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Public Service Commission
Frankfort, Kentucky

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Gentlemen/Ladies

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

The two letters attached below which were published in the Lexington Leader today, Sunday, Nov. 23rd expresses my feelings exactly. An increase of 30% is just preposterous. I am 82 years old and like a lot of my widow friends, trying hard to stay independent, living in my own home. It is inconceivable and unjust to raise our water bill to this extent. This summer we were never asked to ration our water use. For just a few weeks we did water on certain days. Please help us in this regard.

READERS' VIEWS

Just say no to water increase

Among the thousands of residential consumers forced to rely on Kentucky American Water's monopoly, I doubt that I will be alone in opposing the company's recent announcement of its intent to secure approval from the Public Service Commission in Frankfort for a 30.24 percent rate increase.

In recent times, enough area residents and policy-makers rejected community ownership of the utility and then approved an expensive new pipeline that is digging up the countryside to embolden the company to grab as much revenue from its customers as it can get away with.

Let policy-makers and utility regulators know that KAW should not be allowed to do to consumers what Exxon Mobile has done.

Eric Howard Christianson
Lexington

Share the poverty

I couldn't find a lot of specifics about the rate hike demanded by Kentucky American Water. But it's a burden, and all I knew to do is protest, rather blindly, to the Public Service Commission.

I want to protest the residential rate hike because of the economic strains on typical homeowners and tenants at this time. That is too much, and I want KAW to make some sacrifices like the rest of us. For instance, how much are we paying for six-figure salaries? For vehicle graphics at several hundred dollars apiece? For consumer advertising, as if we had a choice among vendors?

This is going to be a rough winter, and I expect all utilities will want more revenue. Since they are monopolies, they would get it easily, if they weren't regulated. But they supposedly are, so in the words of Martin Luther King, let them "share the poverty." We can't take our business elsewhere. Do they think they can?

Bruce Williams
Lexington