

From: Nathan Head [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 2:43 PM
To: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>
Cc: West, Michael (KYOAG) [REDACTED]
Subject: Bluegrass Water Rate Increase Case #2022-00432

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Nathan Head
103 Mallard Court
Nicholasville
KY
40356

[REDACTED]
Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC

I am writing to request intervention in regards to the proposed rate increase for my property. We have a "non-discharging -- septic system." This means we have an essentially closed system with relatively small holding tanks that pump up to a static leach field on leased farmland. We are not part of a large open tank treatment facility with stirring, large pumps, chemical monitoring, etc. The working part of the system is maintained personally by each homeowner (roughly 40 homes) with pumps in each of our yards. We incur costly and ongoing maintenance costs for our individual pumps and underground pipes. BW states in the various filings that they have maintenance costs for their small but critical part of our systems process but the rate increase is excessive to say the least. What appears to be substantial is the cost of their acquisitions; \$20 million - Sep 2020, \$9M - Oct 2020, and \$16M - Feb 2023.

The notified increase for me personally, based on their letter, is an increase of 262.3% over the existing charge. This is extraordinary for any consumer fee increase, especially a utility fee. It appears as though we are being pulled into funding their numerous multi-million dollar acquisitions. I have no doubt that they have some maintenance costs incurred to managing our system but the sudden and extreme increase is excessive. It causes me to wonder if myself and other customers of theirs are targeted to bail them out of poor financial planning or worse, utter exploitation of costumers with no other choice for their corporate and personal gain.

How can a consumer handle 200%+ increases to their costs? What kind of rate hike will we incur next if this is left unchecked? I am asking for an intervention. Rate increases are fair but 200%+ is excessive, troubling, and unfair. I am not opposed to a modest rate increase but anything above 20-30% begs many questions and sets a terrible precedent for Kentucky residents dependent on waste management systems.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Sincerely,
Nathan Head

Get [REDACTED]