

**Barb Barrows**

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**From:** johnhaus45@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Friday, September 06, 2013 7:13 PM  
**To:** Beverly Barker; Jean Jewell; Gene Fadness  
**Cc:** johnhaus45@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Case Comment Form: John Haus

Name: John Haus  
Case Number: SPL-W-13-01  
Email: [johnhaus45@gmail.com](mailto:johnhaus45@gmail.com)  
Telephone:  
Address: 34438 N. Newman Dr.  
Spirit Lake ID, 83869

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

Comment: Sept 6, 2013

Case No. SPL-W-13-01

Comments regarding the raising of the water rates.

I am requesting that the water rates for Spirit Lake East not be increased 106% as requested by the Spirit Lake Water Co. This is an outrageous amount of increase.

Nothing has increased 106%, especially my pay. I am retired and on a fixed income. If I get a raise in pay it is only a cost of living raise. This is usually around 2%. Many people in Spirit Lake East and Treeport are retired. Some have lost their jobs or been reduced to part time status. With that comes a loss of medical insurance and a reduction in pay. And now a 106% increase in the water bill?! This increase cannot be justified.

Lets compare this rate increase to other products:

Gasoline is approx. \$3.70. A 106% increase would put the price at \$7.62 a gallon!

Milk is approx. \$3.80. A 106% increase would put the price at \$7.82 a gallon!

Property taxes. In this are they are approx \$2500/year. A 106% increase would put the price at \$5150 a year!

Our country is in a depression no matter what the current administration claims. People are hurting financially and water is something you can't take out of your life. It is the most necessary item needed for life itself. Water for gardens help people reduce their food bill. Water for lawns helps keep one's property more resistant to fire. This is not the time for such a drastic increase and a 106% increase should NEVER be justified.

Please do not allow this increase to occur.

Thank you,

John and Jeri Haus  
34438 N. Newman Dr.  
Spirit Lake, ID 83869

Unique Identifier: 75.233.114.232