

IDAHO
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Public Hearing

BCS-W-09-02

Rathdrum, Idaho

RECEIVED

2009 NOV -4 AM 8:00

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."

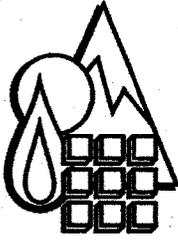
Case #: BCS-W-09-02

We are self-employed - Car hauling -
It's getting more & more difficult to get
loads. High fuel prices previous nearly
put us under - after coming down, now
they're going up again like everything
else. What a hardship! So now a huge
hike in our water is a hard blow!
We have 5 acres of woods - what about
fire? In July we used 51,110 gal - in
Aug 38,430 gal - Near or below allotment during
winter. We want a garden so we need our
own well. We do not want to pay for Turnished
new housing development - let them take care that

Print Name J. BEX & WILMA FULBRIGHT Sign Name J. Bex & Wilma Fulbright

Mailing Address 19854 N. RAMSEY RD Phone Number 208-687-1613

City and State RATHDRUM, ID Zip Code 83858



✓ Don Ack sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commis : H

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Hearing

BCS-W-09-02 RECEIVED

2009 NOV -4 AM 8:01

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."

See Attached Sheet

Print Name Robert C Barnett Sign Name Robert C Barnett

Mailing Address 527 w Dolan Rd Phone Number 208-687-1230

City and State Rathdrum Idaho Zip Code 83856

If you agree with this alternative,
please state it in your Comment:

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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Reasonable Alternative:

Bar Circle S Water Company should have a reasonable rate increase.

Increase the Base Monthly Rate 20% from \$15.00 to \$18.00 per month for the first 50,000 gallons.

Increase water used in excess of 50,000 gallons 15.5% from the current \$0.95 to \$1.10.

Increase hook up fees in the new development to \$2,500.00

REMINDER:

Bar Circle S Water Company is asking the commission for our base rate to more than double AND 119% increase on usage.



✓ Gen. Hake
sent 11/5/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commms.
: H

Jean Jewell

From: Phil@PhilWaters.com
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 2:41 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Philip C Waters follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Philip C Waters
Address: 1348 Longhorn Street
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-755-0320
Contact E-Mail: Phil@PhilWaters.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Co.
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

No, Please do not raise our rates. This raise would impact a huge burden on a couple of senior citizens. My wife and I chose this acreage to retire on. It is all we can do to keep the natural brush supple enough to prevent fires from lighting storms in the spring and fall. We are only watering during the night and have cut back on our consumption, only 68,080 in Oct. 2009.

When we built our home we requested a larger meter to install a fire suppression system. We were told that there were none available and would not need it. Well now that we have been thru 5 Main line breaks on our street alone, and we barely have enough water to shower at 5 am in the morning, I would like to see some repairs made to the lack of water pressure. As a condition if this raise is approved I would like the CC&R's changed so I can install my own well and have the option to opt out of the Bar Circle S Water Company.
Thank You for your time.

Philip and Carol Waters
1348 Longhorn Street
Rathdrum, Idaho
208-755-0320

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.64.183

✓ Jean Ack
sent 11/5/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commes
1/11

Jean Jewell

From: RROMAN96463@Roadrunner.com
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 1:52 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Richard Roman follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Richard Roman
Address: 18113 N. Circle S Trail
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208 6870600
Contact E-Mail: RROMAN96463@Roadrunner.com Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Co Add
to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

My wife & I are retired & are not going to be receiving Soc. Sec. increases. The water co is asking for 119% increase, you are recommending 67% which is also absurd in these economic times. WE think a 10 to 20% increase would be acceptable. It seems that we are being penalized for frugal water useage. Also in the summer months there has been a noticeable reduction of water pressure. We think it is wrong Mr. Turnipseeds to expect us to help pay for his new housing development's water system. That cost should be added to the new owner's water hook up fee. Thank You

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 76.178.178.156

✓ Gen. Ack
sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commus.
1/1 H

Jean Jewell

From: MARTINAISBACK@AOL.COM
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 12:28 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from MARTINA SANDERS follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: MARTINA SANDERS
Address: 17113 N WRANGLER ROAD
City: RATHDRUM
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208 687-1450
Contact E-Mail: MARTINAISBACK@AOL.COM
Name of Utility Company: BAR CIRCLE S WATER COMPANY Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I am getting ready to pay my last 3 mos of water bills and getting sickened thinking of working my tail off and facing a water increase. I generally pay my bill every few months after summer, as I work 12/7 in the summer as my work is mostly seasonal and I do not even have time to pay bills till Fall, and this year am short on cash. The off season is a minimum wage job to make ends meet, with this new economy. We have 5 acres, which was all scrappy crappy pine and pine beetles when we bought it. It looked like a spooky dark dry 5 acres of junk and weeds. We took out all the crummy dead trees over the years and have excavated the pasture for my horses and family dirt bike recreation on our own property, which is great after saving for 25 years. Our family loves our property. We recreate in our own backyard, which is one reason my kids are good, drug free, happy boys. We plant dryland pasture seed now in the pasture, which requires only rain water to sustain it, that is about 4 acres. The front and back yard have lawn, gravel and horses with a large water trough that gets filled daily and changed about every 4 weeks due to algae in summer. Our neighbors still have deadly fire threat pine trees and we have a pretty good clearance of lawn to protect the home for when their place catches fire. Over winter we shower and do laundry, over summer we water the lawns on expensive timed sprinklers that go off at early early or late hours. This was a luxury we bought when we had some spare change to avoid moving sprinklers daily and forgetting to turn them off. If it is dead of summer I sometimes water around my small paddock area in the barn to keep dust down as it carries across the street if the horses are running, very poofy dust we have, not nutrient enriched soil by any means.

I can hardly pay bills at this point and to have this HUGE increase, even with a years notice puts a strain on my family...it is too big at once. I have a business, but never did I do a HUGE increase to pay for new inventory ALL AT ONCE, I spread it small and incrementally over the years, as my customers will not come to me if they cannot afford it. unfortunately we all need water. Every year when the water company surges and tests their lines, over the last few years, I have had my lines rupture, costing me hundreds more in lost water and repairs. This year is no exception, they shut down the line with no notice and had the emergency pump slam through max capacity of water pressure...again my lines broke, so we had a large water bill till we found out it was on underground, and then had to pay \$2000 for all new lines, which is another hardship. Please allow small incremental increases so our beautiful neighborhood does not turn into Arizona, which I moved away from. Cactus and tortoise do not do well here in winter Martina Sanders

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

✓ Gen Ack
sent 11/5/09

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Comms.
; H

Jean Jewell

From: cstanford50@msn.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 3:52 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Cathy and Patrick Stanford follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Cathy and Patrick Stanford
Address: 17461 Circle S Trail
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-1742
Contact E-Mail: cstanford50@msn.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Co.
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I do not want the Bar Circle S Water Company to raise our rates. We live on 5 acres and irrigate approx. 2 acres by garden hose. We currently do not have a sprinkler system and if the water company is allowed to raise their rates it would create a huge hardship for our family. We have lived here for about 15 years and approx one year ago, the BAR CIRCLE S Water Company presented us with a bill for over \$800 dollars on April 1, 2008. Apparently we had a water leak over the winter months (when they do not read the meters) and we were told we used over a million gallons of water. We did not know we had a leak, it did not affect our water pressure and our meters were not read from Nov-April. Upon being told of the leak, we immediately fixed it but Bar Circle S Water Company charged us \$800.00 for the leak (which we did not know existed, because they do not read our meters over the winter months.) We contacted them to see if we could work out some kind of deal or to find out why they did not detect this leak and they were very rude to us and told us that we had to pay the entire amount. This company is NOT willing to help or work with existing loyal customers who have always paid their bills on time and I do not want to let them increase our water rates when they do not do a good job of monitoring the pumps during the winter months. They are not a customer friendly company and adding extra water customers will not benefit the current customers. We do not support the water rate increase that they have proposed, it is too high and would create too much of a hardship on us. Also, if they are not willing to work with their existing 160 customers, how are they going to be able to effectively work with added customers. We have not had a good experience with Bar Circle S Water Company and would hope that you would not allow them to increase our rates. Thank you.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 76.178.188.36

✓ Ben Ask
sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commis.
iH

Jean Jewell

From: jwsjr61@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 2:29 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from John Stephens follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: John Stephens
Address: 2023 W Dolan Road
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-3521
Contact E-Mail: jwsjr61@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

The water rates are barely affordable at present and the base usage limits are ridiculously low. We will be paying more for our water than for electric? How does that calculate? Are the owners of Bar Circle S Water Co. really that inept at operating this utility or are they forcing us to subsidize their new subdivision? Can we turn this into a co-op and get profit sharing from Bob Turnipseed or is he using all of the proposed profit for his own retirement. Seriously, we didn't fall off the 'turnip' truck yesterday. Someone needs to audit their accounting methods....something doesn't add up here!

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 216.255.212.26

✓ Gen Ack sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commis. JH

Jean Jewell

From: swebberding@roadrunner.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 2:25 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Susan Webberding follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Susan Webberding
Address: 18438 Nth Ramsey rd
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-661-6928
Contact E-Mail: swebberding@roadrunner.com Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle's Water
Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I thought you are supposed to have an independent Company or person read meters for utility Companies? Robert Turnipseed has his son read them every month. we feel he has not been honest and fair.

is thier any way you can postpone the dead line of November 6th and have an fair audit done of the Bar Circle's water company.

after walking door to door last weekend with my neighbor we talked to over 90 neighbors everyone is saying the samething. we do not mind a fair increase but 119% or even 73% is way to height. no one will be able to afford to water. we will let our lawns die before we pay that high of a price. then they will have no money coming in at all.

if they want us to maintain our 5 acers and keep it green why don't they provide us with irigation water for a more reasonable rate.

7500 gallons of water is nothing. it needs to be more like 30 to 40 thousand gallons at about \$30.00 a month and then about \$1.25 a 1000 gallons after that.

Bob turnipseed is wanting to pay for he new development north of the ohiomatch rd. he has not sold one property their and thinks that we have to pay for it. this should be against the law. and i think it is for utilitiei companys.

and one more thing it said in the staff report that there is only 1 buisness on the water system that is a out right lie. we just found out today that there is a storage company at the east end of the garwood road just before highway 95 that is also on the well and then right behind the well that is also on Garwood rd their is a big buisness (shop) i do not know the name but they also said they where on the Bar Circle's well as well.

we have the worst water presure around. if you where to call the northern lakes fire department who has done the check on how many gallons a minite BCS well puts out it is half of what Robert Turnipseed is proclaiming it puts out.

Bob T. also stated that the most gallons a family uses here in our development is not over 100 thousand gallon a month. and i use any where from 100 thou to 160 thousand a month in the summer months.

and i know of many others that said they use 400 to 500 thousand a month in the summer. Bob T. is making way more money then he claims.

PLEASE DO AN AUDIT ON HIS BOOKS AND SHADY BUISNESS. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOOSE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. AND PLEASE LISTIN TO US.

thank you Susan Webberding

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

✓ Men. Beck sent 11/5/09 ✓ To A.V ✓ To Comms. : tl

Jean Jewell

From: LMcgau6304@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 2:20 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Ladonna Stephens follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Ladonna Stephens
Address: 2023 W Dolan Road
City: Rathdrum
State: ID
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-687-3521
Contact E-Mail: LMcgau6304@aol.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

The proposed water increases are beyond all reason, we already have water bills over \$100 per month in the summer. We are forced by the CC&R's to keep our lawns green, but if this increase becomes effective we will let it die, and I dare the Turnipseed's to take legal action! I believe they should not operate at a loss, but this is a public utility and should not be a for profit business. It is evident that the Turnipseed's intend to use their existing customers to pay for the upgrades needed for their new development--the Double T Estates-- they are extortionists and should be audited thoroughly by the Idaho PUC.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 216.255.212.18

✓ Gen Ack
sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commus.
; H

Jean Jewell

From: rbkemp7@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 12:28 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Ray Kemper follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-2
Name: Ray Kemper
Address: 756 W Ranch Ct.
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858-7119
Daytime Telephone: 208 687 2800
Contact E-Mail: rbkemp7@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle 'S' Water Co.
Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

Board Members

The present economy does not facilitate a huge increase in water fees.

A reasonable fee increase of 10-20% would be acceptable for both the base rate and usage over 50,000 gallons.

Thank you for your consideration.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.86.40

✓ Gen Ark
sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commis.
i H

Jean Jewell

From: mooseman112@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 11:57 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Larry Rubin follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Larry Rubin
Address: 1903 W Dolan Rd
City: Rathdrum
State: Id
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 208-929-8330
Contact E-Mail: mooseman112@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

They are proposing a 119% increase in our rates at a time when I have taken a cut in pay and hours. We live on 5 acres and use grass around the house for a fire break. CC & R's prevent us from drilling our own wells so we are forced to use theirs. I think they need to be reasonable.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.71.92

✓ Gen. Ask sent 11/5/09

✓ To AV

✓ To Commes.
; H

Jean Jewell

From: scottyirish@hotmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 10:56 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Scott Heaps follows:

Case Number: BCS-W-09-02
Name: Scott Heaps
Address: 17086 N Ramsey Rd
City: Rathdrum
State: Idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 360-920-7405
Contact E-Mail: scottyirish@hotmail.com
Name of Utility Company: Bar Circle S Water Company Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

I can understand the need to periodically raise utility rates due to a variety of factors. However the degree to which Bar Circle S wishes to raise water rates seems extremely excessive. In these trying economic times a rate increase of this magnitude would be a tremendous hardship for many. Also, I along with many other owners, feel it is unfair to ask us to supplement Mr. Bob Turnipseeds new housing development. Those costs should be the responsibility of the new owners. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, S. Heaps

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.85.123

✓ Gen Beck
sent 11/5/09

✓ To AW.

✓ To Comms.
S H

Jean Jewell

Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 12:22 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from floyd m keyes follows:

Case Number: bcs-w-09-02
Name: floyd m keyes
Address: 17069 circle s trail
City: rathdrum
State: idaho
Zip: 83858
Daytime Telephone: 2086873575
Contact E-Mail:
Name of Utility Company: kootenai electric Add to Mailing List: yes

Please describe your comment briefly:

INCREASING THE WATER BILL SO EXTREMELY WOULD CREATE A REAL HARDSHIP FOR ME. IM 81 AND LIVE ON SS AND AM FINDING IT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY AS I HAVE 2 ARCRES OF LAWN. I USED 90550 GALLONS IN JULY,114140 GALLONS IN AUGUST. I HAVE 2 DOGS AND 1 CAT. I WATER AT NIGHT BETWEEN 4;30 AND 7;30 AM. I DO NOT WANT TO PAY FOR BOB TURNIPSEEDS NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS WATER SYSTEM!!!!!!!!!!!!!! THAT COST SHOULD BE THE NEW OWNERS HOOK UP FEES!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I BELEIVE THE CC&R'S SHOULD BE CHANGED WITH RESPECT TO INSTALLING YOUR OWN WELL. WHEN THE DEVELOPEMENT WAS STARTED ON THE PROMOTION SIGN IT ADVERTISED IRRIGATION WATER...BAR CIRCLE S WATER COMPANY SHOULD HAVE A REASONABLE RATE INCREASE. INCREASE THE BASE MONTHLY RATE 20% from \$15.00 TO \$18.00 PER MONTH FOR THE FIRST 50,000 GALLONS. INCREASE WATER USED IN EXCESS OF 50,000 GALLONS 15.5% FROM THE CURRENT \$0.95 TO \$1.10. INCREASE HOOK UP FEES IN THE NEW DEVELOPMENT TO \$2,500.00. IT IS UNJUSTIFIABLE AND EXTREMELY TROUBLING THAT BAR CIRCLE S WATER IS ASKING FOR OUR BASE RATE TO MORE THAN DOUBLE AND 119%INCEASE ON USAGE. MY WIFE AND I STRUGGLE AS IT IS ON OUR FIXED INCOME. PLEASE ADDRESS THIS SITUATION!!!!!!!!!!WE RELY ON YOU TO HEAR OUR CONCERNS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS. THANK YOU

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 98.145.87.15
