we are agreeable as long as our objections below are taken into consideration.

Based on the August 5, 2024 Commission Staff's support of the recommendation on the sufficiency of notice filed on July 1, 2024 (reference 56610-17), the ratepayers believe that the proper and fair thing to do is to proceed to a hearing by the PUC. We feel that the August 20, 2024 staff recommendation (reference 56610-19) to refer the proceeding to the State Office of Administrative Hearings should not be necessary since the Staff supports the sufficiency of notice.

The August 6, 2024 procedural schedule (reference 56610-18) calls for the ratepayers response by September 3, 2024 to the Commission Staff's recommendation or to request a hearing or file a proposed order. This letter is our response to request a hearing.

The ratepayers have clearly stated their objections to the rate increases adopted by LTG when they signed the petition to request help from the PUC. Their voices deserve to be heard.

The methodology of the rate increase is unfair to the members, because there is no differentiation between a user of 500 gallons of water and a user of 100,000 gallons of water.

We acknowledge that rate increases are inevitable, but it is unfair to increase the minimum rate rather than the actual usage charge. The usage rate would encourage conservation by all users.

At this point LTG has not even asked us for a meeting to discuss the issue. Their immediate reaction was to try to avoid even considering listening to the ratepayers concerns. It seems like they should want to sit down and discuss the issue and come to a reasonable agreement that is fair for everyone.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the hearing be allowed to move forward.

Sincerely,

David Arnett Representative