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OFFICIAL COPY

Mount, Gail

From: Eilene Gruys <comfortcousins@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 2:57 PM
To: Mount, Gail; Finley, Ed
Cc: bbeaty@ncuc.net; Rabon, Susan; Brown-Bland, ToNola; Bailey, Don; Dockham, Jerry; Patterson, James
Subject: CWS rate increase hearing

W354 SUB 344

FILED

JUN 19 2015

Dear Ms Mount, Mr. Finley and members of the Commission,

I have a condominium in the Mirage section of the Corolla Light Resort. I appreciate the opportunity to address my concerns by letter about another proposed rate increase by Carolina Water Service, who provides waste water treatment over a large area of the Outer Banks, including Corolla. A few days ago, I was surprised by a notice from CWS that in less than two weeks there would be a hearing about another rate increase to our Waste Water Treatment Bills. That is very short notice for anyone to rearrange a schedule to attend in person.

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

It is my recollection that the rates for the Corolla Light Community and Monterey Shores are higher than adjacent communities that are receiving the same service. In addition to what seems to be an unnecessary rate increase, the disparity in the rates we are charged has been an issue over the past several times there have been rate increase hearings. I suspect there has been a higher rate schedule for Corolla Light owners since the inception of the development, 30 years ago. The disparity in rates is unjustified and our rates should be lowered to the same rate that is charged to other customers of Carolina Water Service. The perception that I can afford to pay more for a service than a person who owns a home two blocks from me is wrong. If we were all rich people, we would visit our homes maybe a month or two out of the year and there would be little water usage, therefore, little potential for profit for Carolina Water Service. On the contrary, the vast majority of the owners in Corolla Light are ordinary working people, who actively share their homes with renters in support of a thriving tourist industry that generates a huge need for potable water, as well as waste water treatment, in addition to substantial income for the businesses and government of Currituck County. It is time to stop treating us unfairly.

Sincerely,

Eilene Gruys

1059 Mirage Street

Corolla, NC 27927

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Mount, Gail

From: Casselberry, Gina <gina.casselberry@psncuc.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 10:47 AM
To: Mount, Gail
Cc: Holt, Gina
Subject: FW: Rate increase for water and sewer service in Nags Head service area

W354 SUB 344

From: Casselberry, Gina
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 10:46 AM
To: 'd hunter'
Subject: RE: Rate increase for water and sewer service in Nags Head service area

FILED

JUN 19 2015

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

Mr. Clark,

Thank you for your email concerning the request by Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) for a rate increase. A copy of your letter and this response will be given to the Chief Clerk of the Commission for inclusion in the official file. The Public Staff is responsible for representing the interests of the using and consuming public in utility matters, and we will participate on the public's behalf in this case.

In this rate case proceeding, the Public Staff will review the books and records of the Company and present its views on the Company's request to the Commission. We will give consideration to your comments as we conduct our investigation.

Gina Casselberry
Utilities Engineer
Public Staff – Water and Sewer Division
919-733-0890

From: d hunter [mailto:dhunter.1776@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 10:00 AM
To: Casselberry, Gina
Subject: Rate increase for water and sewer service in Nags Head service area

Ms. Gina Casselberry
Public Utilities Engineer

The application notice (Docket No. W-354, Sub 344) for a water and sewer rate increase from the State of North Carolina Utilities Commission states that there is monthly flat rate for all customers. During a meeting last year with Utilities Inc. a statement was made that agrees with the notice in that, all homes in the Village at Nags Head pay the same flat rate.

At the same Utilities Inc. meeting a statement was made that the waste water processing plant capacity is based on the number of bedrooms in a home, e.g. an 8 bedroom home could have 16 people (or more) using the system and a 3 bedroom home could have 6 people (or less) using the system. Therefore, processing capacity is based on usage, not on the number of individual homes.

I asked the representatives from Utilities Inc. why an 8 bedroom home pays the same flat rate as a 3 bedroom home and the reply was that the rates and rate system are set by the State of North Carolina Utilities Commission.

Therefore, I would ask that the consumer representative from the Public Staff request that the monthly flat rate be changed to a rate system based on usage.

Full-time resident/owners with smaller non-rental homes are paying for absentee owners with large rental homes. Unlike water and sewer rates, rates for electricity are based on usage, e.g. a large home with high usage pays more than a smaller home with less usage.

This obvious inequity should be changed!

I would appreciate feedback from the hearing regarding my request to change from a flat rate system to usage based rate system.

Thank you for your e-time.

Fred Clark
5714 Ridge Lane (Village at Nags Head)
Nags Head, NC 27959
252-255-1215
dhunter.1776@gmail.com

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