

✓ Don Acke
sent 11/18/05

✓ To AW.

✓ To Comments
§ 14

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 4:05 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Wednesday, November 16, 2005
4:04:43 PM

Case: BIT-W05-01
Name: jeanne olphie
Street_Address: 29374 silver meadows loop
City: athol
State: idaho
ZIP: 83801

Home Telephone: 208-683-2533
E-Mail: jeanne@stovesdirect.com
Company: bitterroot water co

mailing_list_yes_no: yes

Comment_description: Please Dont raise our water rate bill from \$20.00 to \$45.00 a month
, THATS 125% INCREASE

....
For my family and I it would sadly effect my house hold budget and our effect our children
too
....

A \$2.00 increase is 10% rate increase and is a more realistic request for the Bitterroot
Water
Co.

Transaction ID: 11161604.43
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 67.22.64.68
User Hostname: 67.22.64.68

✓ Gen Ack
sent 11/18/05

✓ To Commis.
i H

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2005 3:25 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Thursday, November 17, 2005
3:25:01 PM

Case:
Name: thomas olphie
Street_Address: 29374 silver meadows loop
City: athol
State: ID
ZIP: 83801
Home_Telephone: 208-683-2533
E-Mail: thomas@stovesdirect.com
Company: bitterroot water
mailing_list_yes_no: no
Comment_description: I think the raise in base water rates from \$20.00 per month up to \$45.00 is unjustified.. and very expensive for most families in this low to moderate income area... \$45.00 dolaars just to have water..is hurtful... I could see a rise in cost of 10-20% ..but an increase of 125% is way out of line.

Transaction ID: 11171525.1
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 71.4.16.162
User Hostname: 71.4.16.162

✓ Alan Ack
sent 11/18/05

✓ To AV.

✓ To Comments
i H

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 9:55 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Wednesday, November 16, 2005
9:55:18 PM

Case: BIT-W-05-1
Name: Alan and Pamela Hansen
Street Address: 26490 N. Silver Meadows Loop
City: Athol
State: ID
ZIP: 83801
Home Telephone: (208) 683-0432
E-Mail: hansens3@netzero.net
Company: Bitterroot Water

mailing_list_yes no: yes

Comment_description: As one of the original homeowners on this system and also in the Construction trades there are several things that don't seem quite right and some events that have transpired in the County that may need further investigation from you regarding this 125% rate increase.

First, the maintenance expenses seem excessive (10x increase). 2004 was probably the highest year for costs as there was some maintenance and a pump replaced. Suggest broader baseline for actual expenses.

Secondly, it is our belief that if Mr. Rickle bought a deficient water system, that is not our burden to bear. If the system wasn't maintained that should have been inspected prior to purchase and we should not bear the cost of a poor decision on his behalf. Further, as we are in the Construction trades, we are aware that water meters are designed to last for long term service. Why would they need to be replaced after such a short time? Also, the paperwork provided to us states that the water treatment plant maintenance is increasing from 0 to \$9,700. Why? Are we expected to pay for previous neglect of the system? The chlorinating has only been in place for 3 or 4 years, why would it need so much "maintenance". The paperwork also states \$346 to maintain another treatment plant? What plant? Is this the Rickle system in which their customer base should be bearing the cost of that?

One of the main concerns we have regarding this rate increase request ties into some events that are occurring here in the County. Several smaller lot sections are for sale across the road from our housing division. I imagine they would like to tie into the well. Also, it is our suspicion that Mr. Rickle is expanding the Bitterroot system to be a back-up for Rickle Water and that Mr. Rickle is planning to expand his customer base on that system. There is a large parcel of acreage near the Rickle Water customer base that has recently been surveyed (west side of 95, south of Silverwood). Also, we believe that Mr. Rickle recently sold their family ranch and plans have been approved for a township named "Silverwood" on that land. Could he be planning to utilize the Rickle water system for some of that development and needs the back up system increased to handle that load? It is our belief that these are capital improvements to be borne by those who benefit from them (future customers).

Finally, being long term residents here (7 years) we have had no decrease in water pressure or volume even with the added homes on the system (some who even use water excessively). We further believe, as professional builders, the complaints of a few of the homeowners regarding pressure issues are not the fault of the water system but an inherent flaw in the plumbing inside the houses, i.e. small water mains, hose bibs, etc.

We strongly feel that this increase is excessive and that there are underlying issues that require further investigation by your offices. We do appreciate your taking the time to come here and set up a forum for our questions and concerns. Thank you. If you need anything further from us, please contact us.

Transaction ID: 11162155.18
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>