

**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** ["John Woolley"](#)  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:55:00 AM

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Dear Mr. Wooley:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych  
Director of Communications  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard)  
502-330-5981 (cell)  
Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

**RECEIVED**

**By Kentucky PSC at 10:20 am, May 09, 2018**

-----Original Message-----

From: Food & Water Action [REDACTED] On Behalf Of John Woolley  
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 12:04 PM  
To: PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>  
Subject: Case Number 2018-00017

Mar 1, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

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.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Woolley  
3400 Oaklane Dr  
Philpot, KY 42366-9703



**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** "gball"  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:52:00 AM

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Dear Mr. Ball:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

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Thank you for your interest in this matter.

*Andrew Melnykovych*

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502-330-5981 (cell)  
[Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 02, 2018 4:00 PM  
**To:** PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>; Mary Cromer  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Comment for Martin County Water District Case No. 2008-00017

My name is Gary Ball, I am a customer of the Martin County Water District and I want to comment -- again, as I have many times -- on the Martin County Water District on case no. 2018-00017 and 2016-00142. I will be very brief. I've read through past PSC orders today (2002-00116, 2006-00303, 2007-00245) and it's much like reading and following the case today ... recommendations given and not followed, delinquent accounts and bad debt, failure to file required financial and statistical reports ... all well over a decade ago ... and there are some who, yet again, propose giving our leaders --yet again -- another chance to oversee the system. When does this end? We're soon approaching two years on the current investigation case. The only remedy is receivership. It's akin to ending a bad marriage. At some point it has to

end. Might as well be now.

**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** ["Davina Lee"](#)  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:52:00 AM

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Dear Ms. Lee:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych  
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502-330-5981 (cell)  
Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Food & Water Action [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Davina Lee  
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 2:34 PM  
To: PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>  
Subject: Case Number 2018-00017

Mar 1, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

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.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Davina Lee  
227 Armstrong Ct  
Georgetown, KY 40324-9541



**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** ["kevin mollette"](mailto:kevin.mollette)  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:51:00 AM

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Dear Mr. Mollette:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

*Andrew Melnykovych*

Director of Communications  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
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502-330-5981 (cell)  
[Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov)

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**From:** kevin mollette [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 03, 2018 2:16 AM  
**To:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC) <[Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: your comments in case 2016-00142 - Martin County Water District

In the case of 2016-00142, I have had a slight change of heart. I don't like the idea of paying more for water we cant use, but I also understand that without money, it will never be fixed. I dont know if a nearly 50% rate increase is the right way to go with it. People cant pay their bills now. If I may suggest, maybe a lower rate of 25% would be better. I think at 50%, people are not going to be able to pay, which will increase the amount of uncollectable money, resulting in more meters being pulled, resulting in fewer customers, resulting in less money for the MCWD. At 25%, they will keep more customers, and still will be an increase of revenue. Also, maybe add a line maintenance fee of \$5.00 where the money would go to a separate account for nothing but maintenance and replacement of lines and equipment. There is a set number of customers, so it would be a set amount of money every month going towards nothing but maintenance. This will keep the lines up to date. Just a thought.

On Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 3:33:33 PM EST, Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC) <[Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Mollette:

Thank you for your comments on the Kentucky Public Service Commission's investigation of the operating capacity of the Martin County Water District

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2016-00142. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at  
[http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2016-00142](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2016-00142).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

## Andrew Melnykovich

Director of Communications

Kentucky Public Service Commission

502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard)

502-330-5981 (cell)

[Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov)

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**From:** kevin mollette [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 01, 2018 10:22 PM  
**To:** Melnykovich, Andrew (PSC) <[Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RE: case number 2016-00142



My name is Kevin Lee Mollette. The address is 68 sunset lane, warfield, kentucky 41267.

On Monday, January 29, 2018, 4:37:40 PM EST, Melnykovich, Andrew (PSC)  
<[Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov)> wrote:

If you wish to have your comments placed into the case file, please REPLY TO THIS E-MAIL and provide your full name and place of residence.

## Andrew Melnykovich

Director of Communications

Kentucky Public Service Commission

502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard)

502-330-5981 (cell)

[Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov)

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**From:** kevin mollette [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2018 11:20 AM  
**To:** PSC - Public Information Officer <[PSC.Info@ky.gov](mailto:PSC.Info@ky.gov)>  
**Subject:** case number 2016-00142

I am a Martin county resident of 44 years. I've lived here all my life. I dont remember a time when the water situation was worse than it is now. The water smells, its colored half the time. I have to use a water softener just to use the water. I wont drink it. I use a water dispenser that uses 5 gallon jugs i buy at walmart, each jug is about 7 dollars. I buy 5 a month and yet i still have to pay for water i cant drink from the water company. And now, as of yesterday, 1/9/18, they are turning our water off at 3pm til 5am to fill the tanks, but they are only doing it for the warfield side of the hill. The inez side as always, gets to keep their water on. We cant cook, clean, bath anything after 3pm, cant even flush our freakin toilets. This is wrong and should be illegal. They could easily cut the water off to everyone at midnight when EVERYONE is asleep and the water isnt being used. This side of the hill has always been descriminated against and segregated by inez. They come first we are trash. And now all of a sudden, the water company wants us to pay nearly double the rate for the same crap water we cant even use? I'll dig a well before i pay double. I'll cut my own lines. This is rediculous.

**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** ["Pamela Glaze"](#)  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:51:00 AM

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Dear Ms. Glaze:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych  
Director of Communications  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
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502-330-5981 (cell)  
Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Food & Water Action [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Pamela Glaze  
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 9:07 PM  
To: PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>  
Subject: Case Number 2018-00017

Mar 2, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

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.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pamela Glaze  
17611 Bryant Farm Ct  
Fisherville, KY 40023-9790



**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** "Mary Miller"  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:50:00 AM

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Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych  
Director of Communications  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard)  
502-330-5981 (cell)  
Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Food & Water Action [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Mary Miller  
Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2018 10:09 PM  
To: PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>  
Subject: Case Number 2018-00017

Mar 3, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

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.

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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.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Miller  
69 Village Dr.  
Nazareth, KY 40048



**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** "glball"  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:45:00 AM

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Dear Mr. Ball:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at [http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017](http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?case=2018-00017).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

*Andrew Melnykovych*

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502-330-5981 (cell)  
[Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov](mailto:Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 01, 2018 4:43 PM  
**To:** PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>; Mary Cromer  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** comment for Martin County Water District Case No. 2018-00017

My name is Gary Ball, a customer of the Martin County Water District, and I want to comment on Case No. 2018-00017, the request for an emergency rate increase for the Martin County Water District. This is in reference to watching the Feb. 28 hearing and a question to Linda Sumpter, CPA for the water district.

References were made to collections of past due accounts receivable and a host of customers paying past due bills due to disconnection notices sent out by the water district. There was a question by the commission of how many public officials (I believe that was the term or county officials ... something of that nature) were on the list and could not be answered by Sumpter. Could the commission make a request for

a copy of that list -- not for public viewing but to determine if the reasons for non-payment have to do with political clout and/or positions. They would cut mine off without hesitation. I think this would show whether an increase is really needed and justified.

A question I have -- and I saw this recently in the statutes -- is the question of unpaid bills that go back two years or more. I saw KRS 278.225 that states "All service supplied by a utility be billed within two years of service. No customer shall be liable for unbilled service after two year from the date of service unless the customer obtained the service through fraud, theft or deception."

I also heard reference to "bad debt" or debt the district deems to be simply being written off. I believe it would be important to see if anyone is currently receiving services who at one time had their debt written off. In the interest of transparency and just simply following the law, no one -- including political leaders -- should benefit by simply not paying their bill for two years, having that amount written off and go on to receive services. I agree that the folks who pay their monthly bill are subsidizing those who don't pay for whatever reason. It's one thing if a laid-off coal miner cannot pay and makes other arrangements according to terms of the Customer Bill of Rights and someone else with the political standing or clout not paying. I would appreciate your looking into this.

**From:** Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC)  
**To:** ["Mary Klefot"](#)  
**Subject:** your comments in case 2018-00017 - Martin County Water District rates  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 9:57:00 AM

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Dear Ms. Klefot:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Martin County Water District for a rate adjustment.

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2018-00017. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

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Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych  
Director of Communications  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard)  
502-330-5981 (cell)  
Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Food & Water Action [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Mary Klefot  
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 2:32 PM  
To: PSC - Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>  
Subject: Case Number 2018-00017

Feb 28, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

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.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Klefot  
1304 Copper Run Blvd  
Lexington, KY 40514-2216



Greg Scott  
General Manager  
Martin County Water District  
387 East Main Street, Suite 140  
Inez, KY 41224

\*Brian Cumbo  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 1844  
Inez, KENTUCKY 41224

\*Martin County Water District  
387 East Main Street, Suite 140  
Inez, KY 41224

\*Mary Cromer  
Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, Inc.  
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\*M. Todd Osterloh  
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