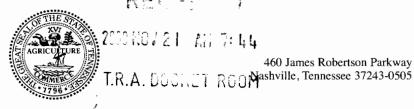
## TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Tre Hargett, Chairman Eddie Roberson, Director Sara Kyle, Director Mary Freeman, Director



November 21, 2008

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

Docket File

From:

Carsie D. Mundy

Chief-Consumer Services Division

Subject:

Petition of Tennessee Wastewater Systems, Inc. For Approval to Amend Its

Rates and Charges
Docket No. 08-00202

Attached are eighteen (18) complaints received by the Consumer Services Division expressing opinions concerning Tennessee Wastewater System Inc.'s petition.

Attachments: 18

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/13/2008 7:45 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 19:18:22

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 4 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: Barbara Adams

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04 State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06 County: Montgomery

07 Home Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09 email:

10\_Contact\_time: evening

13 complaint company: Tennessee Wastewater Systems Inc

14 contacted util: No

15 complaint descript: We have been customers of Tennessee Wastewater Systems Inc, formerly On-Site Systems, since October 26, 2000. While their service has been excellent, rate increases have been too frequent. The first increase went into effect March 2002. Patsy McElroy, Office Manager, stated this increase was necessary because the company had received a substantial increase from the City of Clarksville for treatment services. The next increase was announced on February 3, 2004, again because of another rate increase from the City of Clarksville. In her letter dated February 3, 2004, Ms. McElroy states, "Once again, we are aware that sewer rates in your subdivision are extremely high and we will utilize every opportunity to lower these rates as soon as possible." The next letter dated March 3Q, 2006, stated that Tennessee Wastewater Systems would be submitting a petition to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to proceed with construction of a new treatment facility which would result in lower rates. In light of the letter dated February 3, 2004, admitting their rates are too high and the fact that nothing has been accomplished as promised in the March 2006 letter, I do not believe Tennessee Wastewater Systems should be granted a fee increase. They should fulfill the promise to build a new treatment facility which would result in lower sewer fees. Again, I would like to emphasize that this company has provided good service. A rate increase is not warranted since, in their own words, a new plant would solve the rate increase problem, a new plant they have not completed. Thank you for considering my complaint. Barbara J. Adams

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To:

<ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

Date:

11/17/2008 11:28 AM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 11:01:47

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: Jim & CynthiaOwen

02 streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: Tn

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

09\_email: (

13 complaint\_company: Tn Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: Everything is going up and we already pay more than anyone else in the county. We do not want an increase in our bill.

Thank you Cynthia Owen RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To: Date: <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us> 11/16/2008 4:35 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 16:09:01

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Michael Beane

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05 ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07 Home Telephone:

10\_Contact\_time: any

13\_complaint\_company: Tn Wastewater Systems

14\_contacted\_util: yes

15\_complaint\_descript: It is rediculous to average our sewage usage based solely on water use in the peak time of the summer months when water sprinklers are running, but when the toilets usage remains constant throughout the year. I end up paying for water twice based on this rule; it is a ripoff to the consumer. I got over it after complainig to TN Wastewater who told me its was a state regulation and they could do nothing; now Im being told there will be a rate hike. This is terrible, I already pay an outlandish amount for sewage cost which is based on the peak water (not necessarily sewage) use in the summer. Sewage should be a standard cost based on how much water one flushes or runs in the sink and shower based on how many heads are in a household. I get penalized for filling the pool or running the sprinklers.

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/16/2008 3:58 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 15:32:10

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: John Williams

02 streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05 ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08 Work Telephone:

09\_email

10\_Contact\_time: evening

13\_complaint\_company: TN Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: yes

15\_complaint\_descript: The future rate hike by the TN Wastewater is a bad idea. It seems that all of the utility companies are raising rates all at the same time and it is too much to bear for the average consumer. A lot of the wastewater that we are charged for is not treated by the TN Wastewater company anyhow. It is used for watering our yards, washing our cars and pressure washing different areas around our houses. We are charged for this cleanup of the water but it is a farce due to this water not going into the sewer system. Please refrain from being a lemming in the rate hike fad of 2009. JW

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To:

<ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

Date:

11/16/2008 3:57 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 15:30:30

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Rafael V. Gonzalez

02\_streetaddress:

03 City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

09 email:

13\_complaint\_company: Tennessee Wastewater

14 contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: In these difficult economic times it would be unconscionable to consider a rate increase given the fact that we are paying a very high rate already in South Ridge for our services.

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/16/2008 1:17 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 12:50:50

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NOV 1 7 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

RECEIVED

**CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION** 

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Marin Marinau

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Mongomerty

07\_Home\_Telephone:

or\_nome\_relephone.

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: anytime

13\_complaint\_company: TN wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: What the heck!!!!!!!!! Recently TN wastewater has ask for a rate hike increase that will affect South Ridge neighborhood. Tn wastewater is already charging 2.5 times the amount of the water bill. TN wastewater sewage bill in this neighborhood is already the highest in the county. I strongly oppose this rate increase for the sewage. For the last five years the sewage bill by TN wastewater was supposed to decrease since we are paying the highest rate. Is this ever going to happen??

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/15/2008 8:24 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 19:57:46

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Donna Woodie

02 streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: evening

13\_complaint\_company: TN Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15 complaint\_descript: rate increase

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/15/2008 6:58 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 18:32:30

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Lorraine Logue

02\_streetaddress:

03 City:

04\_State: Tennessee

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Mongomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10 Contact\_time: morning

13 complaint\_company: Tennessee Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I pay a lot for sewer in South Ridge. The rate hike they are proposing is not reasonable. I disagree strongly to this rate hike!

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/15/2008 1:12 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 12:46:01

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Charity MacDonald

02 streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05 ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: evening

13 complaint company: Tennessee Wastewater Systems, Inc.

14 contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I disagree with the proposed rate hike to the Tn regulatory commission. Currently I am paying far greater rates than any other place I have lived. I disagree with the proposed hike and feel that my voice should be heard along with my neighbors. Thank you.

......

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To: Date: <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us> 11/15/2008 12:33 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 12:06:29

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Jennifer Wellington

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: Tn

05 ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07 Home Telephone:

08 Work Telephone

09\_email:

10 Contact time: Anytime

13\_complaint\_company: Tn Wastewater

14 contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I am currently the Homeowner Association President of South Ridge Subdivision. I urge you on behalf of

myself and the other residents not to allow the increase proposed by Tn Wastewater. We already pay extremely high waste removal rates. With the sewer rates being directly tied to water usage, my household

has paid up to \$125.00/month during the summer months. This seem extremely high, considering most of that is run-off for lawn care and doesn't enter the waste removal system. Also, an average family in the sub-division pays roughly \$60- \$80 per month, which is extremely high already. A new rate increase of this type would have a severe impact on the residents of South Ridge in increasingly difficult economic times. I once again urge you not to pass this rate increase.

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To:

<ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

Date:

11/17/2008 7:45 AM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 07:19:02

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Mark Cook

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08 Work Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: 7:30AM-4:30PM

13\_complaint\_company: Tennessee Wastewater

14 contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I understand that this company is once again requesting a rate increase for South Ridge Subdivision. I adametely oppose this rate increase. We already pay close to \$100/month for sewer-only!!! I would imagine that this is one of the higher rates within the state. This company continues to provide false hope in that they are exploring an off-site treatment area to reduce costs, but they have been promising this for years and I believe it is just a ploy to quiten the residents of South Ridge. I doubt that they have ever planned to do this.

I don't see why they need a rate increase. I doubt that their operating costs have increased. We have added more consumers to their system without having to expand any of their infastructure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark T. Cook

RECEIVED

CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/16/2008 7:33 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 19:06:32

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Timothy Lee

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04 State: TN

05\_ZIP

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10 Contact time: evenings

13 complaint company: TN Wastewater

14 contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I am opposed to the rate increase that TN Wastewater is requesting for the Southridge subdivision in Montgomery County. The current rates are already higher than anywhere else in the County. TN Wastewater already is charging us for services that they are not providing, to wit: rates are based on water usage, not the amount of waste water processed. This method does not take into account water used for purposes other than for sewage, ie. water used for watering lawns, pools, ponds and washing cars. There has been no icrease in the level of service provided, as there have been no significant equipment increases as promised by the company and the company does not deal with solid waste. At this time there is no justification for a rate increase to be imposed on the homeowners and residents of Southridge.

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 7 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>

To:

<ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

Date: Subject: 11/17/2008 2:08 PM Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 13:41:56

RECEIVED **CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION** 

NOV 1 8 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: Stephanie Lanham

02 streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: tn

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08 Work Telephone:

09\_email: (

10\_Contact\_time: between 6-8 pm

13\_complaint\_company: TN Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I am against the rate increase. Currently, we pay more for sewage than we do for the actual water. I would be against the hike increase.

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/18/2008 12:43 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 12:16:54

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RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 8 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: Marvin H. Phibbs

02 streetaddress:

03 City:

04 State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06 County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

:(\_\_\_\_\_

09\_email:

10 Contact time: 9 am Mon thru Fri

13\_complaint\_company: TWW,Smyrna, TN

14 contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I have been notified that TWW Sys.Inc. is asking for a rate increase (pending your approval), of approx. 43 % to the sewer rates in Southridge Subdivision, Hwy 12, Clarksville, Tn. I would submit to you that the rates are high enough! Services and maintenance do NOT merit this increase. My exhibit "A" will show that TWW"s rate on 1500 gallons processed is within pennies of DOUBLE the Clarksville Gas & Water untility billing...I cannot imagine another increase of this magnitude.....I live on Social Security and draws from my IRA....Please do NOT allow this increase to an already exorbitant rate. I will be mailing my Exibit "A" as soon as possible (11-19-08)...thank you, and respectfully submitted, Marvin H. Phibbs

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/17/2008 3:54 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 15:27:26

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01 whole: Byon Brock

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: Tn.

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07 Home Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: mornings

13 complaint\_company: Tennessee Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: We have lived in this subdivision since April 2003. We have been promised a rate reduction when the new wastewater facility to collect sewage was completed. We have received no rate reduction or current information as to the status of receptor. There is talk of a rate increase - what's going on?

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 8 2008

Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

To: Date:

11/17/2008 9:09 PM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 20:42:36

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 8 2008

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: paul pulley

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04 State: tn.

05 ZIP:

06\_County: montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08 Work Telephone:

09 email:

10\_Contact\_time: 9am to 8pm

13 complaint company: tennessee wastewater systems, inc

14 contacted util: yes

15\_complaint\_descript: i object any rate increases that tennessee wastewater is proposing. houses in the southridge subdivision was built under the contract that this company would build a treatment plant within a short period of time and the excessive rates we now pay would decrease. its been 5 years and this has never happened. this company needs to finish their first project before they ask for raises. i have documents supporting the above and expect a treatment plant to be built and rates to decrease if not i can take this farther. the builder derick comperry should be held liable for this to be completed also. thanks paul

From: Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us>
To: <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

**Date:** 11/19/2008 2:32 PM

Subject: Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 14:05:58

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Terry Milliken

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07\_Home\_Telephone:

08\_Work\_Telephone:

09\_email:

10 Contact time: 9:00am

13\_complaint\_company: TN Wastewater

14\_contacted util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: Please investigate the history of this rate increase that is proposed for the South Ridge sewer system. The rates are already extremely high and have been since the system was put in place in 1997. The homeowners have been told the rates will go down as the number of homes increase. Check the growth of the neighborhood since 1997. Compare the number of homes then and now with the rates being charged. The reason for rate increases have always been blamed on the rate TN Wastewater in charged to treat the sewage by Clarksville Gas and Water. Ask what the average bill is and why? You may be shocked by the average.

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 9 2008

From: To: Nobody <nobody@ag03uw21.state.tn.us> <ConsumerComplaint.TRA@state.tn.us>

Date:

11/19/2008 9:10 AM

Subject:

Consumer Complaint Questionnaire

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 08:44:12

next: /www/wwwroot/tra/response.htm

01\_whole: Tamara Almeyda

02\_streetaddress:

03\_City:

04\_State: TN

05\_ZIP:

06\_County: Montgomery

07 Home Telephone:

08 Work Telephone:

09\_email:

10\_Contact\_time: 4:15 to 5 pm, Mon - Fri

13\_complaint\_company: Tennessee Wastewater

14\_contacted\_util: No

15\_complaint\_descript: I do not agree with the proposed rate increase. We are currently paying based on the amount of water used versus the amount of waste processed, thus, it appears we are paying for treatment of water they do not actually process. This is a considerable portion of my bill each month based on watering my yard especially in the fall when I have my yard re-seeded.

RECEIVED CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

NOV 1 9 2008