

RECEIVED

OCT 18 2007

WASH. UT. & TP. COM

Dennis Shutler-

I am writing this letter in regards to the recent rate increases to the Harrison Ray Water Company in Burbank, WA. Mr. Shutler, when is the last time you or anyone on the UTC Commission received a 35% raise on your paycheck in a seven year period? Most of the people that live in this group of homes are of low to moderate income. We are lucky to get a cost of living raise every year. How does the commission and the state of Washington find it fair that a man like Mr. Tom Harrison can use his monopoly of the water rights in our area to become wealthy? Why should we be made to make up the short fall of this company due to poor management by Mr. Harrison? Don't most companies plan for the future and put aside budgets for capital improvements. I understand that operating costs go up but so do living expenses? Mr. Harrison has been over charging people in the community for years, where is all that money? He has put minimal maintenance and updates into the system until now. His cost for customer service help should not be too high due to the lack of it.

These new water billing plans will more than double my current water bill and many of the other community members' bills as well. This rate increase will severely damage our community both in its appearance and the resale value of our homes. These rates will put our water rates higher than anywhere else in the Columbia Basin area. It will hurt those of us that are trying to help build a nice looking community that people want to live in, we will have to start letting our yards go brown or remove grass and sprinklers.

Mr. Shutler I am sure that you and the rest of the UTC Commission and your families enjoy your yards and flowers in the summer time, we are no different. Imagine if your water bill was to more than double, what would you do? Would you think that you were being treated fairly by your water company and the state? I invite you and the whole UTC Commission to come to our neighborhood and see that we are not a high end water system. We are just low to moderate income families trying to make a nice home and community for our families and neighbors. We thank you for you time on this matter and hope that you can understand our frustration with these rate increases.

Sincerely,

Garrett & Sherri Stark

[Redacted signature area]

Garrett Stark

Sherri Stark

Sherri Stark

RECEIVED

OCT 18 2007

CONSUMER AFFAIRS