

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** rvspirit@hughes.net  
**Sent:** Monday, August 19, 2013 9:15 AM  
**To:** Beverly Barker; Jean Jewell; Gene Fadness  
**Cc:** rvspirit@hughes.net  
**Subject:** Case Comment Form: RICHARD HERNANDEZ

Name: RICHARD HERNANDEZ  
Case Number: SPL-W-13-01  
Email: [rvspirit@hughes.net](mailto:rvspirit@hughes.net)  
Telephone:  
Address: 5525 W. Coeur d'Alene Dr.  
Spirit Lake ID, 83869

Name of Utility Company: Spirit Lake East Water Co.  
Acknowledge public record: True

Comment: THIS STATEMENT IS TO PROVIDE A FORMAL COMMENT FOR THE ABOVE REFERENCED PUBLIC HEARING.

I purchased my property back in the 90's when not many people lived here. After paying my water connection fees, my water pressure was excellent up into the 80 psi. I was able to supply water for all my needs. As soon as the water system was sold, it didn't take long until my water pressure was reduced to 50-55 lbs. and the problems with the water system were still with us (polluted water and loosing total water pressure). Now the new owners want to increase our fees up to 205% and make us pay every month instead of as usual every three months. That means there're not going to increase meter checks every month. They're still going to check meters only twice a year and increase their cost by billing and mailings every month. Last month there were several days in which my water pressure has dropped to 35 lbs. and this wasn't the only time this has happened. This doesn't make sense because I used to have water pressure up into the 80's.

There are many of us who are on a fixed income and we don't get increases like 205%. Neither should the water company receive such increases. My water usage increases during the summer months and it hurts to pay the outlandish payments they ask for for over the minimum limits. It requires a lot of work to provide a vegie garden to help supplement our food and then to pay for additional water to grow the garden. I don't know if it's all worth it. So please do not allow the water company to receive their requested price increase. One property owner I know is in favor of allowing the increase. He says the water lines are old and are not of the size pipe that it should be. It is not reasonable to assume the water company will replace all of it's pipe once they receive there increase. That's nonsense! If you are a fair Utility Commission, listen to the people of our community.

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