Public Comments by Case

Total Comments: 96
In Favor: 0
Opposed: 96
Undecided: 0

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
No			
	Tyson Mercure	E-mail	My name is Tyson Mercure, I live at 17334 S. Fairview loop and I oppose the extreme price increases. Inflation has gone up the last 4 years but Summit View Water works is DOUBLING the cost of our water. I don't understand why the price increase could not be inline with inflation increases of other things like food and gas. They have not explained clearly the reasoning behind this sudden increase. Nor have the they explained what the benefit will be for the consumer, or what will happen if they don't get the increase. It just feels like they're saying, we want more money.
	Randy Loyd	E-mail	This comment is in opposition to the request from Summit View Water Works LLC to increase domestic and irrigation rates. The proposed rate for base rate for irrigation is an increase of 50% with an increase per acre of approximately 110%. The last increase requested, which was rejected just last year, was 26% and 30% for irrigation. The rate increase for Domestic water rates is an increase of 29% for Base rate and an increase in usage rates of 40%. Just in base rates the increase rate is a projected $116,000 for irrigation and $7,600 for Domestic. Again this is based on just the base rates. If all lots were 1/2 acre lots, which is on the small side, the increase in income is over $300,000 for irrigation. If Summit View Water Works was requesting an increase which was more reasonable, 5% or less, I would not be opposed to the rate increase.

			Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you Randy Loyd
	Anita Griffin	E-mail	To Whom It May Concern: I am writing to let you know my concern with the request by Summit View to raise our water rates. While I understand that the price of everything is increasing, Summit View is still mailing our bills on post cards. I have asked many times why they haven't upgraded to a system where we can get our bills electronically. I was told it was too expensive yet they waste financial resources on postage monthly. I tried to have my bank electronically wire my payments as I do with all my other bills. That was a fail as well; Summit View doesn't accept wire payments so my bank had to cut a check and mail it. We are now able to go on-line with Summit View and make our payments directly; however, that's just another place my credit card is on-line and in jeopardy. Irrigation increase: base rate from $343.00 to $514.50 NOT including the actual water usage to water our lawns. $171.50 increase in just the base rate is extreme. Domestic increases are extremely concerning: two increases: 2024 base rate from $44.00 to $51.50 NOT including the actual water usage for household water 100 cu ft to 500 cu ft from $2.68 to $3.00 501 cu ft and over from $3.32 to $4.00 2025 base rate from $51.50 to $56.50 NOT including the actual water usage for household water 100 cu ft to 500 cu ft from $3.00 to $3.75 501 cu ft and over - no change in year 2025 These rate increases are out of hand. For retirees who are on fixed incomes (i.e., social security), these rate increases are very scary. Thanks for your time. Anita Griffin
	Lee Schmitt	E-mail	I find it totally upsetting that Summit view water works every year tries to impose unrealist water increases.

			Also to try and push it through by sending out the notice just weeks before the meeting so most homeowners don't have time to reply or comment. The system isn't that old and was forced on us to begin with. We were forced to install meters and remove our double back flow preventers Irrigation: Their proposed rate increase for base rate is 50%. The per acre proposed increase is 110%. This by itself is a substantial increase. In comparison, KID charges 710 per acre which is 20% less than the proposed SVWW rate. So not only are we paying more already they want more! It makes one wonder if mismanagement isn't the issue. Domestic water: Their proposed monthly base rate increase for 3/4" service implemented over the next 13 months is 29% with a 40% increase on the usage rate over the same time period. If you compare this to the city of Kennewick which charges a base rate of 67.59 per two months (33.80 per month) which is a higher rate for customers outside the city limits. Their consumption rate >100 cubic feet is 3.848 (about on par with proposed SVWW proposal). Which tells me that current SVWW base rate is already 30% higher than the current city of Kennewick base rate. Once again it makes one wonder if mismanagement isn't the issue. Lee Schmitt
	Sarah McCalmant	E-mail	I am speaking out against Summit View Water Works' (SVWW) proposed new rate increases for our community. As a customer, our current irrigation rate (1 acre) is $750/year; the proposal would jump our rate to a whopping $1370 – an 82% increase! Base rate for domestic water currently sits at $57 and they are proposing to jump it to $76 – a 32% increase! Less than a year ago we were here for the same issue. SVWW requested a rate hike of 31% for irrigation and 21% for domestic water (something that seems almost reasonable considering their most recent outlandish request). These requests follow an already successful bid to increase rates by 30%+ in 2019. This is a pervasive and disturbing pattern that SVWW has continued to levy against our neighborhood knowing full-well we are at the mercy of their monopoly. They hold our backs against the wall and repeatedly ask for increasingly inflated rates rather than requesting reasonable rate hikes consistent with other inflation. SVWW owner, Kirk Rathbun, is a board member for several other irrigation companies as well as land development companies. In fact, this corporation actually services water to land that he owns and is developing. Our current water rates are already 20% higher than local Kennewick Irrigation District (KID) rates – of which Mr. Rathbun is a VP and financial advisor. KID irrigation rates are $626/year for 1 acre, but has various caps for larger parcels of land: up to 8 acres is capped at $1097/year and over 8 acres is capped at $129/acre. Referencing our personal finances, this means we could water the equivalent of 10 acres on KID vs 1 acre on SVWW at these new rates! SVWW advertises on their website that "our current demand is adequately met within our water system plan. We will be prepared to meet additional demands as we reach full build-out of these phases in the coming years." If current demand is met, why are consumers being asked to take on additional risk and finance

			additional phases of homes that don't exist? SVWW is asking homeowners to take on the financial risk of future development, something that is purely a business risk beholden to SVWW, not its consumers. This proposed increase would garner over $500k in extra revenue per year. By saying needs are met and that there are no current projects for us to even fund, the only logical conclusion is that SVWW is using this money to line their pockets. Kirk Rathbun has repeatedly targeted our neighborhood and continues to try and strong-arm homeowners into paying for business ventures that should be absorbed by the company, not the users. He wants us to pay rates that far exceed any other in our larger community and we have no guarantee that this monopoly won't keep coming for us and asking for larger and larger increases in the years, or even months, for personal gain. They have already demonstrated they are not afraid to punish homeowners by demanding higher rates after we came together as a community last year to denounce their last round of ridiculous requests. Regulated utilities are allowed increases which are "fair, just, and reasonable" - an increase of this amount is none of those. Poor management, an inattention to billing services, the need for possible future development, and failure to raise rates on an annual basis by a smaller percentage should not mean homeowners are coerced into bleeding money for SVWW. The economy is struggling, homeowners are struggling, and corporations like this should not be allowed to monopolize and take advantage of its customers. SVWW has not adequately demonstrated their need for these exorbitant rates. There is ZERO transparency with this company. Homeowners are stuck - we can't leave, we can't not pay, we can't live without water. This is a monopoly of the worst kind. Please consider what is reasonable for our community and what is "reasonably" needed for SVWW to continue its operation. Sarah McCalmant
	Jeff Banning	E-mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT Please submit my comments in the attached PDF document for Docket UW-240589. I am a customer of Summit View Water Works and have concerns about their recent rate increase request. Thank you, Jeff Banning
	Jane Mercure	E-mail	A neighbor far better at math than me has made a very clear and specific argument against this outrageous proposal from Summit View. I assume others have passed along her numbers but they certainly bear repeating. Irrigation: SVWW is proposing a 50% increase for the base rate and a per acre increase of 110%. Inflation has hit small business and consumers alike but this is an indefensible increase.

			Domestic: SVWW is proposing a monthly base rate increase over the next 13 months of 29% and a usage rate increase of 40%. For comparison, Kennewick Irrigation charges 20% less than the proposed SVWW proposal and the city of Kennewick charges domestic water users 30% less than SVWW charges currently and SVWW wants to increase that base rate by 29%.!!! Based on inflation SVWW is entitled to increase it's fees but not without limit or explanation. Please deny this request. Thank you, Jane Mercure
	Greg Trim	E-mail	I received a letter stating that my Irrigation costs are increasing from $343.00 per season to $514.50 per season. I'm on a fixed income. I can't comprehend an increase of this magnitude on my current bills! I don't see how that can be justified by all the current members to have to pay this large of and increase (67%). I can understand costs and availability for irrigation water increasing for residential and commercial farms. I suggest for residential changes – hold the current price for 3 years to complete landscape changes to eliminate the need for irrigation. Another possibility would be to increase the 67% over a 3-year period with a termination of irrigation for residential systems by August 2034. Irrigation commercial farms should be priced based on a modernization plan and implementing the plan over the next 10 years that will drastically reduce wasted water. This would need to be measurable with incentives or nothing will get done. Residential irrigation should have a termination date of 10 years. Thanks, Greg Trim
	Dan Stevens	E-mail	I am writing this email to oppose the proposed rate increase requested by Summit View Water Works. I understand everything goes up due to inflation and costs. The proposed increase is approximately 50%. Our Social Security raise is estimated at 2%. I know they need to raise rates to keep a reliable water supply but it should not be this large. Please consider reducing the proposed rate increase to make it more affordable for those of us on fixed incomes. Thank You

			Dan Stevens
	Kieth Hobart	E-mail	I am writing in regards to massive proposed rate increase in our irrigation water. This increase is exorbitant and don't understand how they can justify increasing it this much. I am vehemently opposed to this rate increase and would appreciate it if you guys shut it down.
	Jacob Bredt	E-mail	Summit View Water Works LLC is proposing to increase our irrigation costs by over 109%, raising the rate from $408.24 per acre to $855.90 per acre, without providing any transparency on why such an exorbitant increase is necessary. This kind of price hike is unprecedented and unjustified, particularly during a period of high inflation. While it is understandable that there may be some legitimate operating expenses that could warrant a modest increase of 5-10%, a 109% increase is entirely unacceptable and cannot be justified by standard business costs. The government should be focusing on mitigating corporate-driven inflation, not allowing such extreme price increases under a regulated monopoly. This kind of astronomical price hike places an enormous economic burden on consumers, who are already struggling with rising costs in other areas and have no alternative options due to the forced monopoly. Such drastic increases will only further strain our communities and families, exacerbating the financial pressures many are already facing. Allowing a regulated entity to impose such a significant increase is not only harmful but also represents poor public policy. It's imperative that any rate adjustments be reasonable and justified, especially when consumers have no choice but to comply. Thanks, Jacob Bredt Attorney
	Alysha Johnson	E-mail	Hello - Last time the irrigation base rate increase was about 31% spread over 4 years. Now they are asking for 50% over a 2 year span. The per acre rate increase last time was 26% and now it's over 110%, again over a 2 year span. The domestic water rate increase requested went up as well. I strongly oppose this request of an even higher increase over a shorter span and the request does not seem comparable with other water companies in the area. Thanks,

			Alysha Johnson
	Cathie Carter	E-mail	I understand costs for everything have gone up which would also presumably affect costs associated with operation of the SVWW domestic and irrigation water systems. However, the SVWW rate increase proposals seem excessive and SVWW has provided absolutely no explanation as to why these increases are necessary. Below is some background information for comparison. Irrigation: their proposed rate increase for base rate is 50%. The per acre proposed increase is 110%. For comparison, KID charges $710 per acre which is 20% less than the proposed SVWW rate. Domestic water: their proposed monthly base rate increase for 3/4" service implemented over the next 13 months is 29% with a 40% increase on the usage rate over the same time period. For comparison, the city of kennewick charges a base rate of 67.59 per two months (33.80 per month) which is a higher rate for customers outside the city limits (which I used for comparison purposes). Their consumption rate >100 cubic feet is 3.848 (about on par with proposed SVWW proposal). So it looks like the current SVWW base rate is already 30% higher than the current city of kennewick base rate. I don't believe significant cost increases such as these should be approved. Thank you, Cathie Harpe
	Uel Hansen	E-mail	To the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), Summit View Water Works LLC, based in Kennewick Washington, has applied to the UTC for a rate increase. I am a homeowner who will be affected by the rate increase. I am also a business owner in Kennewick Washington. As a business owner, I have felt significant inflationary pressures in the post-COVID era, particularly in personnel costs. Of course, commodities and equipment costs have also increased. However, I estimate that those increases have been around 25%. Summit View Water Works LLC has proposed a per acre increase of 109% above the current rate. This does not seem justifiable and feels like a 'money grab.' Please also note the disproportionate 50% increase in the base rate compared to the 109% increase in the per acre rate. The per acre rate should be lower [in relative increase] than the base rate as it one pipe that brings the water to my property. There should be a relative savings per acre, not an increase.

			Thank you for considering my objection to these requested increases by Summit View Water Works. Uel Hansen
	Peter Wilhelm	E-mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT
	Greg Trim	E-mail	I received a letter stating that my Irrigation costs are increasing from $343.00 per season to $514.50 per season. I'm on a fixed income. I can't comprehend an increase of this magnitude on my current bills! I don't see how that can be justified by all the current members to have to pay this large of and increase (67%). I can understand costs and availability for irrigation water increasing for residential and commercial farms. I suggest for residential changes – hold the current price for 3 years to complete landscape changes to eliminate the need for irrigation. Another possibility would be to increase the 67% over a 3-year period with a termination of irrigation for residential systems by August 2034. Irrigation commercial farms should be priced based on a modernization plan and implementing the plan over the next 10 years that will drastically reduce wasted water. This would need to be measurable with incentives or nothing will get done. Residential irrigation should have a termination date of 10 years. Thanks, Greg Trim gotrim@msn.com Kennewick Wa
	Chelsea Watson	Web	
	Randy Loyd	Web	This comment is in opposition to the request from Summit View Water Works LLC to increase domestic and irrigation rates. The proposed rate for base rate for irrigation is an increase of 50% with an increase per acre of approximately 110%. The last increase requested, which was rejected just last year, was 26% and 30% for irrigation. The rate increase for Domestic water rates is an increase of 29% for Base rate and an increase in usage rates of 40%.

			Just in base rates the increase rate is a projected $116,000 for irrigation and $7,600 for Domestic. Again this is based on just the base rates. If all lots were 1/2 acre lots, which is on the small side, the increase in income is over $300,000 for irrigation. If Summit View Water Works was requesting an increase which was more reasonable, 5% or less, I would not be opposed to the rate increase.
	Jaclyn Fitzgerald	Web	The increase they are asking is well over the cost of inflation making our area pay 30% more than other areas.
	Elver Robbins	Web	We are strongly opposed to the proposed Summit View Water Works (SVWW) rate increase. We already pay more than we paid for water through Badger Mountain Irrigation District (BMID) and had more consistent service with BMID. The SVWW rate increase is intended to make the company more attractive to other companies for the purpose of a sale or merger, with the Summit View homeowners bearing the burden of the increased cost.
	Justin Forman	Web	54% increase is to much
	Shelley Brinkley	Web	
	John & Michele Farthing	Web	I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed rate changes for both irrigation and domestic water services from Summit View Water Works, LLC. The planned increase of $395 (for a 0.5-acre lot) in the irrigation rate for 2024 is particularly troubling. Additionally, the proposed increase of over $30 per month for domestic water over the next two years is also a significant concern. To provide some context, the Badger Mountain Irrigation District (BMID) currently charges approximately $140 less for their irrigation season compared to Summit View Water Works. This disparity is substantial and raises questions about the necessity and justification for such a large increase. Similarly, the planned increase in domestic water rates will have a considerable impact on my household budget. I believe that such significant increases in a relatively short period are excessive and place an undue financial burden on customers. I urge you to consider more moderate increases that align better with the current economic conditions and competitive pricing from other districts. Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I look forward to your response and hope for a resolution that considers both the needs of the service provider and the financial impact on your customers.

	Michelle Herrin	Web	Unfair increase in water usage prices.
	Nicholas Baird	Web	I oppose the rate increase that Summit View Water Works is proposing. Summit View Water work is proposing a 50% base rate increase and a 100%+ per acre rate. This rate increase is going to put a burden on many households. With high inflation and the cost of living so high, this is going to be an additional burden. In addition, its unclear what additional costs the company has incurred that warrants such a large increase. I would also like to know what Summit View Water Works has done to be more efficient and cut costs to save us, the customer, money. Please take this into consideration when deciding to deny this request. Thank you!
	Michael	Web	I understand that items are going up in price around the world. However, the neighborhood has increased the amount of people living here and paying into the water service. What is the reason for the huge increase projected? Each person paid a connection fee already. The pumps are already paid for and just need to be maintained. Also, the office can't even tell me where the water is coming from (which well). What is the difference between drinking water and irrigation water? For wanting a premium price they don't offer a premium service. KID doesn't even charge that much for irrigation water that I have on another property. What is their deficit from this year if they need such an increase? No statements or evidence has been provided and the office provides no help either.
	Uel Hansen	Web	To the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), Summit View Water Works LLC, based in Kennewick Washington, has applied to the UTC for a rate increase. I am a homeowner who will be affected by the rate increase. I am also a business owner in Kennewick Washington. As a business owner, I have felt significant inflationary pressures in the post-COVID era, particularly in personnel costs. Of course, commodities and equipment costs have also increased. However, I estimate that those increases have been around 25%. Summit View Water Works LLC has proposed a per acre increase of 109% above the current rate. This does not seem justifiable and feels like a 'money grab.' Please also note the disproportionate 50% increase in the base rate compared to the 109% increase in the per acre rate. The per acre rate should be lower [in relative increase] than the base rate as it one pipe that brings the water to my property. There should be a relative savings per acre, not an increase. Thank you for considering my objection to these requested increases by Summit View Water Works. Uel Hansen 73203 E Sundown PRSE

			Kennewick WA 99338
	Jose Atilano	Web	/4/2024 Subject: Opposition to the Proposed 82.4% Base Rate Increase for Irrigation Dear Commissioners, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 82.4% base rate increase for irrigation services. As a resident of Washington and a stakeholder in the well-being of our community and environment, I am deeply concerned about the significant financial burden this increase would place on individuals, families, and businesses that rely on irrigation for their livelihood and daily operations. This proposed increase is exorbitant and would have far-reaching negative impacts. Agricultural businesses, which are the backbone of our local economy, would be particularly hard-hit. The increased costs could lead to higher prices for consumers, reduced agricultural production, and potentially even the loss of jobs within our community. Furthermore, many residents who maintain gardens and small-scale agricultural projects for personal and community benefit would be disproportionately affected. In addition to the economic consequences, the proposed rate hike would discourage sustainable water usage practices. Higher costs could lead residents and businesses to cut back on essential irrigation, potentially harming crops, gardens, and landscapes. This could also undermine efforts to promote local food production and environmental stewardship. I urge the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to reconsider this proposal and seek alternative solutions that balance the need for adequate funding for our utility services with the financial realities faced by consumers. We must explore more equitable ways to address funding shortfalls without placing undue strain on our community. Thank you for considering my concerns. I hope the Commission will take into account the significant negative impacts this rate increase would have and work towards a more reasonable and sustainable approach. Sincerely, Jose Atilano
	Julie Lynn Worley	Web	The proposed increase in rate for the 2025 Irrigation Season is completely unreasonable. I believe it will be a tremendous hardship for residents to have their annual per acre rate increase from $408.24 to $855.90 in one year. With inflation and increased prices across the board for essentials, it is unreasonable for this large of an

			increase in one year, especially on a product the residents have no choice but to use and with a company has a monopoly on the product. What are we supposed to do? Quit watering our lawns? This is not an option. I respectfully request that this steep of an increase be not approved at the commission meeting on August 29.
	Jessica marshall	Web	At first I was like okay… everyone is doing rate increases but after calculating an increase that was just done a few years ago this is a huge increase… this isn't just the "normal" 2-3 percent typical increase. I know SVWW tries to paint itself as a "mom-and-pop" business, but they certainly aren't looking out for our community and are obviously willing to exploit us in order to make $$$. They are wanting to extend for future growth is a business risk that they take on knowing that they will benefit in the future and are simply trying to pawn off that expense to current users; it's not our job to take on their business risks. After calculation, our current irrigation rate is a little over $775 - it would jump to over $1370..... Again, a reasonable request for inflation is one thing, but this is ridiculous. SVWW is way too extreme in this request. Please deny this request
	Brianne Forman	Web	The increase is well over the price of other companies and market value. It should be a fair increase, if one at all, since we already pay more than other companies.
	Jason Davis	Web	Summit View is again trying to raise rates where we already pay more for water than other providers. The previous rate increases that have already been approved in 2020 (according to summit view ww) exceeded the local rates (currently) and the request to almost double rates again is unreasonable. Please consider my comment and reject the unreasonable increase.
	Jeff Blank	Web	For irrigation, their proposed rate increase is ~50%. The per acre proposed increase is 110%. For domestic water, their proposed monthly base rate increase for 3/4" service implemented over the next 13 months is 29% with a 40% increase on the usage rate over the same time period. These rates are at least 30% higher than other municipal vendors. A gradual increase to account for inflation and other rising costs is to be expected. However, these rate increases are unscrupulous and are attempting to gouge the residents of Summit View. Please disapprove their proposal.
	Don Girvin	Web	The proposed rate increases for both irrigation and domestic water would result in significantly higher rates than are current in other water districts in the Tri-Cities. I am OPPOSED to such a large rate increases for both irrigation and domestic water proposed by Summit View Water Works (SVWW). Irrigation water: The SVWW proposed irrigation water base + per acre rate represents a single year hike of 82% or a 16.5% hike per year since their last rate hike in 2020. This is unjustifiable. For my 1/2 acre, my yearly irrigation water cost is now $547 compared to the Badger Mountain Irrigation District (BMID) 1/2 acre + base rate of $405. My SVWW rate per 1/2 acre is 35% higher than BMID and SVWW wants to raise my

			cost to $943 per 1/2 acre. Unjustifiable ! Domestic water: The SVWW hike of 26% the first year and 11% the second year is a 26% increase in 2 years is also excessive. Bottom Line: I am not opposed to reasonable rate hikes reflecting inflation, however I consider the proposed SVWW rate hike to be unreasonable ! Additionally SVWW provides no reason to customers for such large increases. If SVWW is attempting to justify such large rate increases on planned infrastructure expansion to serve an increased customer base then in my opinion they should not try to raise money for expansion on the backs of existing customers. Other methods exist for capital investment financing to provide water to new homes being built where it is assumed that SVWW will supply domestic and irrigation water.
	Jessica Quigley	Web	SVWW is a mismanaged company at best and more likely criminal upon investigation. SVWW is run by developers that personally profited from land development in this community and are now trying to forward the cost of their development to homeowners that are now held hostage to their poor planning. Costs rising is a normal economic phenomenon, and should be anticipated by both businesses and consumers. However, doubling the cost of a commoditized product points to more than just the normal increase of operational costs. This proposal is unethical and wreaks of dishonesty and greed. Innocent beholden existing property owners should not be responsible for the choices of corrupt SVWW decision makers.
	Josh Herrin	Web	
	James and Vicki Moore	Web	Rate increase request is outrageous percentage for base rate is 50% and the per acre charge is 110%. In this economic times this is not the time to gouge customers. Please DO NOT allow these increases as they are unacceptable. Thank you.
	John Ellis	Web	Over the past few years they have been increasing prices with the claim that it's just a one time change, however we're receiving a 50% increase in price for irrigation, which only runs 4-6 months of the year. It seems like a monopoly to only have one option for water and have it hit our incomes this much.
	Sonja Yearsley	Web	I am writing to formally express my objection to the recent rate increase for irrigation services. As a long-time customer, I have always valued the quality of your services, but I find the new rates to be excessive and not competitive in the current market. After comparing rates with another local irrigation company, I discovered that their rates are significantly lower than the newly proposed rates from Summit View Water Works. While I understand the need for occasional rate adjustments to account for rising operational costs, the magnitude of this increase is disproportionate and places an undue financial burden on customers. I urge you to reconsider this rate hike and propose a more reasonable and fair adjustment. Maintaining competitive pricing is crucial for retaining customer loyalty and ensuring equitable access to essential services.

			Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response and hope we can reach a mutually satisfactory resolution.
	Kelley Welsh	Web	The increased home and irrigation water rates are way too large of an increase, it's understandable to increase rates a small amount each year or a reasonable amount after a number of years without increase. There is no way the company has made the current rate work for multiple years and now suddenly they need double the income to provide the same services.
	Lisa Smith	Web	Summit View Water Works is trying to increase our rates by over 25% in two years! I understand some basic rate increases but this is a lot for families to cover in a short amount of time.
	Clint Smith	Web	The 50% increase is ridiculous. How about a moderate increase and not push everyone out of the area. Our mortgage rates increased as well.
	Shannon Dyer	Web	We already pay more than most other water services around us and you are wanting to raise it more. I strongly oppose this!!
	Jacob Bredt	Web	They are proposing to increase our irrigation costs by over 109%, raising the rate from $408.24 per acre to $855.90 per acre, without providing any transparency on why such an exorbitant increase is necessary. This kind of price hike is unprecedented and unjustified, particularly during a period of high inflation. While it is understandable that there may be some legitimate operating expenses that could warrant a modest increase of 5-10%, a 109% increase is entirely unacceptable and cannot be justified by standard business costs. The government should be focusing on mitigating corporate-driven inflation, not allowing such extreme price increases under a regulated monopoly. This kind of astronomical price hike places an enormous economic burden on consumers, who are already struggling with rising costs in other areas and have no alternative options due to the forced monopoly. Such drastic increases will only further strain our communities and families, exacerbating the financial pressures many are already facing. Allowing a regulated entity to impose such a significant increase is not only harmful but also represents poor public policy. It’s imperative that any rate adjustments be reasonable and justified, especially when consumers have no choice but to comply.
	Danielle Clapp	Web	The proposed rate increase for domestic water services is a reasonable and necessary step to maintain the quality and reliability of the water supply and we fully support this request. These modest increases are aligned with the need to fund ongoing maintenance and ensure that the water system can continue to meet current demands efficiently. However, the over 100% increase in irrigation water rates is difficult to support, particularly when the system already meets current demands. Their proposed capital expansions, including an additional well, a new irrigation pond, and potential partnerships with BMID and KID, are geared toward future growth rather than addressing any immediate shortfall or cost overruns. Since the Water System Plan confirms that existing infrastructure is sufficient for current needs, such a dramatic rate hike seems excessive and could unnecessarily strain the budgets of those relying on irrigation water. A more measured approach to funding future expansions would be more appropriate, especially when the system currently operates efficiently within

			its current capacity.
	Robert Moore	Web	The proposed rate increase will make our domestic water higher than our other local water providers. This will also make our irrigation water the highest in the area as well. This would put a financial strain on area families.
	Mark Brown	Web	We are not in favor of the proposed Irrigation rate increase as requested by SVWW. A reasonable increase that follows the normal rate of inflation and cost of living would be acceptable, but the proposed 50% base rate increase and 110% per acre increase is beyond extreme. The current rates are already higher than the City of Kennewick, City of Richland and BMID. We understand the need for a rate increase and could support a more reasonable increase, however, what is proposed is extremely unreasonable. Thank you Mark Brown/Spring Wathen 86506 E Calico Rd
	Lisa Rienstra	Web	The proposed increase is incredulous and absolutely out of line! There are no such costs associated with their operations that can justify a 50% base rate increase for irrigation water. The per acre increase is 110% . Then for domestic water it is a 29% base rate increase with a 40% for increase usage rate. We are already higher than KID - I am pretty familiar with the irrigation and waterworks industry and I do not see what could justify this kind of increase. Are we paying for the infrastructure needed for the 5 acre ranchettes that are suppose to be built in the hill??? That should be their problem and part of that negotiation for the purchase of that property and it's development, not ours.
	Beverly Homestead	Web	To whom it may concern: There is a proposal to double the cost of our irrigation pricing in 2025. I would ask that the utilities and transportation commission consider not to do that at this time when everyone is struggling to even pay monthly mortgages and monthly living expenses. During this time it would put a hardship and strain on families in our area, so I ask you please consider this when making your decision. Thank you for your consideration at this time. Beverly Homestead
	Troy Mandeville	Web	Greetings - Summit View Water Works in Kennewick has proposed a rate increase for both domestic and irrigation water. I am whole heartedly opposed to the rate increases for many reasons. They have given no reason for such increases other than "increases in operating expenses", and then don't list what those increases are. There is a neighboring irrigation district (Badger Mountain Irrigation District) which has rates that are considerably less that what SVWW currently charges. In fact, if the proposed rates were approved, our rates would be roughly three times what our neighbors down the road are paying for the same water. This would be for both drinking water AND irrigation water. The proposed rates from SVWW are way more than the rate of inflation over the past few years. Their proposed "base rate" for irrigation water is a 50% increase, and their proposed "per acre rate" is a whopping 109.6%! There are many people in this area that are already struggling to survive in this economy, and adding this much to a bill we have no choice but to pay is going to hurt a lot of

			people. Please deny their request to raise rates. Thank you.
	Grace Borland	Web	The proposed rates are almost double the current rates. While I understand there is inflation, this seems absolutely ridiculous and unsubstantiated.
	Devon Reese	Web	This is an extreme price hike that would make us almost the most expensive in our area. The service they provide has not increased nor have they done anything to justify a price hike.
	Kim Seljestad	Web	The increase is absolutely ridiculous
	Jamie Eder	Web	This increase seems excessive and almost double for irrigation. We continually have low pressure. The increase should be gradual increase like everything else.
	LeJoyce Jones	Web	The proposed rates seem excessive at 66% for the base rate and more than double for the per acre rate. With all the new homes that have been added to the system their revenues should have increased significantly. if the costs of these new homes increased their expenses this much they should have been passed on to the builders and not the existing customers. Is there any way to implement a senior discount if these rates go into effect??
	David Smith	Web	This is the second increase in a row that disproportionately impacts the homeowners with larger yards. This represents a 92% increase for our 2-acre lot and a 72% increase for the newer homes with 1/2-acre lots. My wife and I (and several neighbors) built our modest homes by ourselves 15 years ago. This proposed assessment of over $2,200 per year for irrigation will be a financial burden too high for many of us in our neighborhood. I am also concerned that raising prices for the consumers may not be the correct solution. BMID provides irrigation water to our "fence neighbors". BMID currently provides irrigation water for $230 per acre plus the $290 connection fee. This is almost $1,500 less than the proposed Summit View fee. Please evaluate if these increases to the existing consumers are fair or if more of the burden needs to be put on the homes being constructed (or cost cutting measures). Also, please evaluate if these high acreage fees are fair. Thanks, Dave
	Joshua McKenzie	Web	Raising the base rate 50% in one year, regardless of past behaviors is unreasonable and exorbitant. Had they been raising our rates by an average of 4% per year (average rate of inflation) from 2020-2024, the base rate

			would be $417.31 in 2025, not the proposed $514.5. The per acre rate adjustment is downright criminal - a 150% increase in one year is ridiculous. Not only will that harm consumer pocketbooks, but it will also hurt home values for our homes when buyers begin to steer clear of residences with acreage in our district due to burdensome irrigation charges. As a comparison, KID charges $710 per acre, which is 17% less. However, going from $408 to $856 in one year is way too much of an increase. Using inflation as a meaasure for adjustment from 2020-today, the rate should only increase from $408 to $496. For many residences who are sitting on one acre lots, the proposed irrigation bill would be $1370, up from $751. If SVWW needs to make up some ground from past years, that's understandable, maybe a 8% increase per year for a few years, but an 84% combines increase in one year is absurd. I am strongly against this unreasonable increase. I believe you will see people start to move out of this area if the district continues down this road. Between taxes and irrigation, it just isn't good for the community.
	Stephanie Amos	Web	We strongly disagree with the proposed rate increase. When we moved in our home 17 years ago we were allowed to water any time we wished, then we were told to water every other day, all while paying the same rate for 50% less watering time. This proposed increase is over 50% of our current rate. Vote NO!
	Cindy powell	Web	I feel the increase is excessive. They tried it a year ago and it was denied. Now they are doubling down. This is beyond ridiculous. Enough is enough. If it were a reasonable increases I would understand.
	Jamie Eder	Web	This increase seems excessive and almost double for irrigation. We continually have low pressure. The increase should be gradual increase like everything else.
	Nicole Hammond	Web	Regarding the SVWW notice of rate increases: Irrigation: their proposed rate increase for base rate is 50%. The per acre proposed increase is 110%. I understand everything costs more these days but these are substantial increases. For comparison, KID charges 710 per acre which is 20% less than the proposed SVWW rate. Domestic water: their proposed monthly base rate increase for 3/4" service implemented over the next 13 months is 29% with a 40% increase on the usage rate over the same time period. For comparison, the city of kennewick charges a base rate of 67.59 per two months (33.80 per month) which is a higher rate for customers outside the city limits (which I used for comparison purposes). Their consumption rate >100 cubic feet is 3.848 (about on par with proposed SVWW proposal). So it looks like the current SVWW base rate is already 30% higher than the current city of kennewick base rate.
	Greg Boals	Web	I just purchased a home in the Summit View district in the last 4 months. Budgeting for utilities is part of my normal process. I had no idea that rates could increase so drastically. I fully understand that rate increases occur and are needed in times of inflation. Having approximately a 27% increase in two years will negatively effect all users significantly. I also know of no infrastructure updates that will have an impact on current users. This is a huge increase that doesn't have justification that has been disclosed to user-customers.
	Anthony	Web	SVWW is trying to increase our irrigation rates by almost 100%! It would cost us about $1k to water our 1/2

	Smith		acre that only has limited grass. They need to meter irrigation water if they want to charge more.
	Chad D Whiting	Web	The increase price is higher than all other water companies in our area Also it is higher than inflation. This is price gouging they do not do any extra work to make things better at all and all neighbors are really upset and this company should not beable to just willi nilli raise prices this much it's like we are all hostages.
	Gerald Presby	Web	The requested rate increase proposed by this utility is far in excess of reasonable even with the recent high inflation rate. The new rates would be very difficult to afford for us as senior citizens, even when using the very minimum amount of water we do. There are no senior citizen discounts available and we believe an increase of this level is unjustified compared to other regional utilities.
	Katy Isley	Web	Summit View Water Works has done a rate increase of almost double of their already overpriced irrigation/domestic water. We are new to the neighborhood and moved just a short 3miles from our previous neighborhood. We were shocked to receive our first water bill where the rate had already increased double from Badger Mountain Irrigation District. This increase is shocking and seems to be exorbitant.
	emily a turner	Web	The proposed rate increase is extremely high. Definitely oppose this raise in rate.
	Frank J & H. Suzette Sullivan	Web	SVWW has proposed a substantial rate increase for irrigation water. Recognizing that costs of goods and services have steadily raised since the previous increase in 2020, the amount proposed is remarkedly steep. I ask that the commission conduct a thorough review of the actual costs incurred and not just forecasted impacts to the company. A rate increase is not unwarranted; double current costs seem unduly heavy. Frank Sullivan
	Alicia English	Web	The proposed increase is ridiculous. It more than doubles irrigation costs.
	Ryan	Web	I have been with SVWW since 2016 and have seen the irrigation rates be raised consistently each year almost doubling. My concern is this company will continue raise rates on both domestic water and irrigation. We would be one of the highest in cost per our region if this passes.
	Frank Raine	Web	Above the base fees, many homeowners in our community have pools and ponds which bring in addditional revenue to SVWW. This additional revenue does not cost them any more installation, maintenance or service fees. Their request for increase on the domestic and irrigation is more than double.
	Rita Whiting	Web	It’s way above others in our area as well as inflation
	Sherry Lynch	Web	The water quality and pressure is HORRIBLE. THE RATES ARE ALREADY TOO HIGH!!
	Kirk Engle	Web	While not opposed to raising rates a little, by comparison, they are already charging more than comparable irrigation and domestic water services from the local city municipal utility. Additionally, the other local utility

			does more pretreatment to the domestic. Again, I'm not opposed to a small increase but the proposed increases, from initial calculations are 50% higher on base irrigation rate with over 100% higher on rate per acre. Domestic appears to be over 40%. Given current inflation, I would be fine with a cap at 10-15% rate increase. Thank you for your time.
	Lance	Web	Re: Increase in domestic and irrigation water services – Summit View Water Works, LLC (SVWW) Kennewick, Wa. 99338 I am writing once again to express my concern and disapproval over the recent proposed rate increases to the domestic and irrigation water service in Kennewick, Washington by Summit View Water Works, LLC (SVWW). There was a huge rate proposed not too long ago that I expressed concerned about even back then. Much of what I expressed since the last exorbitant price increase proposed by SVWW still holds true. I have been living in the SVWW district since January of 2016. Since my family's occupancy in 2016, the domestic water base and overage range rates have significantly increased. Irrigation rates have also increase significantly. Since then there has been continuous rate increase almost annually it seems. The increases are usually large such that SVWW has to spread them over many years to not shock the community. Rate increases in 2018 were relatively large even though they were spread out over the 3-year period. They are now proposing a two-year rate increase on domestic services that are in excess of 29% in total. Even more concerning, they want to raise the irrigation prices to almost double in a single year. This is almost a 200% increase from the original prices in 2016 ($467.00). For what? I just cannot comprehend these huge proposed increases. This time SVWW did not even site the reasons for the increase beside "increases in operating expenses". To my knowledge there has not been increased capacities nor is there ever any transparencies about the significant proposed increases. To be fair I don't have the yearly breakdown to submit here but would encourage the WUTC to look at the rate increases over the last 10 years to evaluate this request for rate increase approval from SVWW. With all this said, I fully understand the rise in cost for most everything coming out of the recent inflation the last few years. I truly get it. The continued increases are troubling along with how high the increases typically are. However, the continued and proposed huge rate increases for domestic and irrigation water, which is part of a budgeted process in many if not all households, has far lasting impacts than the rise of everyday items that can be avoided and mitigated. These costs have a big impact on family's in this community and the significant rise in costs proposed should be looked into for a way to try and help with mitigation and keeping costs as low as possible. Apologies for the later response than intended but these proposed rate increase notices were just sent out 31 July with not much time to respond for busy households. Thank you for the consideration.
	Marc Fouts	Web	Once again it appears Summit View water has decided to get greedy. Proposed rates are excessive when compared to other local utilities.

			City of Kennewick $30 compared the Summit view proposed $92 in 2 years. Kennewick irrigation $600 per acre, Columbia Irrigation $500, and Summit View $855. Over 20% increases for household water and doubling the irrigation! As a retiree on a fixed income these forced increases with no options except to move seem out of line. With Social Security increasing at maybe a 4% rate there is no way I can keep up. Thank you Marc Fouts
	Tony Ashton	Web	This rate hike is excessive and is not comparable to the surrounding area.
	Rovianne Pasicaran	Web	Price increase is too much.
	Donna Taylor	Web	SVWW has tried this outrageous rate increase I really feel they are doing this so they can say we didn't get the increase we asked for on more than one occasion so we need to sell to KID(Kennewick Irrigation District) I do not trust them. When they sold the lots instead of first upgrading the system they came to us to reduce our water usage. This was not due to the water availability this was due to the lack of infrastructure set up so there was no pressure. These people are very successful developers and they are pushing the cost of their future developments onto existing customers that are already established and that is not fair for us. SVWW have senior water rights and are abusing their power for what we call basic human needs. The proposed rate increase would make us the highest rate in our area by a minimum of 30%. Please I beg you to deny this request by SVWW in both water and irrigation for the 50% increases. A look at other local water companies will show that this increase in over reach and greed. Please look into the owners and their future developments you will see they have tried these tactics several times before, pushing the cost of developing future neighborhood onto the existing customers.
	Mark & Marion Halupczok	Web	We are opposed to the increase in both Domestic and Irrigation water rate proposed by Summit View Water Works. We would like to see exactly where the increase cost are generated from. The area served by Summit View Water Works (SVWW) is exploding with development. We the long term home owners should not be responsible for the infrastructure to the new housing developments. We are not aware of any major issues with the water delivery systems that would result in the proposed higher costs. Our irrigation costs are more than doubling under the proposal. Our domestic water would increase almost 30 percent. WHY? We are asked to curb our water usage only to have the rates increase. This doesn't make sense to these homeowners who are on a fixed income. Our feeling is that the New Homeowners and developers need to be paying for the

			increased needs of Summit View Water Works.
	Pamela Raine	Web	Our neighborhood has had a marked increase in the number of residents contributing to the SVWW. With that consideration, it would seem that the increase in fees to them would cover the expenses they are reporting.
	Lori Boyd	Web	I'm not opposed to a reasonable increase, but what they are proposing is crazy. I do not support this increase. All of the Neighboring water districts are currently considerably lower than SVWW. I do not support this increase.
	Rachael Davis	Web	The proposal to increase the irrigation water rates are extreme. Nearly doubling the base rate and more that doubling the per acre rate is ridiculous. I will not pay over a thousand dollars annually just to water my lawn! It is completely unreasonable and I would have to reconfigure my landscaping to adjust to these costs. Please do not increase the rates so high!
	Jeremy W Peck	Web	It is ridiculous that the company proposes over a 100% increase in per acre irrigation rate. We received a substantial increase in 2019 and 2020. I understand the need for a potential increase but a more resonable increase eg 5-10% would be much more palatable. Thank you.
	Rebecca Hammons	Web	I oppose the proposed rate increase.
	Randy Brockman	Web	I believe the rate increase proposal for Summit View Water Works is considerably higher than other Utilities in our Area. Their current rates are already higher than any Utility in the area. They are also charging for acreage that is not irrigable.
	Curtis D Docken Jr	Web	This rate increase is WAY too high! I understand prices and labor have risen in recent years but this percentage of increase is way out of line with those increases. If it were a 10% increase I would probably be a little upset but this increase is ridiculous and way out of line. I am against this proposal.
	Katie Beck	Web	This increase would make our water 30% higher than those around us. It is also a 50% raise in cost
	Steve Worley	Web	Doubling the annual fee for irrigation water is outrageous. I understand the need to raise rates occasionally, but double is way too much. Please deny their request and limit the increase to something more reasonable. Thank you.
	Robert R Fox	Web	SVWW although a decent and reliable irrigation service company is not entitled to a rate increase. Especially a 66% increase. That's absurd. Last time (less than a year ago) they wanted to jack up rates like this because they said postage stamps and US mail costs were to blame. Now they're stating operating costs "have gone up". They're just jumping on the band wagon. Show me the actual documentation supporting these increases. Listen folks, SVWW is able to pay their operating costs and overhead just fine. The owner, manager etc are doing good enough. Whether or not they provide a way to get water on our trees, shrubs and grass from the rivers or from the sky, it's God's water. Quit trying to get rich SVWW on a resource we people all have a right too. Quit trying to fleece your customers every year.

	Chris Herman	Web	I am not in favor of that large of rate hike.
	Kyle Gray	Web	These proposed rates hikes are double compared to what surrounding areas pay. This is absurd. This should be struck down immediately.
	Cathie Harpe	Web	I understand costs for everything have gone up which would also presumably affect costs associated with operation of the SVWW domestic and irrigation water systems. However, the SVWW rate increase proposals seem excessive and SVWW has provided absolutely no explanation as to why these increases are necessary. Below is some background information for comparison. Irrigation: their proposed rate increase for base rate is 50%. The per acre proposed increase is 110%. For comparison, KID charges $710 per acre which is 20% less than the proposed SVWW rate. Domestic water: their proposed monthly base rate increase for 3/4" service implemented over the next 13 months is 29% with a 40% increase on the usage rate over the same time period. For comparison, the city of kennewick charges a base rate of 67.59 per two months (33.80 per month) which is a higher rate for customers outside the city limits (which I used for comparison purposes). Their consumption rate >100 cubic feet is 3.848 (about on par with proposed SVWW proposal). So it looks like the current SVWW base rate is already 30% higher than the current city of kennewick base rate. I don't believe significant cost increases such as these should be approved.
	William Dramis	Web	Passing your costs on to existing customers is socialism I do not support this extreme price hike
	Katy Isley	Web	Summit View Water Works has done a rate increase of almost double of their already overpriced irrigation/domestic water. We are new to the neighborhood and moved just a short 3miles from our previous neighborhood. We were shocked to receive our first water bill where the rate had already increased double from Badger Mountain Irrigation District. This increase is shocking and seems to be exorbitant.
	Samantha Gray	Web	These new rates are very substantial and will significantly increase the amount we are paying per month. The irrigation rate alone will more than double for the per acre rate. We are already paying more than in people do in town and for some people this will break them. Please take into consideration the economy and the already skyrocketing costs homeowners are having to pay.