

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Contact TPUC](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] docket 24-00044  
**Date:** Monday, February 3, 2025 9:03:34 PM

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Attention: Elected Officials of Hardin County and the State of Tennessee

Re: TPUC Docket 24-00044

I am writing to you after hearing about the proposed rate increase by our water and waste water provider, Limestone Water/Central States Water Resources. I was told about this from a neighbor and I also attended the public meeting held by TPUC at The Lodge at Pickwick Landing State Park on January 30, concerning this increase. I was not directly notified by Limestone about their intended rate increase or about the public meeting at the park although they make sure I receive a bill each month.

I would like to share my thoughts with you, and ask for help in preventing this increase that has all the characteristics of monopoly pricing.

- This proposed rate increase, was poorly communicated to the public. Most customers are not aware of it.
- Limestone purchases their water from the Savannah Utility Department (City of Savannah); per Savannah Utility Department website, commercial customers outside of the city are charged a rate of \$3.18 per 1000 gallons. Using the usage and rate information provided by Limestone in The Savannah Courier their proposed rate increase will change the cost to customers in my neighborhood from \$8.58 per 1000 gallons to \$28.88 per 1000 gallons! I hope that the rate per gallon that Limestone pays to the Savannah Utility Department will be taken into consideration, and that a complete audit will be performed on any numbers provided by Limestone as to the operation and maintenance cost of delivering water to their customers.
- If passed, the cost of services in my neighborhood will increase over 3x the current rate. It is difficult to come up with an exact figures due to the vagueness of the information available to the public.
- The proposed rate increase is 2x for customers that also use Limestone for waste water services, The proposed rate of \$86.64 for 3000 gallons of water usage would result in a bill of \$173.28 for customers who use Limestone for both water and waste water services.

- If passed, the cost of water and sewer will have a negative impact on development in the area, property values and Hardin County's property tax income.
- If passed, the rate increase will place a financial hardship on our full time and permanent residents, many who are senior or disabled citizens on a fixed income.

Please take the time to review this excessive and monopolistic rate increase proposed by Limestone Water and help protect the right of your friends, family and constituents to have fair utility rates. I hope that this requested rate increase is not approved. Times are tough right now for everyone and this outrageous increase is unwarranted and un-American.

Thank you for your consideration and help in this matter.

Ed and Tina Bradley

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