

From: Bruner, Brandon S (PSC) on behalf of PSC Executive Director
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bluegrass Water utility operating company rate increase
Date: Friday, July 9, 2021 2:03:00 PM

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
Administrative Branch Manager
Filings Branch
General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Rick Algood [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 4, 2021 1:41 PM
To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>
Subject: Bluegrass Water utility operating company rate increase

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10
May 18, 2021
Case number 2020-00290
Richard L. Algood
[REDACTED]
130 Harting Ridge Road
West Paducah, KY 42086

Dear Public Service Commission:

I am writing regarding a notice we received from Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company. Case number 2020-00290.

In this notice we have been informed the Marshall Ridge sewer customers will have a 540.9% increase on their bills beginning in the near future. Our current rate is \$15.00 per month and the proposed new rate will be \$96.14.

In this notification are listed the following reasons for the increase:

Repairing the chain link fencing

Repairing a leaking berm, drain field and animal damage.

Installing a new all-weather access road for the plant

Hiring and training professional operators

Providing 24/7 Customer Service and emergency response

I was at the meeting when the representative of this company proposed buying out our neighborhood system. In that meeting I and others asked many questions concerning this transaction. We were informed that our system was a model system and operating very well. The lady representing the company wanting to acquire our system stated that they saw no needed changes other than an overflow to a field drain system that would have to be unplugged. They would monitor the ponds on a regular schedule, and we would never notice anything different. We asked about the monthly rates. We were informed there would be no change. We would continue to pay the \$15 extra on our monthly water bill and the new company would accept that as their fee. Furthermore, the assets remaining in the Marshall Ridge account would remain with the neighborhood to pump the solids collection tanks on each lot. Those funds, we were told, would be sufficient to pump the tanks for many, many years into the future, and that would be done on a rotating schedule to ensure each tank was cleaned. Should anyone have an emergency with their individual tank filling up unexpectedly, we could contact someone, and the tank would be pumped. Most people at the meeting felt like the deal would be a win, win for both parties. We voted in favor of the transaction feeling everything was satisfactory and above board.

Then a few days ago we received this notice. The reasons they have listed for the increase were already addressed in that meeting. They agreed to purchase and maintain the system. As for the onsite plant, there has never been one since the inception of this subdivision. The only thing that was mentioned was mowing around the perimeter of the fence, inside and outside. As for building a new road, that seems like an unnecessary expense. Vehicles (tractors and trucks) have been traversing the right-of-way easement to the ponds for the eighteen years I have lived here.

In light of this notification, I feel like this company misrepresented themselves during that meeting when they sought our votes in favor of selling our system to them. I hope you will consider all this and reject their 540.9% proposed fee increase. There are many senior citizens and families in this neighborhood that just cannot handle an increase such as that.

Thank you for your service to the people of the State of Kentucky, and I sincerely hope you will rule in favor of the people of this community.

From: [Bruner, Brandon S \(PSC\)](#) on behalf of [PSC Executive Director](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: KY PSC Case # 2020-00290 Bluegrass Water's Request for Rate Increase
Date: Friday, July 9, 2021 2:02:00 PM

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
Administrative Branch Manager
Filings Branch
General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Consumer Web Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 3:07 PM
To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>
Subject: FW: KY PSC Case # 2020-00290 Bluegrass Water's Request for Rate Increase

From: Gary Esterle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 1:57 PM
To: PSC Consumer Web Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>
Subject: KY PSC Case # 2020-00290 Bluegrass Water's Request for Rate Increase

Dear KY PSC Committee Members;

I don't understand why you are taking so long to deny Bluegrass Water's ridiculous rate increases and their plan for unified rates? Their plan is to implement the new rates on August 1, 2021, even without your ruling.

I have submitted pictures and documentation that proves the Mr. Cox and Mr. Freeman have done nothing but give false testimony about Kingswood's sewer plant. I live next door to the plant and I can prove the other money spent above routine maintenance is a load of gravel spread on the driveway and recently painted the railing yellow. Their testimony about installing a backup generator and other expenses are outright lies to try and justify this increase. NONE of these items

have been done.

The original owner, Gale Williams, told me that she would not be allowed to raise the rates from \$38.84 a month due to she shows too much profit even after paying Covered Bridge Utilities to manage the plant.

As far as unified rates for all plants and customers, this is unfair to even consider. Yes, some plants they purchased might have required a large investment to bring them up to standard but that cost should not be passed on to those who spent the money over the years to maintain their systems. I am not responsible for repairs to my neighbor's home due to their negligence, why would I be responsible for the repairs on other's sewer plants? I am sure none of you would pay for your neighbor's repairs.

Bluegrass Water did engineering studies on all plants before purchasing them. They knew what they were buying and should not have done so if they knew it was going to cause them to lose money. They also stated on the letter to us, and on Central States Water Resource's website that under the agreement to purchase these plants they would continue to charge the same rates as the previous owners. Just another lie to us and to the KY PSC.

The executives of Central States Water Resource are nothing but scam artist and should not be allowed to raise the rates to such ridiculous levels and should not be permitted to purchase any other water or sewer plants in Kentucky. The Attorney General was correct in trying to block the sale of these properties to Bluegrass Water.

I look forward to a quick and fair ruling from the members of the KY PSC.

Sincerely,
Gary Esterle
555 Kingswood Drive.
Taylorsville, KY 40071

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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