From: PSC Public Comment
To:

**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2023 9:02:00 AM

RE: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Case No. 2022-00432

Subject:

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 7:41 AM

To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

**Subject:** FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

**From:** KY Public Service Commission < pscfilings@ky.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 5:42 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

**Subject:** KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 5:41 PM

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Name: Carrie Runyon

Address: 121 Persimmon Ridge Drive

City: Louisville

State: 27

Zip Code: 40245

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Utility Name: Bluegrass

State the nature of your concern: Bluegrass Wastewater has issued outrageous rates (by a private company) that should not be profiting from a utility. The rate went from \$35 per month to \$85 and now they're requesting another increase to \$99. Our system has no problems and

has had no improvements.

Have you contacted the utility about the problem: Yes

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From: PSC Public Comment
To:

Subject: RE: Public Comments for Case: 2022-00432 - Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC

**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2023 9:01:00 AM

Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)</u>

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:26 PM

**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Public Comments for Case: 2022-00432 - Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC

Public Comments for Case 2022-00432 submitted by

on Wednesday, March 15,

2023 at 9:26 PM

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Name: John Eastabrooks

Address: 97 Persimmon Ridge Drive

City: Louisville State: KY

Zip Code: 40245-5073

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Comments: Request for Intervention. I'm writing for intervention on my behalf as a member of the Persimmon Ridge Community. The letter from Bluegrass Water's CEO Josiah Cox dated February 27 to the PR (Persimmon Ridge) community about the rate increase of 15.6%, states that Bluegrass spent \$16 million dollars in KY on the collective sewer systems. This includes commercial as well as residential. It states that we have 30 days from the letter dated to appeal to the regulator PSC for intervention. I would love to see all of the invoices for all of his customers and compare them to PR. He has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars from PR with the present rate increase. So the question is what is the percentage of the costs to fix and maintain the system in PR compared the extra money that has been collected from us. I'll bet he has collected much more than he spent on the fix and maintenance. If so, he owes us a reduction. Why are we lumped in with commercial high maintenance costs sewer systems. I believe if we present the cost invoices versus rate increase collection to the PSC we have a good argument to divorce outselves from the rest of the systems or at least get a rate reduction. Before taking final action on the application please review the invoices of the repairs and maintenance of the PR system alone, and compare them to the money collected over the last two years by Bluegrass Water. I believe it is not fair or equitable for a small community

like PR to share the burden of other high cost high maintenance communities or commercial
entities. This collective should never been allowed in the first place. If Mr. Cox wanted to buy up a
large amount of neighborhood systems they should have been dealt with individually since not all
systems are equally operated. Please respond. Regards John Eastabrooks 97 Persimmon Ridge Drive
Louisville, KY 40245

From: PSC Public Comment

To:

Subject: RE: Rate increase

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023 8:53:00 AM

## Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 4:23 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Rate increase

From: Dr. David Storey < >

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 4:16 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < <a href="mailto:PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov">PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</a>>

Cc: West, Michael (KYOAG) <

Subject: Rate increase



Dear PSC, I am writing to ask for a review of the proposed sewer rate increase by Bluegrass Water Co. doing business out of St. Louis. We are residents of Equestrian Woods in Jessamine County, and customers of BW. We feel that the proposed unified rate increase is exorbitant and unfair. We maintain our own holding tanks on our property as well as the effluent pump. The cost to repair, maintain and replace these items is incurred solely by us. The service that BW provides is an open field where the sewage effluent is pumped as well as the pipe and pump(s) to deliver the sewage. Apart from mowing the field and maintaining a small pump house to distribute the effluent, we are unaware of any other service or improvements BW has provided.

This system is non discharging and there are no holding tanks or treatment of

sewage waste. There is no treatment plant or sophisticated equipment involved. It is in no way affiliated with our water system. It is our understanding from the proceedings to date, that BW has acquired myriad sewage systems across the region, It is also our understanding that BW is attempting to impose a unified rate increase to all customers without regard for the specific needs/costs to each community it serves. It is patently unfair to shoulder the burden of all other customers without taking into account the cost of improvements specific to each community.

We are a small community of 40 homes on the BW system. To increase our sewer rates from \$27 to nearly \$100 per month is absurd and far and above similar rates for surrounding communities like Lexington and the city of Nicholasville, We suspect that if another utility requested a 268% per month increase in rate, many eyebrows and questions would be raised to justify such an increase. The bottom line is, our system is very basic and not sophisticated as perhaps some in the BW stable. To pass on such an increase uniformly to ALL customers of BW is simply without merit.

We understand that some increase is reasonable to accommodate for potential repairs/improvements, but also contend that such an increase should be modest, at best, in keeping with the services provided and current norms for rate increases. We respectfully request intervention to deny the proposed unified rate increase so that we may continue to rely on an essential service without undue cost burden and in keeping with the system in our community.

Dr, and Mrs, David Storey, Nicholasville, KY

From: PSC Public Comment
To:

**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2023 8:52:00 AM

RE: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Case No. 2022-00432

Subject:

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 2:28 PM

To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

**Subject:** FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

**From:** KY Public Service Commission < pscfilings@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 2:17 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < <u>PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</u>>

**Subject:** KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by (

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 2:17 PM

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Patrick Rankin Address: 105 Apollo Court

City: Georgetown State: Kentucky Zip Code: 40324

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Utility Name: Bluegrass Water

State the nature of your concern: The Bluegrass Water Company is in charge of the sewage removal in my neighborhood. They have recently applied to raise our rates for service. The present rate is \$12.50 and the proposed increase will raise this rate to \$99.00 per month. Although I'm sure an increase is necessary, a 640% increase is incredibly unfair and not necessary. They bought out the former contractor about 2 years ago and Bluegrass water said that this increase is necessary to cover upgrades and expansions. Maybe the company should have investigated what they were buying a little closer and better negotiated a purchase price. I would think that this type of increase would classify under the price gouging laws that are in place to protect the consumer. Please take the time to investigate this company and there policies, from what I have seen they are buying up all the sewage private companies trying to

) on

monopolize the industry for themselves. As I have seen multiple complaints from several different people from several different parts of the state Bluegrass Water is looking to increase all existing contracts across the entire state. Thank you for your time and consideration of looking into this company(Bluegrass Water) to help us out in this unjustifiable increase. Have you contacted the utility about the problem: No

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From: PSC Public Comment

To:
Subject: RE: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2023 8:51:00 AM

Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:58 AM

To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

**Subject:** FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

From: KY Public Service Commission cfilings@ky.gov

**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2023 4:16 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < <u>PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</u>>

**Subject:** KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by (

Monday, March 13, 2023 at 4:16 PM

Name: Ross and Michelle Barnette

Address: 105 mallard ct City: Nicholasville State: Kentucky Zip Code: 40356

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Utility Name: Bluegrass Water, LLC (providing service for Equestrian Woods residents) State the nature of your concern: The company (Bluegrass Water) out of Texas that purchased our unique waste water system for about 50 homes in Equestrian Woods in Jessamine county is proposing (and filed for) a 268% increase (Current \$27.43 month to \$99.37). This is a total greedy price gouge. They have not performed any improvements or significant updates to our system yet in their letter they mention spending millions around the country to justify our increase. We are ok with some reasonable increase but 268% is totally unfair. We respectfully request that the PSC DECLINE this proposed increase and allow a more realistic increase for us and our neighbors.

Have you contacted the utility about the problem: Yes

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From: PSC Public Comment

To:

Subject: RE: Bluegrass Water Rate Increase Case # 2022-00432

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023 8:50:00 AM

## Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:57 AM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Bluegrass Water Rate Increase Case # 2022-00432

From: Phillip Juett < > > > > Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:30 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < <a href="mailto:PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov">PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</a> **Subject:** Bluegrass Water Rate Increase Case # 2022-00432



I live in the Equestrian Woods neighborhood. The rate increase is usually high. I understand increases happen, but that is too much at this time. Please reconsider.

Thank you Mary Juett From: PSC Public Comment

To:

Subject: RE: Bluegrass Water Utility increase
Date: Friday, March 17, 2023 8:48:00 AM

## Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:55 AM

**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov> **Subject:** FW: Bluegrass Water Utility increase

From: Don Lane
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:25 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Subject: Bluegrass Water Utility increase



Please reconsider rate increase for our small group of customers who only has sewage water sent to adjacent farm where it leaches out. I must say I was flabbergasted at what I saw would be our increase. We do not need a treatment plant as many of your larger groups of customers need. We should only pay for improvements and maintenance in our system. A moderate increase is expected but the one you are asking for is outrageous. Thank you for your understanding and making this right for those of us in the Equestrian Woods Maintenance Association. Don Lane, 107 Raintree Ct,. Nicholasville, Kentucky

From: PSC Public Comment
To:
Cc:

Subject: RE: objection to rate increase Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023 8:47:00 AM

Case No. 2022-00432

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, 2022-00432, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2022-00432 (ky.gov)</u>

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 2:38 PM

To: PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: objection to rate increase Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company

From:

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 2:31 PM

**To:** PSC Consumer Inquiry < <a href="mailto:PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov">PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</a>>

Cc: West, Michael (KYOAG)

Subject: objection to rate increase Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to object to the proposed rate increase requested by Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company (BWUOC).

I am one of 40 homeowners in Equestrian Woods, (Nicholasville, KY) previously serviced by Springcrest Sewer. Each home has two holding tanks, one which holds solids, another which holds effluent. Each homeowner's system has a pump which is used to move their effluent to a large drainage field leased on a farm adjacent to our subdivision. Each household is responsible for the

expense of maintaining their tanks and pumps in working order. We do not have a "treatment plant" with the associated costs of maintenance and operation. The effluent is simply pumped to large leach fields.

Since we are a small septic system, unattached to any larger septic system or utility, we should only be responsible for paying a monthly fee that is required to maintain our "non-discharging" septic system. Since the previous owner had not requested an increase in sewage fees in the 27 years I have owned my home, it would appear that the system was operating adequately with that rate schedule. Even if some repairs may be necessary to our septic system, the proposed rate increase should be directly related to the cost of repairs and ongoing operation of our septic system.

The new fee structure represents a 268% increase. That increase cannot be justified for the improvements already made and planned by BWUOC for our small septic system. Our utility fee should not be used to offset the cost of repairing other utility systems unrelated to us, poor investments by the BWUOC, or to serve as a cash flow to fund their future acquisitions.

Please stop the price gouging the rate increase represents, and set a fair rate that represents actual operating costs for our small sewage system.

Sylvia Murphy 100 Spring Mint Court Nicholasville KY 40356