## OFFICIAL COPY

## Morris, Paige

STREHLE, LISA <LStrehle@firsttennessee.com> From:

JUL 26 2017

Sent:

Wednesday, July 26, 2017 9:49 AM

Clerk's Office N.C. Utilities Commission

To: Subject: Statements DOCKET NO W-354, SUB-358; Carolina Water Service Inc application for increase

Good morning.

I am a resident of Bradfield Farms subdivision. I recently received information from Carolina Water Service indicating that they are requesting a 63.81% rate increase for our water and sewer.

I am a single mom. I am a mother of two teenage girls. I'm sure my monthly usage is about average, comparatively speaking. For me, alone, this rate hike would cost an additional \$28/month. My average monthly bill would increase from ~\$45 to ~\$73. Now, \$28 may not seem like a large increase to everyone, but thinking about it in real terms, it's a tank of gas. It's a school uniform. It's nearly the cost of my cell phone bill. And, to have to pay that EVERY month......well, that's quite a hike. And, taking into account that there are nearly 1000 homes in our subdivision, that is an increased income for the utility company (on average) of \$28,000 per month/\$336,000 per year - with no increased benefit at all. I'd call that guite a raise for CWS.

I honestly cannot recall when we had our last rate hike, and I'm not saying that there shouldn't be a basic cost of doing business increase periodically. But to increase something, anything, by nearly 64% at once feels like gouging.

I hope you will take the best interest of the Bradfield Farms residents to heart and say NO to the increase.

Thank you for your time.

L. Lisa Strehle **Bradfield Farms Resident** 

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