

Kirby Smith III  
424 Englewood Rd.  
Middlesboro, KY 40965

RECEIVED

JUN 17 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

June 15, 2020

Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Re: water rate increase Middlesboro, KY

Dear Sir,

I am writing to protest the approximately 45% increase on water rates being proposed on the Citizens of Middlesboro, KY by the Water Service Company of Kentucky.

I see no justification for this amount of increase to be imposed on the residents of our town. There has been no improvement, or change in the processing, distribution, or quality of our water that I am aware of. The consumer Price index has increased a very small amount in the last 12 months. This amount might be justified, but not 45%.

Considering the Covid-19 pandemic taking place across the country this is not the time to increase expenses on the citizens of Middlesboro. This area of Kentucky is experiencing a high unemployment, low wages, business closings, declining population and a high poverty rate. A rate increase of this magnitude would impose a heavy burden on our citizens.

Please consider denying this increase it would only contribute to more poverty, more declining population, and more business closings.

Sincerely,



Kirby Smith