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Public Service  
Commission

To Public Service Commission

Reference: Caldwell County Water District (CCWD) Rate Increase

I am writing this letter in regards to the proposed water rate increase of 33.9% for Caldwell County, KY. As you well know this is not sitting well with many residents in our county. We just do not see how you can justify such a huge increase of 33.9%.

After many calls to magistrates and other water districts, visits to CCWD and tons of Research, we do not see how a proposed increase even came up. In the rest of this letter it will show proof of why.

Let's first look at the amount we are already paying vs the surrounding counties. CCWD is already the highest by far. These totals are based on 4000 gallon usage:

South Hopkins 27.40  
Christian County 25.96  
Webster County 34.40  
Barkley Lake 35.42  
Crittenden County 50.68  
Caldwell County 54.08

As you can see we are already the highest county as of this date.

Next, we know of no new loans, major projects or rate increases to the CCWD. The last loan was in 2004 to the best of my memory and the last rate increase from Princeton Water was in 2008. It is in my opinion that interest rates, water loss, and wage and benefits be looked at very closely. It is also my belief that CCWD purchases almost all of their

water from PWW and that a merger would be in the best interest of the CCWD customers.

Before 2004 up to the last couple of years CCWD has ran with 3 full time field employees (this including the district manager) with no problems. At this point they are planning to hire a 4<sup>th</sup> field employee (this included district manager). WHY NOW?? Also you can start out with no experience at \$18.00/hr. The district manager is making more than the Princeton manager who has years of experience and training and runs a larger system.

Please take these facts into consideration when you are making your decisions on an increase. Thank you very much for taking your time in reading this letter.

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Customers of Caldwell County Water