

From: Andrew Wolchek [REDACTED]
To: <psc@utah.gov>
Date: 4/28/2012 7:07 PM
Subject: Docket Number 11-097- 03

Utah Public Service Commission

Dear Sirs,

We are customers of Mountain Sewer in Huntsville UT and are very disturbed to hear that that Mountain Sewer is proposing to raise the rates charged to its customers by roughly 160%. To us the proposed rate increase seems extreme and frankly speaking ridiculous. We could understand a utility raising rates gradually, in line with inflation plus maybe 1 or 2 percent (to cover improvements in service) but raising rates 160% up front or over a couple of years does not seem at all appropriate. I am not able to come-up with any examples of such an increase either in the public or private sectors.

Further, we have been told that Mountain Sewer is proposing to charge customers a large special assessment. To us this seems like a very strange proposal. Especially given that the proceeds of the special assessment are not planned to go to pay for any significant improvement to the sewer system or service provided to customers. Why should long-term customers of Mountain Sewer be required to pay a special assessment the proceeds of which are intended to allow the new owners to recoup the cost of legal fees associated with the purchase/sale of the utility and issues related to serious service failures.

Given the current challenging economic environment, we feel it would be especially unfair and inappropriate for Mountain Sewer to be allowed to impose the above mentioned additional and excessive costs on its customers. Our home in the Ogden Valley is a home, not a profitable business that is easily able to absorb these additional costs.

We would support a reasonable proposal from Mountain Sewer, but what has been proposed is extremely unreasonable and if approved will likely be very financially onerous to most if not all homeowners served by the utility.

Thank you for considering our views. If you have any questions or would require any additional information, please feel free to call us directly at [REDACTED] (cell phone).

Sincerely,

Andrew Wolchek & Rachel Torres
[REDACTED]