OCT 13 2020

From:
To: PSC Public Information Officer

Subject: Request For Intervention Regarding Case #2020-00290

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:29:36 PM

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dear Public Service Commission Representative:

Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company has just informed the homeowners of Kingswood Subdivision that they are asking for an increase for our sewer bill of 147.5%. This would take our monthly rate from \$38.84 to \$96.14. They have informed us that since they acquired the plant in 2019, significant repairs and improvement costs have been necessary. I believe this is a misrepresentation of facts on their part. I live right next to the facility, with just one small vacant lot separating us. I spend a lot of time in my back yard and my kids play outside often. I have seen few improvements to the facility. The only improvements they have made is to nail a few fence boards back up and place gravel on the driveway.

This company purchased eight (8) facilities in 2019. Their engineering report, filed before purchase, states that "No deficiencies were identified for the Persimmon Ridge plant or the Kingswood plant."

https://psc.ky.gov/pscecf/2019-

00104/kyunker@mcbrayerfirm.com/05312019073517/20190531BW MtnConftTreatment for Resp DR.pdf

The full engineering survey has since been redacted but it also showed at the time of purchase that there were no issues with our plant and it was more than adequate to handle the number of homes it serviced. Six of the treatment plants they purchased (not our plant) show they needed significant work including a complete rebuild. We should not be punished for their poor business decision to acquire other plants in need of major repairs. Our subdivision owners should not bear this burden. Our subdivision and plant has been well maintained since 1998. Further the number of homes has steadily increased through the years. More homes means an increase in passive revenue for the plant owner.

The proposed increase for the 126 homes would give the company an increase of \$86,637.60 per year. We have heard from our neighbors who have spoken with employees that the only improvement they plan for our facility is installation of a remote monitoring system.

A sewer bill of this magnitude would be a big deterrent for prospective buyers thus reducing the value of my property. The Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District charges its customers the same as their monthly water bill. My monthly water bill averages far less than \$96. To have a flat rate of \$96.14 is not equitable given industry standards.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue and implore you to deny Bluegrass Water of this unrealistic rate increase.

John K. Spalding, JD, Esq. 581 Kingswood Drive Taylorsville, KY 40071

Sent from my iPhone