



Control Number: 58124



Item Number: 1140

REF: PUCT DOCKET NO. 58124

Ratepayer Comments/Request To Intervene

June 22nd, 2025

Sent To:

Filing Clerk

Public Utility Commission of Texas

1701 North Congress Avenue

P.O. Box 13326

Austin, Texas 78711-3326

To Whom It May Concern:

I am taking this opportunity to PROTEST and request the opportunity to INTERVENE in this proceeding.

As a homeowner and resident of the Avery Ranch Subdivision located in rate code T411, I am struggling to understand the reason for this significant rate increase. Aqua America has not provided any type of explanation or supporting evidence that supports their request for a rate increase. Aqua America has not provided any reason why the Federal Tax Change Credit Rider is being eliminated and why homeowners will be expected to pay for additional fees associated with water system improvements.

As a publicly traded corporation that provides water to millions of Texas homeowners, including myself, I suspect that this increase is an effort to increase their bottom line in hopes of increasing stock price, shareholder profitability and board of director bonuses. If that is the case, Aqua America should look inward to increasing operational efficiency and reduce costs by monitoring and controlling their pumping systems instead of running those pumping systems to the point of failure before taking costly corrective action. The revenue increase from new home and subdivision development should more than offset the cost of expanding Aqua's water system infrastructure.

Is Aqua America's Texas based leadership team aware that on Wednesday June 18th, Governor Greg Abbott signed a significant piece of water infrastructure legislation for the state of Texas? Governor Abbott enacted Senate Bill 7 and House Joint Resolution 7. These laws will steer a \$20 billion investment into both creating new water sources and refurbishing existing

infrastructure. As a private corporation, will Aqua America be able to take advantage of this legislation and funding bill and is Aqua Texas leadership working with the Texas Water Development Board to apply for funding needed to offset or provide funding future water infrastructure projects?

In conclusion, there is no evidence that the proposed rate increase and added fees will improve the quality of water, or the level of services offered by Aqua America. Water supplied by Aqua America is essential to every individual within Aqua's service area. Homeowners within the Aqua Texas service area understand that there is a cost associated with all utilities including electricity, gas, water and sewage. As a homeowner, I adamantly disagree with Aqua America's rate and fee increase and ask that the Public Utility Commission of Texas evaluate the financial impact this will have on Aqua America's customers. We should not pay extra to offset a corporation's operational deficiencies, and our quality of life should not be compromised by a corporation that has a monopoly on our water supply.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion on this matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Shine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Shine" clearly distinguishable.

John Shine

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