From: <u>Leslie Carter</u>
To: <u>Puco Docketing</u>

Subject: PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO - CASE #: 00658162 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0f3tzr:ref]

Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:00:32 PM



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO Consumer Service Division Memorandum

CASE ID: 00658162 COMPANY: Christi Water

CUSTOMER: Audra Manriquez

ADDRESS: 5122 Lake Shore Drive, Defiance, Ohio 43512

SERVICE ADDRESS: 5122 Lake Shore Drive, Defiance, Ohio 43512

AIQ: Christi Water System Inc

NIQ: 4197892118

To ensure your response attaches to the appropriate case, please reply to this email without changing the subject line. Thank you!

DOCKETING CASE #: 20-1428-WW-AIR

To whom it may concern,

My name is Audra Manriquez of 5122 Lake Shore Drive, Defiance, Ohio, and I am writing in response to case 20-1428 WW-AIR with Christi Water System, Inc. I received the notice to increase rates and change the billing structure. While I can understand that an increase in rates may be needed, the proposed rates are not within reason. Currently, my family of 4 uses between 500-600 c.f./month, and our bill ranges between \$65-\$75. Under the new rate structure, our bill will more than double.

In addition to providing water to Christi Water Systems, Inc., the City of Defiance also supplies water to Ayersville Water and Sewer and Brunersburg Water District stated in Ordinance 7883, https://cityofdefiance.com/wp-

content/uploads/2017/03/CC_Legis_20170103.pdf. Defiance supplies this water at the same rate to all of those water companies. Ayervsille charges \$53 for the first 2,000 gallons and then \$17 for each additional 1,000 gallons. For usage of 550 c.f., the bill would be around \$87/month. I contacted Brunersburg Water District and their

rate is \$90.38 for the first 350 c.f., and \$0.98 for each additional 10 c.f. That would make the water bill \$109.98 for the usage of 550 c.f. It is noteworthy to check into the water rates of these systems as a fair comparison before allowing the Christi Water rate to increase at this extreme amount.

The Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill created a website (https://efc.sog.unc.edu/resource/ohio-water-and-wastewater-rates-dashboard) that compiles water expense data. When selecting Defiance, the average cost is \$55.17 with a maximum of \$146.17. The proposed Christi increase would place my water bill above the maximum.

While I am not against an increase to help cover increasing costs, I am against an increase of this excessive amount. When other companies, getting their water from the same source, are not raising their rates, it makes me wonder what grounds Christi Water has to raise their rates above and beyond the others. Please deny this request until a fair rate increase can be proposed.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

SUBJECT: Christi Water System Inc - Protest Rate Case

Please docket the associated customer comment and/or attached in the case number referenced above under "Public Comments". This information was received by the Consumer Services Division through alternate channels and is being forwarded to be filed formally. This information is not the opinion of Staff and should not be viewed as such.

Sincerely,

Leslie Carter

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department Customer Service Assistant (800) 686-PUCO (7826) www.PUCO.ohio.gov

This message and any response to it may constitute a public record and thus may be publicly available to anyone who requests it.

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Case No(s). 20-1428-WW-AIR

Summary: Order of Remand Public Comment of Christi Water, via website electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing