

From: [Contact TPUC](#)
To: [Ectory R. Lawless](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Docket No. 24-00073
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 2:21:51 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

From: Jeff Schmidt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 10:59 AM
To: Contact TPUC <Contact.TPUC@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Docket No. 24-00073

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On Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 11:55 AM Jeff Schmidt <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing today regarding the proposed rate increase requested by IRM utilities which will increase costs for individuals by as much as 31.6%.

While I fully understand the increase in costs over the last several years, 31% exceeds the rate of inflation during the same period, which was 25.6% (chart below).

I do understand the need for businesses to remain profitable, however, I also expect those same businesses to operate with efficiency and avoid waste.

If a rate increase is to be granted, I simply ask that the increase be inline with the inflation rate, and not more. A 31% increase is going to create hardship for a lot of families who have no other option than to use IRM for their sewage utility.

Sincerely,
-Jeff Schmidt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Inflation rates by year since 2016

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave
2024	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.6	Avail. Dec. 11		
2023	6.4	6.0	5.0	4.9	4.0	3.0	3.2	3.7	3.7	3.2	3.1	3.4	4.1
2022	7.5	7.9	8.5	8.3	8.6	9.1	8.5	8.3	8.2	7.7	7.1	6.5	8.0
2021	1.4	1.7	2.6	4.2	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	6.2	6.8	7.0	4.7
2020	2.5	2.3	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2
2019	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.8
2018	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.4
2017	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.1
2016	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.1	1.3