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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Document NO. 24-00044 Opposition to Water Rate Increase
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:45:45 PM

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David L Woods Sr

[REDACTED]

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February 5, 2025

Tennessee Public Utility Commission

502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor

Nashville, TN 37243-0001

Subject: Opposition to Water Rate Increase

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the proposed increase in water rates. Based on testimonies provided, it has become evident that the justification for this increase is flawed due to multiple concerns regarding financial reporting, infrastructure cost allocation, and the availability of historical billing data.

First, testimonies have indicated that revenue has not been properly reported on the income statement. Without an accurate and transparent financial disclosure, it is impossible to determine whether a rate increase is truly necessary or if existing funds are being mismanaged. Before any increase is approved, the company should be required to correct and verify its financial records to ensure an accurate assessment of its financial standing.

Additionally, infrastructure costs should not be included in full when calculating usage billing fees. Capital expenditures for infrastructure improvements should be allocated over the service life of the infrastructure rather than being placed as an immediate burden on current ratepayers. A more equitable approach would be to spread these costs out over time to avoid an unfair and disproportionate impact on customers.

Furthermore, it was revealed in testimony that the company lacks the proper historical billing usage and rate data necessary to determine an appropriate increase at this time. Without accurate historical data, any proposed rate hike is speculative and lacks the necessary justification. Before any changes to water rates are approved, the company must provide the proper records to allow for an informed and fair assessment of whether an increase is warranted.

Given these concerns, I respectfully request that any rate increase be delayed until the company can present accurate revenue reports, appropriately allocate infrastructure costs, and provide sufficient historical billing data to justify the necessity of a rate adjustment. Approving an increase without these fundamental records would be both premature and unjustified.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
David L Woods Sr