

From: Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: comments in Kentucky Public Service Commission case 2018-00017
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 10:34:00 AM

To whom it may concern:

The Kentucky Public Service Commission is in receipt of approximately 300 identical comments received via your organization regarding the above-referenced matter.

The comments all state as follows:

RECEIVED
By Kentucky PSC at 10:48 am, Feb 28, 2018

Dear Public Service Commission,

For years, Martin County residents have endured shoddy, unreliable and unsafe water service. In January, they faced nightly water shutoffs and water too contaminated to drink. The Martin County Water District (MCWD) and the local leadership in Martin County have displayed an almost willful disregard for the waterless plight of the county residents and a demonstrated inability to manage and maintain the water system.

The community is facing a water emergency comparable to Flint, Michigan and other water systems across the country that have suffered from disinvestment and contamination.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) must reject the water district's application to raise water rates. While the system clearly needs funding, residents cannot afford to pay more for unsafe water.

The PSC has repeatedly found that the MCWD has not maintained the system, has often had water loss rates around 60 percent over the past decade (four or more times higher than the state-directed 15 percent loss rate). The PSC should provide training to the MCWD's new board members and facilitate onsite training by the Kentucky Rural Water Association.

Residents should not be forced to pay more for bad service. I urge you to reject this rate increase, which is not in the best interests of the residents of Martin County.

None of the above-referenced comments are from customers of the utility in question or from residents of Kentucky. In keeping with past practice, the PSC will not respond to each comment individually, nor will each individual comment be placed into the case record.

This e-mail serves as an acknowledgement of receipt of these and all future such comments. This e-mail will be placed into the case record to reflect receipt of the comments.

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