



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Docket #21-001-01

1 message

Bryce Nielson <bryce.nielson@gmail.com>
To: psc@utah.gov

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Utah Public Service Commission:

I would like to submit comments concerning the Bridgerland Water Company Rate Case. I was outside of the country during the Virtual Public Witness and Virtual Hearing, but I have viewed the recorded hearings and would like to make some comments.

I have been fulltime resident in Bridgerland since 1980. I have served on the Bridgerland HOA and I have institutional knowledge of the water system development over the last 42 years. I was also the Mayor of Garden City from 1976-1988. Some of the comments in the hearing were inaccurate or misunderstood. I would like to clarify and present some comments.

As a Mayor, I was involved with the construction of Garden City's new water system in the 1970's. At the time, an 8-inch line was extended towards Bridgerland with the intent of providing City water to the Bridgerland Water Co. if necessary. The Company would purchase bulk water from the City to supplement their system. I am unaware of any official meetings between Garden City and the Bridgerland Water Co. concerning this option or purchase of the Bridgerland Water Co.

A major aspect of the rate increase is the \$1.3 million for extending to the Garden City connection. The Virtual testimony stated that without the proposed extension loan to connect to the Garden City water system, the rates would be \$77/mo. The \$94/mo. increase is a simple formula of total cost/customer. I also think that it is the water company's responsibility for a second source, not the users. **Was this figure documented by engineers with project drawings and cost estimates?** If so, are there drawings and estimates available?

Other options for a secondary source should be considered. There is an existing **Bridgerland Water Right #23-3360**, at the north end of the lower subdivision. It was drilled on 3/13/1973 to a depth of 62 feet with of 0.5 cfs right. Apparently, the well was drilled as a second source but abandoned because it "sanded in" according to Ted Wilson.

My preferred option would be to redrill and repair the existing well since it is adjacent to the water system. Negotiations with Garden City should also begin and determine the feasibility of becoming part of a municipal water system since Bridgerland is within the city limits. In summary, it is obvious that a rate increase is justified. The Bridgerland Water Co. should not have waited so long for a proposed increase. Incremental steps would be more palatable.

If additional information is required, please contact me.

Bryce Nielson

435-994-1649