

COMMENT FORM FOR: VAUGHN HUNT - ID# 24722

Consumer Information		Contact Method <input checked="" type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> None
Name	VAUGHN HUNT	
Organization Company		
Address	41970 QUAIL RUN NORTH	
City, State, Zip Code	DAVENPORT WASHINGTON 99122	
Email	hunt0453@centurytel.net	
Primary Phone #	509-725-0453	Fax #
Secondary Phone #		

Comment Information		
Theme	Drastic Increase	Open Date 10/14/2010
Filing Support	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Undecided	Closed Date
Source	<input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> Phone <input checked="" type="radio"/> Web	Web Create Date 10/13/2010
Public Involvement Lead	Dennis Shutler	
Duplicate Comment	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
Description	<p>Dear Judge. We are very disappointed with this water company. Not sure who did the math but, my water rates will double. This will also put a dagger in the rates for the Golf Course. My faith in the UTC once again is diminished. They are so out of touch with our area. I wish you, and the UTC could see what it is doing and has done to our community. Our quality of life is in jeopardy and the west side of the state does not seem to care. I beg you to give this some more thought. To step back and do a road trip. Maybe bring some UTC board members with you. It is some beautiful country. Sincerely, Vaughn and Ruth Hunt</p>	
Attachments		

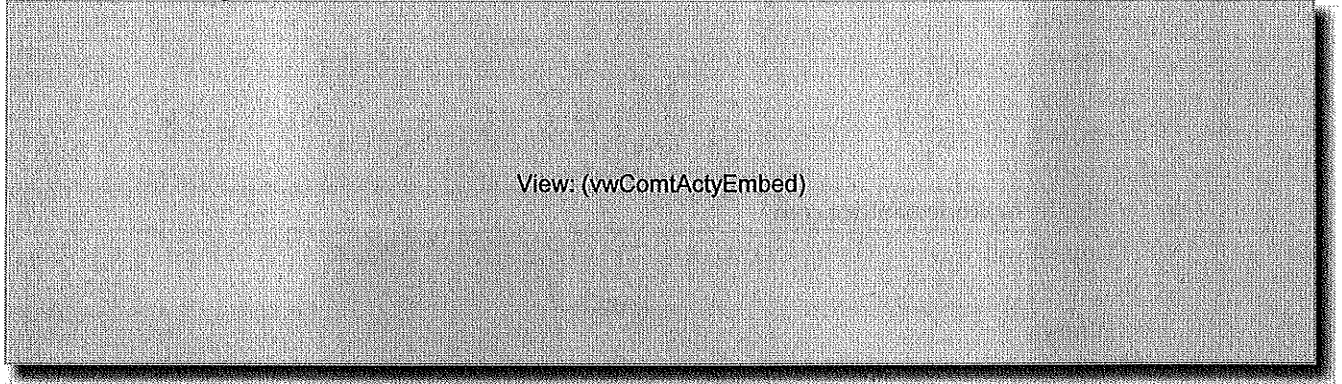
Issue Information	
Issue ID	422
Company	Deer Meadows Water Co., Inc.
Filing	100642
Staff	Jim Ward

Complaint Information	
Unresolved Complaint	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Complaint ID	

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Follow-Up Information		Other Follow-Up Information	
Follow-Up	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Other Follow-Up	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Follow-Up Staff		Other Follow-Up Staff	
Follow-Up Complete	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		

Activites For Vaughn Hunt



View: (vwComtActyEmbed)

COMMENT FORM FOR: WILLIAM E. JANOSKY - ID# 24183

Consumer Information	
	Contact Method <input checked="" type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> None
Name	WILLIAM E. JANOSKY
Organization Company	
Address City, State, Zip Code	
Email	baj@odessaoffice.com
Primary Phone #	Fax #
Secondary Phone #	

Comment Information	
Theme	Drastic Increase, Economic Conditions, Frequent Increases
Open Date	05/10/2010
Filing Support	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Undecided
Closed Date	
Source	<input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> Phone <input checked="" type="radio"/> Web
Web Create Date	
Public Involvement Lead	Dennis Shutler
Duplicate Comment	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Description	<p>Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Wa. 98504-7250 Docket #: UW-100642</p> <p>In regard to the purposed rate increase asked for by Deer Meadows Water Company. As lot owners in Deer Meadows, we feel that these proposed increases are totally ridiculous. Why should they even think about a raise when they just had one a year ago, and who in this economy has the gall to ask for 84% and 130% increase in anything. These raises are destroying our neighbor hood. The golf course, restaurant and motel are closed now, With the current economic stituation in this area, it may not be open in the near future. If this raise goes into effect, we will also have a lot of lot owners disconnect their water because of the cost of it just being on their lot. I question the amount they say they will be paying for taxes as well, property values have went way down in this area. I currently am unemployed and my husband has not had a raise for 5 years. This is a very economically depressed area and they want such a raise. Are they using this money for the water company and improvements? I have seen none except a couple fences around water tanks and buildings. I don't see why they should get a 10% raise in salary or that the customers should pay for all their benefits as well. I wish that I could just ask for 130% increase in what we make just because my car broke down or the septic</p>

overflowed. I would have it made!!!
 I hope the Utility Commission will study this proposal in depth before granting them any kind of a raise. This is going to be a real hardship on all the people that live in Deer Meadows.
 Sincerely,
 Mr. & Mrs. William E. Janosky
 Plat 1, Lot 22

 On 10/15/10, Mr wrote:
 To whom it may concern:
 We are writing again regarding the new proposed rates for Deer Meadows water. Again we feel these raises are way out of line. We live in a very dry and dangerous place to live in the summer time when it comes to fires. We all work very hard to keep some kind of green belt around our homes so that we can possibly save them in the event of a fire. When the water rates go from .46 cents to \$1.00 and \$1.60, it becomes impossible for us to keep our lawns and trees watered.
 It amazes me that with the economy, the jobless rate and the amount of retired people in this area, that government officials think we can keep paying more taxes and higher rates on everything. Unfortunately it is not just water rate increases that we deal with everyday. I think that you should consider this fact when deciding this issue and realize that we live in a very economically depressed area and that we do not live in a beautiful green area like the Westside does.
 I hope you will consider these things when deciding on this extreme rate increase.
 Sincerely,
 Bill and April Janosky
 Deer Meadows

Attachments

Issue Information

Issue ID	422	
Company	Deer Meadows Water Co., Inc.	
Filing	100642	
Staff	Jim Ward	

Complaint Information

Unresolved Complaint	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Complaint ID	
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Follow-Up Information

Follow-Up	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Other Follow-Up Information
Follow-Up Staff		Other Follow-Up <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Follow-Up Complete	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Other Follow-Up Staff

Activites For William E. Janosky

View: (vwComtActyEmbed)

COMMENT FORM FOR: WILLIS GOODWIN - ID# 23439

Consumer Information	
	Contact Method <input checked="" type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> None
Name	WILLIS GOODWIN
Organization Company	
Address City, State, Zip Code	
Email	willisgoodwin@hotmail.com
Primary Phone #	509-386-6870
Secondary Phone #	
	Fax #

Comment Information	
Theme	Open Date 05/04/2010
Filing Support <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Undecided	Closed Date
Source <input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input checked="" type="radio"/> Phone <input type="radio"/> Web	Web Create Date
Public Involvement Lead Dennis Shutler	
Duplicate Comment <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	

Description

Good Morning Dennis,
I have a couple questions.
Is it standard practice by utility companies, (small and large), to submit inflated numbers when filing with UTC for a rate increase with the expectation that the final outcome by the UTC would be satisfactory to them?
According to one of the Deer Meadows Water Company employees, this is exactly what happen by the water company. This action was advised by their attorney. I would assume that all documentation would try and justify the inflated numbers in the filing. This would obviously make many numbers in the documents bogus.
Second question: Is it still planned by Mr. Ward that he will request a suspension at the May 13th commission hearing?
Thank you, and I look forward to talking with you in the near future.

On 5/04/10 Dennis Shutler responded to Mr as follows:
Good Morning Dennis,
I have a couple questions.
Is it standard practice by utility companies, (small and large), to submit inflated numbers when filing with UTC for a rate increase with the expectation that the final outcome by the UTC would be satisfactory to them?
>>>Companies submit their calculations from a business standpoint, commission regulatory staff look at the financial information provided by the company from a

regulatory position. The calculations provided by the company may be their best efforts. Staff's recommendation for the right rates is independent of that of the company's.<<<

According to one of the Deer Meadows Water Company employees, this is exactly what happen by the water company. This action was advised by their attorney. I would assume that all documentation would try and justify the inflated numbers in the filing. This would obviously make many numbers in the documents bogus.

>>>It is regulatory staff's role to verify the information and calculations provided by the company.<<<

Second question: Is it still planned by Mr. Ward that he will request a suspension at the May 13th commission hearing?

>>>This filing is scheduled for the 5/13 open meeting. It will be the commissioner's decision to suspend or proceed with the filing. Staff's memo with their recommendation to the commissioners will be available and posted on Monday, 5/10.<<<

Thank you, and I look forward to talking with you in the near future.

On 5/04/10 Mr asks:

I have three more questions.

1. Would the concerned lot owners group be able to obtained a list of water company customers, with address and phone numbers/email addresses?
2. Could we obtain a list of employees, salaries and their job description.
3. Who holds the, I believe, Class A license that the Deer Meadows Water Co., Inc. operates under?

Dennis, thank you for your help.

On 5/05/10 Dennis Shutler responded as follows:

1. Staff does not have this information, you would need to request this information from the company.
2. Staff does not have this information, you would need to request this information from the company.
3. Staff does not have this information, you would need to request this information from the company or from the Department of Health (DOH) at 1-800-521-0323.

On 8/10/10 John Cupp wrote:

Dear Mr. Goodwin,

You may remember me from several years ago (2002?) when I attended a meeting at Deer Meadows regarding CenturyTel-(now CenturyLink) issues. I may have another opportunity to visit Deer Meadows as the commission's Public Involvement Coordinator in the pending water rate case. I'm reviewing comments in this filing and Dennis Shutler is working with me to help me understand the issues we are facing.

In my review of your comments dated May 4, I would like to offer some additional information about companies submitting "inflated numbers" when they file rate cases with the commission, and how commission staff handle the information. This is my version of what we do - our accountants would describe it differently, with terms I don't pretend to understand.

In Washington, water rates are largely based on historical usage. Staff looks at a sample year, usually the most recent year, of financial data. Frequently staff will find costs of which the value to customers is questionable or is not of value to customers. I worked on a water rate case years ago in which a company here in Thurston County submitted in its

paperwork a bill it had paid (about \$10,000) for a booster pump. Staff found out that the water company had paid for the pump and the pump dealer never delivered. The water company paid an attorney several thousand dollars to try to get its money back, to no avail. Neither the pump nor the attorney fees were useful to the customers, and the company was not allowed to recover either cost in its rates. This is an example of what goes on in most every water rate case. Staff looks at water company employee salaries and tries to determine what is fair. Staff also looks at costs for items or services that may have gone toward another business interest. An example of this is another local company owner who also owned a construction company. In a rate case, the company showed a backhoe on its books. Staff found that the equipment was used only a small percentage of time for the water company, and only allowed that percentage of the cost into the company's rates.

I hope this helps explain why companies frequently request larger increases than they get. I also hope it helps you understand that our accountant/auditors are very conscientious in their review of the information companies submit when they file rate cases.

I look forward to my visit. Dennis told me we are looking for a date a little earlier in the fall, to accommodate people who leave for the winter. We will keep you posted, and we welcome further questions.

Thank you,

On 8/11/10 Mr wrote:

August 11, 2010

Mr. Dave W. Danner, Executive Director/Secretary

Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission

Dear Mr. Danner,

On Wednesday, August 4, 2010 I received a call from Dennis Shutler informing us that a public hearing was scheduled for sometime during the week of November 8, 2010, at a location near us. Mr. Shutler also stated that the case was currently scheduled to appear in front of a judge on November, 17-18, 2010.

We, the water company customers, would like to request/petition for a change of date for the public hearing. By October 15th each year a majority of our full time residents and part timers are not in the area. I have discussed the hearing date with many of our lot owners and they unanimously agree that they would like to have the opportunity to give their testimony at a public hearing, but again, a majority of them will be gone by November.

We ask you to please consider changing the date to no later than October 15, 2010 so that a maximum number of people could attend. We believe that this would be a benefit to the UTC to hear from as many people as possible about the major concerns that our community have about the water company. Since we are captive customers of the water company, we hope that the UTC would listen to the information we have disputing the accuracy of the information provided by them to the UTC.

Sincerely,

Concerned Deer Meadows Water Company Customers

Contact: Willis Goodwin

42665 Eagle Nest Rd.

Deer Meadows, WA 99122

Home: 509-725-6016