

From: [Bruner, Brandon S \(PSC\)](#) on behalf of [PSC Executive Director](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Case # 2020-00290
Date: Monday, January 11, 2021 8:38:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00290, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?Case=2020-00290.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 3:30 PM
To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>
Subject: Case # 2020-00290

TO : Kentucky PSC Public Information Officer PSC.info@ky.gov
FROM: Sylvia Murphy
100 Spring Mint Court
Nicholasville, KY 40356
DATE: December 16, 2020
RE: Request for Intervention Case#2020-00290 Springcrest Sewer Company. Inc.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am sending this email to express my opposition to the proposed rate increase proposed by Bluegrass Water once they acquire Springcrest Sewer.

On November 27th, I received correspondence from Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company. It contained two letters. The first, dated November 11, 2020 explained that "Bluegrass Water" was in the process of acquiring Springcrest Sewer. The letter further states

the sewer system is “severely damaged and approaching total failure” and they plan to invest \$76,000 to ensure we “have access to clean, safe, and reliable wastewater systems – something that has not been the case for many residents in your area for years” I have lived in my home since 1996. Our house was one of the last several built in the neighborhood and to tap on to Springcrest Sewer. Like other neighborhood residents, we have dutifully paid our sewer bills each quarter. There has been no indication from the Springcrest Sewer owners or representatives, or any public health agency, suggesting that the system is not functioning properly. I question if the system is near total failure. If this is indeed the case, why have the sewer fees collected not been used to maintain the system in working order?

The second letter dated November 19th lists Springcrest Sewer as one of 25 systems which will be experiencing a rate hike as part of Bluegrass Water’s acquisition of their wastewater systems. It appears that Bluegrass Water intends to charge every customer in a group of 19 wastewater systems the same monthly fee, regardless of the type and condition of the individual wastewater systems that serves their property.

Per documentation found in PSC case file, Springcrest Sewer does not have a “KDES permit because it is a ground discharge low pressure system.” The costs to operate and maintain this system is much less than a typical sewer system, as solid waste is not treated, nor is the treated waste water discharged in a stream or lagoon. In my neighborhood, each owner provides a pump on their individual property that provides the pressure to move the effluent from individual properties through the pipelines to the wet wells, where Springcrest Sewer’s ejection pumps then distribute it through the lateral lines. If there are “in line” pumps in the collection system, I have seen no evidence of them.

While I question that the system is near total failure as suggested, IF it can be substantiated that the system has been properly maintained, yet repairs are needed for our wastewater system, I do not object to a reasonable and justifiable increase in rates to correct the issues with the individual Springcrest wastewater system as well providing for its continuing maintenance.

I strongly object to a rate increase that expects residents of my neighborhood wastewater system to offset the cost of 18 other wastewater systems which may need more expensive repairs, are more complicated to monitor and maintain, and are less cost efficient to operate than the Springcrest Sewer system.

I am asking for intervention by the PSC regarding the rate increase proposed for Springcrest Sewer as outlined in Case #2020-0290.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Murphy

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