



✓ Gen Acct sent 11/8/05

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commus  
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IDAHO  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Public Workshop

Case No. BIT-W-05-1

Athol, Idaho

November 2, 2005

RECEIVED

NOV -7 AM 8:37

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you want your opinion noted in the record, 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.

[www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov)

Click on "comments & questions."

We feel that \$45.00 increase at one time is uncalled for!!

A \$5.00 to \$6.00 a month increase over the 4 yr. period would be an acceptable alternative! Also, why are there 123 uncollectable accounts and what has been done to "Collect" this money? and what is the 150 listed as other on the Customer Accounts Expense page??

Print Name EDWARD CABANNE Sign Name Edward F. Cabanne

Address 27511 N. SILVERMEADOWS LR Phone Number (208) 683-8073

City and State ATHOL, ID. 83801

✓ Gen Ack sent 11/8/05

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✓ To Commes  
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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 08, 2005 1:44 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Tuesday, November 08, 2005  
1:43:55 PM

Case: BIT-W-05-01  
Name: Melissa Vannoy  
Street Address: 26751 N. Silver Meadow Loop  
City: Athol  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83801  
Home Telephone: 208 683-5414  
E-Mail: vannoyshis@aol.com  
Company: Bitterroot Water Co.  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: I feel that the cost of water should be more equitably distributed between the people who use the water more, as opposed to charging everyone equally. Every water company that I have used water from in the past charged the people who used the most water over and above a basic charge. These are the people who are causing more cost to the system.

Transaction ID: 1181343.55  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 207.200.116.196  
User Hostname: 207.200.116.196

*1 Min Ack  
sent 11/8/05*

*To Commis  
FH*

**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Monday, November 07, 2005 5:31 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Monday, November 07, 2005  
5:31:18 PM

Case: BIT-W-05-01  
Name: Charles Zeits  
Street Address: 30037 N Silver Mdws Lp  
City: Athol  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83801  
Home Telephone: 208-683-0894  
E-Mail: czets46@adelphia.net  
Company: Bitterroot Water Co. Inc.  
mailing\_list\_yes no: no  
Comment\_description: Reference Bitterroot's Request for Increase in it's metered base rates.

I built my home @30037 N Silver Meadows Loop and took occupancy in January 2003. At that time I paid a \$750.00 connection fee to Bitterroot's water system. I understand that part of the reason for the rate increase is for maintenance of the system including the replacement of "defective meters". It appears that the meter previously installed for my connection had a hefty price tag and a very short working life!

Additionally I have installed landscaping that allows me to maintain it within my originally budgeted amount for water usage. Being a retiree dictates that I maintain and adhere to a budget.

My highest water usage to date was \$50.38 for August of this year, with ALL previous bills being less than \$37.50 and the majority within the "basic service" limits. As you can see my highest bill is slightly higher than the requested hike and my typical SUMMER usage significantly less than the hike.

I understand the cost of maintenance, repair, and up-grades, I also understand that the new owner received a system that had been neglected. I would suspect that his purchase price also reflected that state of "disrepair".

Now, having "aired" all my grievances against this rate hike, perhaps a solution would to allow for a "reasonable" hike for the basic service that would include an equally proportional increase of the gallons usage for that basic service.

If I could continue to maintain my same peak summer water usage without a increase to my budgeted amount I could "afford" to pay a reasonably increased monthly payment during my "low water" usage periods.

To pay a higher basic service rate without a corresponding increase to the water volume allowance will dictate a cutback of summer watering and the degradation of landscaping and the increase of fire potential from dry vegetation around my home.

All of my adjoining neighbors are retirees also on fixed incomes, thereby compounding the hazard potential.

Thank You

Charles Zeits

Transaction ID: 1171731.18  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 70.36.15.57  
User Hostname: 70.36.15.57

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Monday, November 07, 2005 11:56 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Monday, November 07, 2005  
11:55:43 AM

Case: BIT-W-05-01  
Name: Dennis Herkelrath  
Street Address: 27613 N. Silver Meadow Loop  
City: Athol  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83801  
Home Telephone: 208-683-3212  
E-Mail: daherk@adelphia.net  
Company: Bitterroot Water Company, INC.

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment description: I feel the requested base rate increase of 125% is excessive. I received my billing today and it relates that the actual water usage rate will be assessed at a later date, when they actually read the meter, which may be part of what has been placed in the adjusted costs. I do not want to see the company fail, but I feel the burden of cost should rest with the excessive users, such as the one customer in July who consumed 213,000 gallons that attributed to the need to purchase water for the system. In other words, I do not feel the base rate should be dramatically increased and should not exceed the \$30.00 base rate charged to Rickel system subscribers. A base rate of just under \$28.50 would exceed the Bitterroot forecasted budget, allowing excessive use to inure to profit and additional improvements.

Thank you for taking the time to come to Athol and provide an informative review at the community center.

Transaction ID: 1171155.43  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 216.229.177.180  
User Hostname: 216.229.177.180

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Friday, November 04, 2005 3:53 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, November 04, 2005  
3:53:25 PM

Case: Bit-W-05-01  
Name: DIANA DODD  
Street Address: 29257 N. SILVER MEADOWS LOOP  
City: ATHOL  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83801  
Home Telephone: 208-683-0902  
E-Mail: DIDODD1@AOL.COM  
Company: BITTERROOT WATER CO.  
mailing\_list\_yes no: yes

Comment description: I AM A SENIOR CITIZEN, LIVING ON A FIXED INCOME. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT BITTERROOT WATER CAN ASK FOR SUCH AN INCREASE (\$45.00 / MO.) THAT IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THE CURRENT BASE RATE OF \$20.00 / MO. OUR WATER PRESSURE HERE ON THE LOOP IS REAL LOW, AND FRANKLY THE WATER IS NOT REAL GOOD TASTING EITHER. I WANT TO KNOW WHY THEY SEEK THIS HUGE INCREASE IN THE BASE RATE? WHAT IMPROVEMENTS AT A COST TO THEM, ARE THEY PLANNING TO MAKE? SINCERELY, DIANA DODD

Transaction ID: 1141553.25  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 207.200.116.196  
User Hostname: 207.200.116.196