Public Service Commission - Cutomer Comments, Rate Case from Mountain Sewer Docket # 11-097-03

From:	Stewart Connard <
To:	<psc@utah.gov>
Date:	5/2/2012 11:52 AM
Subject:	Cutomer Comments, Rate Case from Mountain Sewer Docket # 11-097-03
CC:	, Barry Menne

Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Subject: Mountain Sewer Rate Increase / Special Assessment request, Docket # 11-097-03

To Whom it may concern:

As the owners of condominium Unit   in   since October 2002 we wish to submit our comments on the Mountain Sewer
Rate Increase and proposed Special Assessment. We are not opposed to a reasonable rate increase to cover the direct costs of providing our water and sewer service, but are opposed to any special assessment or interim rate increase that attempts to recoup expenses that originate from the prior owner of Mountain Sewer. This includes costs of negotiating the sale between the former and current owners, legal fees incurred in the sales transaction or in responding to service and billing problems. Further, 1). hook up fees should be kept reasonable and reflect no more than the actual cost of extending water and sewer service to a new home 2). The requested $1,300 per unit special assessment, if allowed in whole or part by the PSC should be amortized over at least a 10 year period and not authorized as a one time special assessment and 3). Any increase to the regular water and sewer monthly charges should
reflect only direct and documented costs of providing the water and sewer service.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments while making your decision in this matter.

Regards,
W. Stewart Connard
Barry R. & Mary Menne
Owners of Unit

Mountain Sewer Customers:

The ad hoc committee that has been working on the formal complaint against Mountain Sewer received the first documents this week regarding the Application for General Rate Case for Mountain Sewer.

Each customer will receive a notice from Mountain Sewer regarding the rate case, but we are not sure how detailed the notice will be.

Our main thrust is to challenge the special assessment and interim rate increase. The committee members feel it is outrageous that Mountain Sewer is trying to recoup funds with a special assessment that should have been paid by the previous owner of Mountain Sewer.

Significant changes requested in the rate case are:

A $57.06 proposed monthly sewer fee, this is a 159.4% increase over the current $22 monthly rate.

They have added new charges for $24.40 a month for standby fees for non-connected lots, there is no charge now.
They have asked that the single Connection fee be raised from $3,000 to $5,000 per connection.
They have added a new hookup fee of $300
They have added a new turn on fee of $100

They have also asked for that these same rates be granted as an interim rate increase to take effect in 45 days.

They have asked that the late fee of 18% be continued.

They have requested a special assessment of $1,300 from each customer (127 or $165,000) for costs incurred.

There are other issues included in the rate case. If you wish to review the actual rate case documents please contact us and we will e-mail them to you in a PDF format.

Input from the Mountain Sewer customer base to the PSC Commissioners could be an important factor when the Commissioners deliberate before reaching their decision on all of the rate case requests. We encourage every customer to write, send an e-mail, or call the PSC in Salt Lake to express your feelings about the proposed rate case. It is important that you reference Mountain Sewer and Docket Number 11-097-03 in any correspondence.

When you contact the PSC, we suggest that you consider the main issues involved that may resonate with the Commission members. The ad hoc committee has long acknowledged that while a reasonable increase in rates is warranted for Mountain Sewer,

The PSC Commission contact information is:

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Larry and Sharon Zini