



✓ Gen. Acct sent 11/3/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commis. H

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Hearing

BCS-W-09-02

RECEIVED

2009 NOV -2 AM 8:21

Rathdrum, Idaho

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you cannot or do not want to testify in person at this hearing but want your opinion noted, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

You may also post comments on our Web Site.

<http://www.puc.idaho.gov>

Click "comments & questions."

Please do not raise our rates!!

It will be a hardship to pay more for water. In this economy we are all really struggling with utilities, taxes, groceries etc.

We are mindful of water usage as we are on sacker.

Call if you need further input or info -

Thank-you,

Jill + Mike Ethner

Print Name Jill + Mike Ethner Sign Name Jill Ethner
 Mailing Address 1803 W. Greenwood Rd Phone Number 208-687-3911
 City and State Rathdrum ID Zip Code 83858

✓ Ann Ack sent 11/3/09
✓ To A.V.
✓ To Commms. § H
Jean Jewell

From: AMason4818@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 6:09 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Anna Mason follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Anna Mason
Address: 1508 W. Dolan Road
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208 6874165
Contact E-Mail: AMason4818@aol.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle 'S' Water Co.
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

The above referenced utility company has requested a 119% increase in it's rates for water service. Please do not approve this request. If approved these increased rates could force me to sell my home. The property in this development is a minimum of 5 acres and for the most part at least some of the property has to be landscaped unless it is abundant with trees. To ensure against fire danger a safe green space must be kept around the house and it must be watered. If the increase request is granted it could cost almost \$500 in the summer months which is outrageous and unconscionable. While I agree that some increase may be necessary due to rising costs, in general this request is pure greed and profiteering. We are all experiencing rising costs so this would create a definite hardship. In the hot months of July and August my water usage can go as high as 217,000 gallons...can you imagine what that would cost? Please do not approve this request as submitted by Bar Circle 'S' Water Co.

Thank you for your consideration.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.76.26

✓ Men. Ask
Sent 11/3/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Comments
: 14

Jean Jewell

From: seth@nwcaddesign.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 5:29 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Seth Steele follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Seth Steele
Address: 17628 Circle S Trail
City: Rathdrum,
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-660-8590
Contact E-Mail: seth@nwcaddesign.com
Name of Utility Company: bar circle S
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I have read thru this case and would like to state some facts. I live at the far end of circle s, my wife Jamie and I are buying this house from her father jeffrey hank hester. I would like to add that I am ok with some increase as there are costs with maintaining systems. I think that they are asking for to much. and here is why

1. During the summer I cannot run sprinklers in the front and back yards at the same time. If I try they only maybe go 10 ft. The water pressure here sucks, if they increase the rates at all I feel I should get more water pressure. I haven't complained yet because I pay a reasonable amount for my water right now
2. I did not water all summer because my lawn mower quit. I never used less than 10K gallons of water, my bill stayed around \$40.00. I'm ok with an increase that would have brought that to \$60.00
3. Last summer I watered all summer long and my bill stayed around \$140.00 thats an reasonable amount (I used in the mid 200's gallons of water) and even a %50 increase would make that \$210.00 what there asking would make my bill over \$300 a month. This is not reasonable. and I believe if this is allowed I should have the option of putting in my own Well and this would go against our CCR's.
4. We plan on installing a sprinkler system this spring, for fire safety and property value we as a community need to be able to water and keep things green. at an affordable rate. And how will future buyers look at the property with such a large utility bill
5. there asking for an increase on a system that doesn't provide enough water pressure to allow me to run 6 sprinklers at a time. Right now I'm lucky to run 2, and like I said I haven't complained because the rates are reasonable.
6. garwood elementary is on this water system. an increase of this amount would substaintially increase there water bill, as they have a large playground, baseball field and soccer field that they maintain. this in turn would increase my taxes. along with my personal water bill

7. This particular water system has already been paid for by the people that built these houses. they already paid, and we pay every month on this system. I understand there are costs involved but our water bill pays those costs.

This community and this system is seperate from any other and should be looked at that way. I'm sorry if he's built other subdivisions that aren't selling land, but they eventually will and those systems will be paid for by the people that buy those properties. This system it has been bought and paid for and our monthly bill more than pays for the maintenance.

ALTERNATIVE

I do agree with the \$15 per month minimun is to low. I would agree to have the minimun raised to even \$40 for the 10K gallons. because I believe the average family uses around 10K. This would make a minimun bill still manageable even in hard times. I would also agree to a small increase in overage. MAYBE from .95 cents to 1.10 this is a reasonable increase. but for even that I want more water pressure in return.

We need to be able to keep our yards green affordably

Thank you for your time.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>

IP address is 98.145.87.111

✓ Jean Aike
sent 11/3/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commis.
§ 14

Jean Jewell

From: florea@roadrunner.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 4:10 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Emmett & Lynn Florea follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Emmett & Lynn Florea
Address: 16897 N. Wrangler Road
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: (208) 687-2173
Contact E-Mail: florea@roadrunner.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle 'S' Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

We purchased our property in 1980 and at that time there were not many homes out here. There was a sign at the end of the street on Garwood road which stated this development had 2 sources of water; one for human consumption and one for irrigation purposes. If this were indeed the case, we would not object so much to a raise in charges. The increase that has been requested is just absurd! An increase because of inflation would be understandable - but why should we have to pay for all improvements to the entire system out here. My husband and I have recently retired and are living on a fixed income. We try to be conservative in our use of water and use between 20-30,000 gals for the summer months. The remainder of the year we are very close to the minimum use allotment. We do try to keep our lawn (1 acre) green and looking nice, however, if the cost to water it becomes unreasonable, we will be forced to let it go brown and to weeds. We really don't want to resort to that because it will cause our property value to depreciate and it will be a fire hazard for everyone living out here. Please help us keep Mr. Turnipseed's fee request to a reasonable amount and ask him to pay for all his new improvements with the new lots he is developing and putting on this same water system. We have been here for 25+ years and the original water system was always reliable and adequate for all who were on it. We sincerely hope we will not be forced out of our home simply because of the cost of water! Thank you for the opportunity to comment - and please, help us.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 76.178.185.229

✓ Gen Bck
sent 11/3/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Comm. s H

Jean Jewell

From: delmarbob2001@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 2:59 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from ROBERT & JO ANN KENNEDY follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: ROBERT & JO ANN KENNEDY
Address: 561 W DOLAN RD
City: RATHDRUM
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208 712 3003
Contact E-Mail: delmarbob2001@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: BAR CIRCLE S WATER CO Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

We are new residents to Idaho as of this year and have a few issues with the new proposed rates. 1) 7500 Gallons for a Baseline seems awfully low for 5+ acre parcels in this community and this has not been increased for 19 years when this area was under - developed. A Base increase from 7500 - 50,000 Gallons seems more reasonable based on water usage over the growing season here. 2) Although rates have not increased in these 19 years, the proposed hike is approx. a 119% increase in these tough economic times - a lesser increase of somewhere around 20 - 25 % seems a lot more reasonable. 3) There is a plan for future development of many new homes in the area which will impact the water usage/rates in the coming future and we as residents of this community do not feel it is fair to force current residents to pay for this proposed growth now until this occurs in the future. In regards to any new development, we believe increasing the fees for new hookups to approx. \$2500 is reasonable and fair.

Please consider our comments and our neighbors as well when considering these large rate increases by the Water Company.

Sincerely,
Robert & Jo Ann Kennedy

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.75.63

✓ Ben Ack.
sent 11/3/09

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commis.
; H

Jean Jewell

From: marshfamilyx4@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 4:25 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Jennifer Marsh follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Jennifer Marsh
Address: 1342 W. Dolan Rd.
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-8275
Contact E-Mail: marshfamilyx4@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I am writing to you about the projected rate increase of the Bar Circle S water company. The rate at which the increase is scheduled to occur seems quite excessive. I'm not sure what utility company would be allowed to increase at over 100%. When Avista increases their rates they must prove the need for the increase. The Bar Circle S has not proven a need for such a huge increase. A 20% increase would generate funds over the long run to compensate the company for increased expenses. I'm concerned that if the increase occurs at such a extreme rate that I won't be watering my lawn and surrounding property in the manner I have in the past. I am a school teacher who has had her salary frozen. The lack of water will increase the chance of fires. I live on five acres which are covered almost entirely by trees. Please consider my views on this manner before making your decision.

Sincerely,
Jenny Marsh

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.95.221

✓ Gen. Ack
sent 11/3/09

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commms.
:H

Jean Jewell

From: polarbay@roadrunner.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 11:58 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Chris Kirk follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Chris Kirk
Address: 17823 N. Circle S trail
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-5085
Contact E-Mail: polarbay@roadrunner.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List:

Please describe your comment briefly:

It has been brought to my attention that the Bar circle S Water Company wants to raise our water rates 119%. I firmly believe this to be an unfair request during our severe economic times. My family of 4 people resides on 4.80 rural acres. We keep roughly 5/8 of an acre in lawn, don't raise live stock and have a fire break around our home and out buildings. Our family uses the water allotment plus some during the summer months. We do not have a sprinkling system which the health of the lawn reflects. Our off season usage is roughly at the allotment. We find the drastic price increase request from the water company rather coincidental during the construction and development of more acreage owned by Mr. Turnipseed. We also are worried that the additional usage on our aging water system will leave us plagued with more water outages, lower pressures, hard water and volume problems. Thank you.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 70.192.241.41

✓ Gen Ack
sent 11/3/09

✓ No AN

✓ To Comm
:H

Jean Jewell

From: elisa11587@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 11:34 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Adrienne Daus follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Adrienne Daus
Address: 1427 Dolan Rd
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-0520
Contact E-Mail: elisa11587@aol.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I spent this past weekend encouraging my neighbors to submit comments regarding the proposed BCS rate increase. However, after reading the staff report and researching the action taken with Diamond Bar, I feel my efforts were futile. In both the Diamond Bar and BCS staff reports it was recommended Mr. Turnipseed receive a 12% rate of return. It appears in the case of Diamond Bar, an amount was determined to insure a minimum 12% return. Then the staff and commission tweaked the rates to guarantee the additional revenue. For example, the commission increased the minimum usage rate 80% instead of the 140% requested. However, the per 1K gallon rate increased 91% vs the 15% BCS asked for. I am assuming the commission adjusted the rates where they thought it would have the least impact but the increase was huge.

The staff recommends a 73% rate increase for BCS, again to allow Mr. Turnipseed a 12% return. I have no doubt the commission will grant the request. In spite of letters or hearing testimony it will be approved because a precedent has been set with Diamond Bar. How many companies in today's economic environment can be guaranteed a 12% rate of return? After researching on money.cnn.com, in 2008 Costco saw a 1.8%, Verizon 6.6%, Home Depot 3.2%, IBM 11.9%, Walmart 3.3% and Microsoft 29.3%. In fact, according to the same website, the S&P Energy Sectors average net profit margin is 9.7%. The average S&P 500 is 8.5%. The federal cost of living adjustment is 3.5%. All well below the PUC staff recommendations for BCS of 12%. Why is Mr. Turnipseed and BCS so deserving of such a large return?

The precedent has been set. Mr Turnipseed does not have to prove or justify anything in his application. He is not asking for the increase because of additional costs, i.e. new pump, power costs, but rather the rate of return. All he has to show is that he did not get the 'reasonable' 12% return in the 'test year'.

I would love to come to your commission and ask for a 12% return for our company and get it. We have to work hard for it and provide outstanding service so clients return. We have no choice with BCS, the only water company we can use.

I used to think that we could make a difference. Our voices would be heard but since the commission has set a precedent with Diamond Bar, how can we 'fight city hall'? To compensate for Mr. Turnipseeds windfall 12% return, we will drastically reduce our water consumption to try to keep our water bills at the current level. Because of high water rates real estate

sales will decline even further. Our beautiful neighborhood will suffer. Landscape and lifestyles will be impacted.

I doubt very much if many of BCS customers saw a 12% raise. We are all just trying to get through these tough times. When you are considering your decision, perhaps you could put yourselves in our shoes. Would you want to pay the rates you are imposing on us?

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 207.200.116.138

✓ Gen Ark
sent 11/3/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commus.
S.H

Jean Jewell

From: shannelsoderbeck@msn.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 11:05 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Shannel follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Shannel
Address: 1824 W Dolan Rd
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-712-3018
Contact E-Mail: shannelsoderbeck@msn.com Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to protest the proposed base rate and usage rate that is being proposed by the Bar Circle S Water Company. I have many concerns. I do not believe that current water customers should be stuck with the bill paying for the new land development (Triple T) that is to be future serviced with our water supply. Tap fees by the new residents should cover their usage. I would like to point out that in the neighborhood we live on, we have acreage. On our 5 acres we have four horses that we water, plus the water it takes for our children to keep them washed and clean in the 4H projects they are deeply involved in as well as market steer projects. This rate increase will be a hardship and we will be forced to stop watering our lawn at the current levels. This will effect our neighborhood property values and curb appeal. Frankly, it will look terrible to see the lawns dry up. These are hard economic times. We are suffering financially as many are and it is unfair to hit us with such inflated rates. We are a family of 5 who most of the year get by with the base allotment of water. In July this year we used 76,960 Gallons and August we used 89,770 Gallons. We water our lawn in the late evening or early morning hours during the dark. This water rate increase will drastically affect the property we maintain, not to mention additional fire danger it brings to the area. I believe that in contrast to being forced a water supplier, it should be made available to us to have alternatives. Perhaps well drilling should be allowed and added to teh CC & R's so we can maintain our own water supply. I appreciate your careful consideration as to the impact of this inflated water rate increase. It is sure to have consequences. At our home the additional hardship will have consequences of it's own.

Shannel & Wade Soderbeck

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.89.201

✓ Gen Bk
sent 11/3/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commms.
: H

Jean Jewell

From: jmmoore1@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 9:56 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Melanie Moore follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Melanie Moore
Address: 17708 Wrangler Road
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-755-0569
Contact E-Mail: jmmoore1@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I believe a rate hike such as the board is seeking is very unreasonable. At this time when homeowners are struggling to keep their homes and watching values drop, I think a 5 - 7 % hike would be more appropriate. Just because the management of this water board has been poor (i.e. not seeking rate hikes in small increments over a period of years) does not mean we, as homeowner's, should bear the burden all at once.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.89.14

✓ Gen. Ask
sent 11/3/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commis.
:H

Jean Jewell

From: ludwig@icehouse.net
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 9:46 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Ludwig Tomasini follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Ludwig Tomasini
Address: 17903 N. Circle S Trail
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208 687 0392
Contact E-Mail: ludwig@icehouse.net
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I have lived in the Bar Circle S development since 1990. I don't recall the water rates ever going up. With that in mind I must say that I don't mind a reasonable rate increase, something in the 20% range.

I live alone with a dog. The amount of water I use is usually, even in the summer, under 7,500 gallons a month. The only outside irrigating I do is a very small garden. In the summer I notice my water pressure decreases somewhat. Not a lot but it is noticeable. I understand that our current water system will be used for water in a new development. I'm sure that will facilitate my pressure dropping even more. That is kind of scary because many of us have many trees on our property and if a fire ever gets going I doubt that the fire hydrants will be able to sustain any decent type of pressure.

I'm wondering if Robert Turnipseed is trying to get us current homeowners to help finance his new development. Anyway I look at it his requested rate hike is thoughtless and unreasonable. Please stop him.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 63.64.159.2

✓ Gen. Ack
sent 11/3/09

✓ To Adv.

✓ To Commrs.
S H

Jean Jewell

From: megmalloy@adelphia.net
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 5:38 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Margaret Malloy follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Margaret Malloy
Address: 1737 W. Dolan Road
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-755-4328
Contact E-Mail: megmalloy@adelphia.net
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

The percentage of increase Bar Circle S is requesting is absolutley ridiculous. We currently pay in the hundreds of dollars during the summer months, and not being excessive on water usage. COuld we possibly be supporting new developments other than ours? Why is the increase needed, and why is the amount of increase so unbelievable?

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 76.178.191.180

✓ Gen Ack
sent 11/3/09

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commis.
; H

Jean Jewell

From: mnvanderson@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 4:48 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Vicky Anderson follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Vicky Anderson
Address: 17681 N Wrangler Rd.
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-964-4264
Contact E-Mail: mnvanderson@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

Please do not raise the water rates for Bar Circle S. It is already difficult/Hardship to water our land. The first year we purchased the home the water bill went up to 400/month in order to keep our grass green. Last year we had to let the watering go due to the costs associated with having green grass and to keep the threat of fire away. With the recession my husband and i have both lost our pay. I still have not found work. We have 2 horses, and have 5 acres to care for. This would only add more difficulty in keeping up our acreage. The threat of fire only causes more stress.

Mr. Turnipseed made a statment in his request for permitting on his new division that using this water system for his new division would not cause an increase in rate to the current occupants of Bar Circle S. So why is this happening now after all of this time? He promised this would not happen in his original proposal. He should not be allowed to raise rates after this promise. More over, the CC&R's do not allow for any home owner in this water system to have their own private well. If Mr. Turnipseed is allowed an increase of any amount, every homeowner should have the right to choose to put their own well in. So i propose changing the CC&R's so that if i want to put my own well in to save money i can.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 76.178.189.226
