2004-103

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OWEN CO. JUDGE EXECUTIVE

Owen County Fiscal Court

100 N. Thomas St. Owenton, KY 40359 502-484-3405 e-mail: judgeexec@dcr.net

May 6, 2004

MAGISTRATES

DISTRICT 1 Gary Minch, DVM

DISTRICT 2 Bobby Gaines

DISTRICT 3 Eugene "Bugs" Vannarsdall

> DISTRICT 4 Carl Banks

"Billy" P. O'Banion

Mrs. Elizabeth O'Donnell, Executive Director Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd., P.O.Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602



Dear Mrs. O'Donnell:

I am writing this letter in regards to the rate increase request from Kentucky American Water for its' customers in Owen County.

I would like to say first and foremost that KAWC has become an integral part of our county. We have seen new waterline construction to areas of our county that realistically would have never happened without their private investment and public dollars from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. Everything that KAWC promised us when they bought the Tri-Village Water District has been accomplished and we continue to work toward the future. Because of our cooperative efforts, over 500 new customers now have safe, clean drinking water.

With that said, as the Judge/Executive of Owen County, I also have to look at the impact that the proposed 43% increase could have on our citizens. Even though I knew this rate increase was going to happen because of all the capital construction that has taken place. I did not expect a 43% request and I do believe that the impact could be substantial. We do have a large senior population, as well as low-income families in our county and I would ask the commission to review this request carefully and consider a lower rate increase.

Also, I would like to see the 25% discount for low-income families be included in our area, similar to the proposal for the Lexington area. This would lessen the burden on our families as well.



Please know that I would be glad to answer any questions regarding this matter. I also would like to attend the public hearing for this issue and would ask to be notified of the date of this meeting.

Sincerely

William P. O'Banion Owen County Judge/Executive