

Public Service Commission - Mountain Sewer: Docket Number 11-097-03

From: "Gull, Jason" [REDACTED]
To: "psc@utah.gov" <psc@utah.gov>
Date: 4/26/2012 2:24 PM
Subject: Mountain Sewer: Docket Number 11-097-03

To the attention of the Utah Public Service Commission:

I am a Mountain Sewer customer in Huntsville and was recently notified by Mountain Sewer of a special assessment and significant rate increase they plan on implementing. I don't understand why I am liable to bail out the current owners from the problems they were aware of when they purchased the utility and should have been addressed in the consideration of the purchase price. The current owners are attempting to collect up front for the malfeasance of the prior owners and making me pay for it. The cost of that malfeasance should have been taken into account in the purchase price of the utility, not passed along to the customers who have nowhere else to turn for sewer service. If additional capital expenditure was anticipated by the current owner in consideration of the purchase of Mountain Sewer, they should have set aside further capital that they would inject into the business, not using their customer base as piggy banks to draw from whenever they desire. I am further incensed that the current owners of Mountain Sewer are planning to include costs incurred from legal fees related to the sale of the utility and additional legal fees related to complaints brought against them because of such a sudden and large rate increase. I do, however, understand that overtime costs will likely increase and therefore overtime my rates would increase. It is the magnitude and suddenness of the current rate increase, plus the other special charges, and the special assessment, that has me worried.

I would humbly request that the PSC please consider (1) did the current Mountain Sewer owners appropriately consider capital expenditure needs in connection with their purchase and that the source of those funds would need to come from the owners in connection with the negotiated purchase price of the utility not irresponsibly using their customers as piggy banks; and (2) in the case where costs, due to inflation, growth, or other natural factors have increased, that rate increases are smoothed, incremental, and staged over time rather than a 2x increase all of a sudden.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards.

Jason Gull
[REDACTED]