

August 16, 2011

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2011 AUG 18 AM 8:15

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise ID 83720-0074

Dear Commissioners:

A 19% rate hike for United Water, on the grounds of usage decrease and capital expenditures to expand water distribution, is not justifiable.

They attribute the decrease to the weather and customers not watering landscapes. The weather hasn't been extreme. Water companies should be prepared for some weather fluctuation. Property owners are choosing dying trees and dry weeds instead of watering, decreasing the beauty of our neighborhoods. A rate hike will not solve that problem, but exasperate it!

Expanding capacity when water usage is decreasing is unreasonable. My neighborhood has endured construction noise, dust, and traffic hassles for 6 weeks (and they aren't done yet) to install larger pipes so the wells can pump more water into a system with a surplus! Then United Water has the gall to ask for a double-digit rate increase to pay for this poor management decision.

United Water's current rate of return is 5.64%, pretty good for the current economic downturn. But they ask the utilities commission to find the current rates "unjust" to United Water and raise rates so they can make 8.43%. I suggest United Water slow down on their infrastructure improvements to increase their rate of return.

This rate hike is unwarranted. Please do not approve it

Sincerely,



Sonja Ward  
1910 Manitou Ave.  
Boise ID 83706

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** jcjordan@ctcweb.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2011 1:42 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Cynthia A. Jordan follows:

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Case Number: UWI-W-11-02  
Name: Cynthia A. Jordan  
Address: 12469 N. 10th Ave.  
City: Boise  
State: Idaho  
Zip: 83714  
Daytime Telephone: 229-0122  
Contact E-Mail: [jcjordan@ctcweb.net](mailto:jcjordan@ctcweb.net)  
Name of Utility Company: United Water Idaho  
Acknowledge: acknowledge

Please describe your comment briefly:

I have spent quite a bit of money zeriscaping my yard in an attempt to cut down on watering. NOW I see that United Water is raising our rates. Dpes this really make sense?

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 66.232.79.54  
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## Jean Jewell

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**From:** jimbob.esch@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2011 11:16 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from James Esch follows:

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Case Number: UWI-W-11-02  
Name: James Esch  
Address:  
City: Boise  
State: Idaho  
Zip:  
Daytime Telephone:  
Contact E-Mail: [jimbob.esch@gmail.com](mailto:jimbob.esch@gmail.com)  
Name of Utility Company: United Water Idaho  
Acknowledge: acknowledge

Please describe your comment briefly:

I am shocked and disappointed that UWI is asking to raise water rates because conservation efforts have been so successful. I spent several thousand dollars Xeriscaping my back yard, and now UWI wants to penalize me for my effort to conserve our precious water resource?? I trust, as in Public Trust, that the PUC will deny this request. Unless UWI makes efforts to freeze the wages of their 80,000 employees, cut executive benefits and overall tighten their belt like most Idahoans have had to do, I see no reason for the PUC to let this blatant affront to our sensibility occur. This rate increase is like the big Oil companies telling us we have to pay more for gas because we have purchased a fuel efficient car. Remember, UWI is a business, with publicly trade stock, and stock holders. Have dividends been trimmed to make up for revenue shortfalls? Have they cut staff and found ways to reduce costs?? This is the way 'businesses' sometimes have to make ends meet. Frankly, I don't like they way corporations and regulated monopolies mix. Please, IPUC, protect the consumers of Idaho and our State's most precious resource; its water!!

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 71.32.183.31

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## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Mrlechl@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2011 11:43 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from larry lechner follows:

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Case Number: UWI-W-11-02  
Name: larry lechner  
Address:  
City: BOISE  
State: ID  
Zip:  
Daytime Telephone:  
Contact E-Mail: [Mrlechl@gmail.com](mailto:Mrlechl@gmail.com)  
Name of Utility Company: UNITED WATER  
Acknowledge: acknowledge

Please describe your comment briefly:

HEY IDAHO WE ARE GETTING SNICKERED BY A FOREIGN COUNTRY THAT IS HOLDING OUR FRESH WATER HOSTAGE.

TWENTY PERCENT ARE YOU SERIOUS!!!! I SAY NOW WAY SUEZ. GO HOME.

The city of Boise set a bond for the foothills open space, now we desperately need to set a bond to save Idahoan's water. Our water is now being held hostage from a foreign country and their shareholders that require I believe a minimum return of 7% while we are lucky to get 1% from the bank. Is this not a type of a TAX???

We need Boise to take over the helm and take charge and bill us what it takes to operate the water utilities but not charge us extra what shareholders and CEO's demands.  
WE ARE GETTING SNICKERED BY A FOREIGN COUNTRY THAT IS HOLDING YOURS AND MINE FRESH WATER HOSTAGE.

The city of Boise set a bond for the foothills open space, now we desperately need to set a bond to save Idahoan's water. Our water is now being held hostage from a foreign country and their shareholders that require I believe a minimum return of 7% while we are lucky to get 1% from the bank. Is this not a type of a TAX???

We need Boise to take over the helm and charge what it takes to operate but not paying the extra for shareholders and the CEO to line their pockets with our hard earned money.

Where is our pressurized water?? Most of the valley has pressurized water rather than using the expensive processed water to water our gardens, trees, and lawns.

Let us run United Water or (Suez Environment of Paris) out of town and the country. UNITED WATER CONTROLS OVER 30% OF THE UNITED STATES FRESH WATER.

Be very careful USA and Idaho!!!!

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