

Missouri Public Service Commission
Public Comments Report

From Date : 04/01/2007 **To Date :** 05/24/2007

Utility Type : Sewer

Company Name : Timber Creek Sewer Company-(Sewer)

Public Comment ID.	First Name	Last Name	City	State	Public Comments	Office Receiving Comment	Staff person	Resolution
P200702053	Shirley	Ball	Platte City	MO	company received rate increase two years ago they do not need another one.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702051	Lee	Grabau	Platte City	MO	Customer does not have a problem with an increase, but is upset that prices keep going up in spite of promise of no increase at the beginning of the Summerset Subdivsion to the system. Also with \$5 fee the increase will be 51% instead of 32%.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702067	Kathy	Hatfield	Platte City	MO	Customer against rates increase/rates have doubled over a few years and now they are asking for more/plus they want an additional \$5.00 for a grinder pump/since I have been in my home the grinder pump has had to be	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702061	Hortence	Humphrey	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer thinks percent increase is too much, even with new plant. Feels like co. is relying on existing customer base too much and should pass along to new customers, but even then she thinks the hookup fee increase is too much.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.

P200702071	Nikki	Keiser	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer feels that this rate increase does not benefit the customer, it only benefits the company. Customer does not think that infrastructure investment should be on the shoulders of a rate increase, it should be be born by profits of sewer.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 22, 2007.
P200702057	Kim	Kruger	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer says that rates should not be raised to help others who are moving into area/She believes that any new connectees should have their initial and monthly rates raised instead of current customers.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702045	Kenneth	Loy	Platte City	MO	I do not feel that they should be allowed to increase their rates again. They raised them 30% four years ago and are wanting to raise them yet again. We pay \$26.97 a month not depending on how much water we use. That`s not right. It should be base	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702046	Kenneth	Loy	Platte City	MO	They should not be allowed to increase their rates within four years. Fi=our years ago they raised rates by 30%. Now they want to raise them another 30%. Please help us and not allow them to raise rates again.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702048	Mike	Menark	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer says rate doubled less than 2 yrs ago and strongly opposes the new rate increase of 32-36%. Customer feels that rate should be going down as volume increases.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702100	Sara	Mills	Platte City	MO	customer against rate increase, does not know why they would need such a rate increase.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 22, 2007.

P200702075	Ronald	Plotner	Platte City	MO	customer not happy with rate increase/not fair that they have to pay as much as a family of 4 or more/increase from 26.97 to 35.67 this is a 116% increase since 2004, which is too much for two elderly people.	PSC	JMR	Customer also e-mailed the Commission. The e-mail was responded to on May 7, 2007.
P200702055	Dale	Robertson	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer wants to know the REAL reason with numbers to back up justification/Customer also does not think increase is necessary since increase was implemented in 2004/	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702068	Terry	Van Dyke	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer feels 32% is not justifiable in his opinion. They should have disciplined themselves in the past. Feels that new development should shoulder brunt of costs, not the original customers.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
P200702074	Robert	Wolf	Platte City	MO	(ddw)Customer feels that with increases that have already occurred, there should not be an increase and proposal is arbitrary and not equitable in his opinion.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 22, 2007.
E-mail	William A.	Abell	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Brian	Banks	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
Letter	Mary Kay	Bettes	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
E-mail	Arthur J.	Braun	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Merrit	Brinkman	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/16/07.
E-mail	Deborah	Chatfield	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/26/07.
E-mail	Leslie	Christians	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Janene	Coleman	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Dean & Christina	Fullinwider	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Erin N.	Galbraith	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Dawn	Gallegos	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/26/07.
E-mail	James	Goering	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
Letter	Oscar	Hansen	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
E-mail	Jim	Hedrick	Kearney	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Teresa	Henry	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
Telephone	Russell	Hinchee	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.

Letter	Richard H. & Cecelia I.	Jackson	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
E-mail	Crystal	Jalloul	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/26/07.
E-mail	Sarah	Johnson	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/26/07.
Letter	William & Tammy	Kephart	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
E-mail	John T.	Kuehn	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Phillip A.	Mertens	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
Letter	Pam	McLain	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
Letter	Kenneth	Moore	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
Telephone	Cecil	Murray	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	MH	On going investigation. Staff is working with Company and Customer to find a resolution for the odor problem.
E-mail	Richard & Carmen	Nothnagel	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/26/07.
Letter	Robert E.	Omundson	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 22, 2007.
E-mail	Greg & Shirley	Plemmons	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Ronald Earl & Betty L.	Plotner	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Monica J.	Puls	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
Letter	Theresa E.	Raney	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
Letter	Ora H.	Reynolds	Kansas City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
Letter	Carey	Rolofson	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
E-mail	Aaron	Schmidt	Kansas City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Allen	Smith	Platte City	MO	See attached.	OPC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
E-mail	Jim & Diana	Stewart	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/16/07.
E-mail	John & Nancy	Stewart	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Larry	Terrell	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/16/07.

E-mail	David & Lynda	Trevin	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
Fax	Nancy	Wakefield	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent May 9, 2007.
E-mail	Dean	Winter	Platte City	MO	See attached.	Both	JMR	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.
E-mail	Cyndi	Wolfe	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/7/07.
E-mail	Mike & Ruth	Woodland	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	E-mail response sent 5/16/07.
Letter	Darrell G.	Yager	Platte City	MO	See attached.	PSC	JMR	Letter sent April 30, 2007.
E-mail		C		MO	See attached.	Both	JMR/MH	E-mail response sent 4/17/07.

April 18, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RECEIVED

APR 26 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Re: Reference number QS-2007-0008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you in reference to a letter notification (please see attached) about our Sewer Company, Timber Creek Sewer, raising their monthly rates from \$26.97 per month to \$35.67.

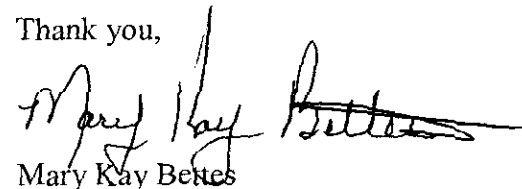
I am outraged over this increase as I know other neighbors are, not only where I live, but in other neighborhoods. This will be the second increase in 3 years.

I live in the county of, Platte City, Missouri and it is a rapidly growing community and Timber Creek Sewer is the only company that services this area so there is **NO** competition. I am on a tight budget as it is. I am a single mother of three small children and this increase does not help at all. I have called other people I know that live in the surrounding towns to see what they pay and the town of Smithville, Mo their fee is less than \$10.00 a month. Their service is Smithville sewer. The City of Platte City pay a combined fee of \$50.00 to \$60.00 per month and that includes, sewer, water and trash, and Liberty, MO residents pay around \$20.00 a month. These communities are comparable in size to Platte City.

In the attached letter there was a sentence that stuck in my mind. I have highlighted the information that lets me to believe they want the increase for their benefit. Part of the sentence states, "The Company believes this increase in its operating revenues is necessary due to increases in utility plant and **Additional staff needed to support the business.**" This is a business that is owned by one family.

I hope you will take this letter into consideration and I appreciate your time.

Thank you,



Mary Kay Bettes
13300 Timber Park Lane
Platte City, MO 64079

Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc.

P. O. Box 511 Platte City, MO 64079
(816) 858-3989

INITIAL CUSTOMER NOTICE

April 6th, 2007

Mary Kay Bettes
13300 Timber Park Lane

Platte City, MO 64079-9677

Dear Customer:

On March 22, 2007, Timber Creek Sewer Company (Company) submitted a request for permanent increases in its current sewer rates to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission), under the provisions of the Commission's small company rate increase procedure.

By its request, the Company is seeking increases in its customer rates intended to generate an increase in its annual sewer operating revenues of \$120,000 (approximately 32.24%). The Company believes this increase in its operating revenues is necessary due to increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment; increases in operation and maintenance expenses; increases in the Commission's annual utility assessments; increases in the Department of Natural Resources' annual sewer discharge permit fees; and additional staff needed to support the business. In its request, the Company also requested certain changes to its service charges and connection fees, and recognized that changes to its general business practices, customer service practices and general tariff provisions, and the design of its customer rates, might occur. Set out at the end of this notice is a table that includes a comparison of the Company's current customer rates and the current rate increased by 32.24% and the requested changes in its service charges and connection fees. A monthly bill comparison is also shown.

In the near future, the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Commission Staff) will conduct an independent audit of the Company's books and records, and an investigation of the Company's business and system operations. Based upon that audit and investigation, the Commission Staff will develop its positions regarding the Company's requested increase in its annual operating revenues. Additionally, the Commission Staff will develop positions regarding the need for changes in the Company's service charges, connection fees, general tariff provisions, business operations and system operations, and in the design of the Company's customer rates.

The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC), a state agency responsible for representing the interests of utility consumers before the Commission, may also conduct its own audit and investigation, but at a minimum will review the results of the Commission Staff's audit and investigation.

Any customer who has questions or comments regarding the Company's rate increase request, or who has comments regarding recent service-related problems, should contact the Commission Staff and/or the OPC, within 30 days of the date of this notice. To do so, please use the mailing addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers or e-mail addresses shown below, and please also include a reference to request number **QS-2007-0008**. As a part of their investigations into the Company's rate increase request, the Commission Staff and the OPC will review all customer comments they receive in response to this notice.

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: 800-392-4211
Fax: 573-751-1847
E-Mail: water.sewer@psc.mo.gov

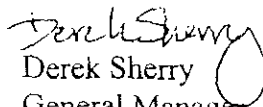
Office of the Public Counsel
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: 573-751-857
Fax: 573-751-5562
E-Mail: mopco@ded.mo.gov

Upon completion of the Commission Staff's and the OPC's investigations, the Company may be required to send out a second customer notice regarding the results of the investigations. Additionally, the OPC may request that the Commission hold a local public hearing. However, neither a second customer notice nor a local public hearing will happen automatically. Therefore, please take the time now to express your views about the Company's rate increase request, and its business and system operations, to the Commission Staff and the OPC.

Regardless of whether the Company sends out a second customer notice, or whether a local public hearing is eventually held, no increase in rates will take effect without the specific approval of the Public Service Commission.

If you have questions about this notice, or about anything else with which I may be of assistance, please feel free to contact the TCSC staff or myself at the telephone number listed below.

Sincerely,


Derek Sherry
General Manager
(816) 858-3989

Type of Charge	Current Rates (Establish July 2004)	Propose Rates	Percentage Increase
Total Monthly Bill	\$26.97	\$35.67	32.24%
Grinder Pump (additional monthly charge)	\$0	\$5	
Return Check Charge	\$25	\$30	20%
Delinquent Account Collection Fee (more than 2 months past due)	0\$	\$25	
Service Connection Fee (for new residential sewer connection)	\$1600	\$3200	100%
Permit/Inspection Fee	\$50	\$100	100%
Re-Inspection Fee	\$25	\$50	100%

April 22, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

RECEIVED

APR 30 2007

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

Considering that our monthly water bill is only averaging \$23.00, the sewer fee is extremely excessive. In normal every day life the sewage use is 10% less usage than the water usage...how can we be asked to pay excessive sewer costs for private sewage transit. Our water is rural water, which we know is more expensive than water inside City Limits.

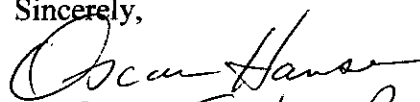
Knowing the owners who established and built all the homes in our neighborhood, this is just another get rich quick tactic.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,


13280 Timber Park Terr
Platte City, Mo. 64079

April 28, 2007

Richard & Cecelia Jackson
13530 Timber Park Drive
Platte City, MO 64079
816.858.4201

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, we feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

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We have checked with various other friends in the immediate areas (Platte City, Mo and Leavenworth, Ks) and much to our surprise, found their sewer rates several dollars less than what we are currently paying. We have enclosed copies of two-sewer bills for your review. It is difficult for us to understand how the sewer rates of these two friends can only be \$5.08 and \$10.91 a month and ours is going to be \$35.67 if this rate increase is approved. I am truly concerned about my home value decreasing because of what I believe will be a sewer rate that many prospective home buyers would not agree to if they were informed. How could I expect a homebuyer to agree to this rate when many of the current homeowners feel this increase is not justified!

While only our signatures are on this letter, we feel we represent several other homeowners in this neighborhood. While increases are necessary to survive in any business, we believe this rate increase is not justified based on the previous increase and the cost of operating this type of business.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Richard H. Jackson and Cecelia I. Jackson. The signature for Richard H. Jackson is written above the signature for Cecelia I. Jackson.

Richard H. Jackson

Cecelia I. Jackson

UTILITY BILL
City of Platte City
400 Main St., Platte City, MO 64079
(816) 858-3046

SEE BACK FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION AND
EXPLANATION OF CODES

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PLATTE CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 24

CODE	METER READING		USAGE	AMOUNT
	PREVIOUS	PRESENT		
WT	2020	2037	17	8.73
SW	SEWER			5.08
RF	REFUSE			11.80

PIRATES R.U.C.K.-SELF CONTROL
WWW.PLATTECITY.ORG
WWW.PLATTECITYPARKS.COM



SERVICE FROM
12/28/2006

SERVICE TO
01/29/2007

AMOUNT DUE	DUE DATE	AFTER DUE DATE PAY THIS AMOUNT
25.61	02/20/2007	PD BY DRAFT

ACCOUNT STATUS
ACTIVE

ACCOUNT NUMBER
04-1910-00

PLEASE RETURN THIS
STUB WITH PAYMENT

ACCOUNT STATUS

ACTIVE

ACCOUNT NUMBER

04-1910-00

AMOUNT DUE

25.61

DUE DATE

02/20/2007

AFTER DUE DATE
PAY THIS AMOUNT

PD BY DRAFT

SERVICE FROM

12/28/2006

SERVICE TO

01/29/2007

SERVICE ADDRESS

46 HILLCREST DR

SERVICE ADDRESS

46 HILLCREST DR

LA VON RULAND
PO BOX 1091
PLATTE CITY MO

64079

Waterworks Department 601 Cherokee - 682-1513

Remit To: P.O. Box 576, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048-0576

PRE SORT
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LEAVENWORTH, KS
PERMIT 75

ACCOUNT NUMBER	21048-9331	CYCLE	14-43	BILL DATE	3/22/07	ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED	
SERVICE ADDRESS	1913 S 5TH ST						
SERVICE PERIOD	2/21/07 To	# OF DAYS	3/19/07	26	Description Of Charges		Amount
					WA CCF	883	879
					WA WATER		16.59
					SR CITY SEWER		10.91
					RF CITY REFUSE		13.60
					SW STATE WATER PLAN		10
					CURRENT CHARGES		41.20
					PREVIOUS BALANCE		.00
					TOTAL DUE UPON RECEIPT		41.20
					DELINQUENT DATE		

4/05/07

Waterworks Department 601 Cherokee - 682-1513

Remit To: P.O. Box 576, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048-0576

PRE SORT
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LEAVENWORTH, KS
PERMIT 75

ACCOUNT NUMBER	21048-9331	CYCLE	14-43	BILL DATE	2/23/07	ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED	
SERVICE ADDRESS	1913 S 5TH ST						
SERVICE PERIOD	1/22/07 To	# OF DAYS	2/21/07	30	Description Of Charges		Amount
					WA CCF	879	875
					WA WATER		16.59
					SR CITY SEWER		10.91
					RF CITY REFUSE		13.60
					SW STATE WATER PLAN		10
					CURRENT CHARGES		41.20
					PREVIOUS BALANCE		.00
					TOTAL DUE UPON RECEIPT		41.20
					DELINQUENT DATE		

3/09/07

Waterworks Department 601 Cherokee - 682-1513

Remit To: P.O. Box 576, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048-0576

PRE SORT
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LEAVENWORTH, KS
PERMIT 75

ACCOUNT NUMBER	21048-9331	CYCLE	14-43	BILL DATE	1/24/07	ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED	
SERVICE ADDRESS	1913 S 5TH ST						
SERVICE PERIOD	12/19/06 To	# OF DAYS	1/22/07	34	Description Of Charges		Amount
					WA CCF	875E	870
					WA WATER		19.86
					SR CITY SEWER		10.91
					RF CITY REFUSE		13.60
					SW STATE WATER PLAN		12
					CURRENT CHARGES		44.49
					PREVIOUS BALANCE		.00
					TOTAL DUE UPON RECEIPT		44.49
					DELINQUENT DATE		

2/07/07

April 22, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

RECEIVED

APR 30 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

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Sincerely,

William R. Kohnert & *Sammy Depert*

April 25, 2007

RECEIVED

APR 30 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

I am a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company and believe that the suggested rate increase is unreasonable.

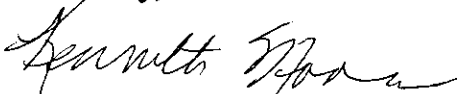
An increase of 116% would be realized (\$16.50 to \$35.67) by this company in a three year time period. We all know that any company must be able to make profits, but this, in my opinion, is excessive.

As a point of interest, I contacted a Platte City home owner and found that their two person household paid less than \$7.00 sewer bill this month. Quite a difference!

From the company's notice, I also see they are proposing double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

I do sincerely hope that an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records will be conducted by commission staff. I further believe that a public hearing on this matter would be appropriate.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Moore
13355 Sycamore Dr.
Platte City, MO 64079

816-858-3912

RECEIVED

APR 16 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

April 9, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to voice my opinion by saying this proposed increase is absurd. We have lived in our home since June 2000. In 2004 our sewer rate was \$16.50 and was increased to \$26.97, now you are proposing another almost \$9.00 a month increase. I do not understand how you expect existing homeowners on a tight budget to be able to pay this. Existing home owners should not have to be responsible for the new developments sewer connections. When is the next scheduled forum to discuss this matter in public?

Concerned Home Owner,



Pam McLain
15880 NW 130th St.
Platte City, MO 64079

*This letter is in reference to request
QS-2007-0008*

From: Robert E. Omundson
13455 Sycamore Drive
Platte City, MO 64079

RECEIVED
MAY 10 2007

Date: May 4, 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

To: Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is extremely excessive and untimely.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the last home in Timber Park was built and the development was finished. Coincidentally, the monthly sewer rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?
- What is the status of Summit Way's sewer system? Are they still dumping or pumping sewage from that development into the Timber Park system?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,


Robert E. Omundson

April 20, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

RECEIVED

APR 23 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2003, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just four years later, an increase to \$40.67 (including the new grinder pump charge) is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 146% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 146% increase in the span of four years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Theresa E. Raney
13445 Timber Park Dr
Platte City, MO. 64079

April 20, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2003, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just four years later, an increase to \$40.67 (including the new grinder pump charge) is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 146% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 146% increase in the span of four years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Rachel Moore
12575 Oak Ridge
Platte City, MO.

64079

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

May 3, 2007



Hunt Midwest

8300 N.E. UNDERGROUND DRIVE
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64161
(816) 455-2500 • Fax: (816) 455-2890

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Department
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Office of the Public Counsel
Attn: Water/Sewer Department
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. Small Company Rate Case
Tracking No. QS-2007-0008

Greetings:

Hunt Midwest Real Estate Development received an "Initial Customer Notice" from Timber Creek Sewer Company regarding its recent request to the Missouri Public Service Commission for permanent increases in its sewer rates. We are writing this letter as a representative of several developers who own substantial property within the Timber Creek Sewer service area. Furthermore, we represent many of the future customers that will be subject to the Timber Creek Sewer Company's rates.

We have not engaged in a detailed analysis of each of the rates proposed for increases by Timber Creek, but based upon our initial review we firmly object to the proposed increase for the service connection fee. Just 4 years ago, the Timber Creek Sewer Company's service connection fee was set at \$1,000 per home site. We were required to pay that fee prior to connecting a development to any sewer lines. For a typical 50-lot residential subdivision phase, those connection fees totaled \$50,000 to be paid by the developer at the time a plat was recorded which is well in advance of actual sewer usage.

In 2004, the Timber Creek Sewer Company raised the connection fee to \$1,600 per home site and now in 2007 proposes to dramatically increase that fee to \$3,200 per home site. At that level, the connection fee costs for a typical 50-lot residential

subdivision phase will total \$160,000. If this new connection fee is approved, we will see connection fees more than triple in cost over a 4-year period.

It is our position that this increase is unjust and unreasonable and will have a substantial negative impact on development in this area; and in general be detrimental to the public interest. In our estimation, the proposed connection fees are well above any reasonable cost and we have not been provided any justification for the rate increase.

As mentioned above, we have not examined each of the rates that the Timber Creek Sewer Company proposes to increase and may have objections to one or all in addition to the service connection fee proposal.

Our consolidated group requests that the Public Service Commission Staff and the Office of Public Counsel reject the Timber Creek Sewer Company's proposal to increase these rates, particularly the service connection fee. If the Timber Creek Sewer Company is intent upon this proposal, it should be part of a standard rate case in which Hunt Midwest and other parties may participate.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the contents of my letter. Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ora Reynolds".

Ora H. Reynolds
Vice President & General Manager

CC Timber Creek Sewer Company

April 20, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

RECEIVED

APR 26 2007

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2003, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just four years later, an increase to \$40.67 (including the new grinder pump charge) is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 146% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 146% increase in the span of four years exceeds this expectation.

The Company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Carey Rolofson

13245 Timber Park Dr.

Platte City, mo 64079

816-858-5846

TO: Public Service Commission
Attn: Water / Sewer Dept.
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RECEIVED
APR 11 2007

Reference to request # **QS - 2007 - 008**

UTILITY OPERATIONS
DIVISION

The request by Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. for **another** increase in its current sewer rates in my opinion should be denied for the following reasons.

We have had sewer service provided by Timer Creek Sewer Co., Inc. since June of 2004. In that period of time the sewer rates have been increased several times. The company has service and mainteance problems due to lack of training of employees to cost effectively provide installation and maintenance of the system.

I feel that a 32.24% increase in rates is highway robbery of their customers. Why should a rate increase of 32.24% be granted to any public utility company inorder to pull them out of a hole which they themselves dug.

Increases in sewer rates in an amount as requested would put the company on the **FORTUNE 500 COMPANY LIST.**

Darrel G. Yager
16770 NW 137th Court
Platte City, MO 64079
816-431-2761

cc: Office of Pubic Counsel

Russo, Jim

From: Abell, William CTR USA [William.Abell@us.army.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2007 10:35 AM
To: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Cc: Water.Sewer
Subject: Opposition to rate increase (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: **UNCLASSIFIED**

Caveats: NONE

Gentlemen,

The proposed rate increase of over 32% for the Timber Creek Sewer Company is both excessive and punitive for the residents of Timber Park, in Platte County Missouri. The sewer company was created by the developer and he has a captive market. We already pay some of the highest fees in the surrounding area. There is no segment of the economy which warrants such an increase, certainly household incomes have not risen to meet such a demand. It would be one thing if there were some form of competition or other alternatives to the families living in Timber Park. Our only advocate is your office. We all who live here strenuously object to this increase. Please apply some common sense and keep our costs and his revenue in line.

Thank You in advance
William Abell
15740 Timber Park Court
Platte City Missouri 64079
816-858-2053

William M. Abell

Battle Command Training Program
Operations Group "Delta" (Dragoons)
913-684-9653 Cell 816-678-2053
Nipr William.Abell@US.Army.Mil
Sipr William.Abell @US.Army.SMIL.MIL

Classification: **UNCLASSIFIED**

Caveats: NONE

5/7/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Brian Banks [brianbanks6@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2007 8:28 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer Company Rate Increase; Request number QS-2007-0008

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand that in addition to the monthly rate increase, they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

In addition, I would like to know if other privately owned sewer companies have increased their rates at a similar percentage over the same time frame. Also, following the increase, how would the rates compare to such other privately owned sewer companies? Higher, lower or about the same. I would venture to guess that the monthly rates far exceed those of other privately owned sewer companies. Are the requested rates comparable to those provided by municipal sewer companies? If not, why not?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

5/1/2007

Sincerely,

Brian Banks
16115 NW 134th Street
Platte City, MO 64079
Home (816) 858-2722
Mobile (816) 914-6992
email: brianbanks6@yahoo.com

5/1/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Art & Karen Braun [ixthus@kc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2007 11:42 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: QS-2007-0008 Rate Increase Request

May 2, 2007

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

I am a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, and I would like to voice my opposition to the rate increase request QS-2007-0008; I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- * What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- * What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- * What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?

- * How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Braun
13525 NW 135th Court

5/7/2007

Platte City, MO 64079

5/7/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Brinkman, Merrit [MBrinkman@lvksch.org]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2007 3:57 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov; coincidental31@yahoo.com
Subject: QS-2007-0008

This letter is in response to request number QS-2007-0008.

The following concerns should be noted:

1. Pump rental and 75.00 dollar service fee for maintenance? Timber Creek Sewer charges 75.00 dollars per hour to service a pump that they choose to use in conjunction with their system. Now they want an additional 5.00 dollars a month rental fee for the existence of this pump to be used in accordance with that system. I am not aware of any other subdivision in Platte City that uses a grinder pump. Additionally, the pump installed should be able to grind up feminine hygiene products which the current pumps are not able to do. Timber Creek Sewer has chosen to install a low end grinder pump and the customer is paying the price for that decision. I do not want to have to rent something (then pay a 75.00 dollar service fee when it breaks down) that in this day and age should be able to handle such things as feminine hygiene products and flushable baby wipes.

Question: Will home owners be able to select a high quality pump that will be required by the Timber Creek Sewer Company to be installed instead to the low end model they have selected to use? In addition, will the home owners own the grinder pump after so many years of rental payments and will Timber Creek Sewer be required to service that grinder pump after ownership is obtained by the property owner without an additional charge of 75.00 dollars to the homeowner?

With a rental fee and a service fee the consumer is paying the price for a company's decision to install a grinder pump system (a low quality one at that). When are they (Timber Creek Sewer) going to have to pay for the decisions that they have made as a company?

2. Every resident on our street has either had replacement or repair done to their grinder pump. With this replacement or repair each resident has received a service charge in the amount of 75.00 or 150.00 dollars from the Timber Creek Sewer Company. Some residents have even reported back up of the sewer into their basements do to the malfunction of the grinder pump that has resulted in damage to carpeting and/ or drywall.
3. From prior visits to our property, Timber Creek Sewer Company employees informed the residents that Timber Creek Sewer Company was going to change out the current grinder pumps with different grinder pumps from another manufacturer. According to Timber Creek Sewer Company employees, Timber Creek Sewer Company has installed a below industry standard grinder pump. Timber Creek employees have reported on several occasions that Timber Creek Sewer Company is not satisfied with the current grinder pumps and plan to go with a new manufacturer of grinder pumps in the future. They anticipated replacing all current grinder pumps with new ones from the new manufacturer beginning spring of 2007.

To this day that switch of grinder pumps has not taken place.

- 4 It was explained to the homeowners that if the water level in the reservoir dropped below a certain level that the grinder pump would shut off automatically as a safety to the pump itself until the water level returned to a safe operational level. This built in operation could result in material (i.e. toilet paper) jamming the grinder mechanism due to the material not being fully ground-up when the water level dropped.

This automatic shut down of the grinder pump has resulted and will continue to result in back-ups into the customers basements because the pump has shut down and is not grinding...but definitely this shut down of the grinder pump will result in a service call to Timber Creek Sewer Company. They have to (let me repeat...THEY HAVE TO) come out and service the grinder pump because the pump can not restart itself. When the grinding mechanism automatically shuts off and becomes jammed by what's currently being ground, the system is not designed to back off and restart itself...it has to be done manually by a Timber Creek Company employee. So due to this drop in the water level (which there has not been given a clear explanation way this occurs) the automatic shut off is activated and to no fault of the home owner (they are just using their facilities), they have to make a service call to Tiber Creek Sewer Company. In making this call, the home owner will be guaranteed to receive a service charge form the Timber Creek Sewer Company to fill the reservoir (with water from the house of the home owner) and restart the grinder pump manually. This has already happened on several occasions.

5. Customers in our area are aware of stronger pumps that can handle such things as personal hygiene products and disposable baby wipes. Customers are also aware of pumps that can retract (turn count clockwise) when they become jammed and restart themselves. No need for the customer to make an unnecessary service call, ultimately resulting in a 75.00 charge when the water level drops, because these pumps can retract and restart itself.

Question: Why should the customer be charged a rental fee on a below industry level grinder pump and be charge a service fee for its maintenance when it fails to perform?

Russo, Jim

To: C.

Subject: RE: Request # QS-2007-0008

April 17, 2007

SUBJECT: Timber Creek Sewer Company Utility Rate Increase Request

I am sending this email in response to the comments you submitted regarding the above-referenced subject. Please be advised that the rate increase request you commented upon is simply that, a request by the Company. A rate increase will not occur unless the Commission approves one, and that will not happen unless the Staff of the Commission has submitted a recommendation for approval of an increase to the Commission.

The Staff is currently auditing the Company's books and records to determine if it believes a rate increase is warranted. The Staff is also conducting reviews of the Company's service charges and connection fees, the Company's operation of its utility facilities, the Company's business operations and the Company's tariff provisions to see if any changes regarding those matters are warranted. When the Staff's audit and reviews are completed, the Staff will work with the Company, and the Office of the Public Counsel, in an attempt to reach an agreement regarding the Company's request.

If at least the Staff and the Company reach an agreement regarding the Company's request, proposed tariff revisions, a written agreement and a Staff recommendation for approval of the tariff revisions and the agreement will be submitted to the Commission for its consideration. Depending on whether the Public Counsel joins in the agreement, if one is reached, a notice regarding the results of the agreement may or may not be sent to the Company's customers. If an agreement regarding the Company's request is not reached between at least the Staff and the Company, no rate increase will occur.

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments regarding the Company's request, and again please note that a rate increase will not occur unless the Commission approves one.

Sincerely,

James M. Russo
Assistant Manager – Rates
Water & Sewer Department

From: C. [mailto:charzieann@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:25 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Request # QS-2007-0008

I think this is absolutely and totally out of line. The sewer bill for this company was raised almost 100% two years ago when they (the sewer co) wanted to start building a new subdivision... Now, they are wanting to expand their utility again, and it involves investing their money to establish the lines, etc....because there are no homes in the area that they are wanting to improve.... Now once again, they have come up with this ridiculous plan that we need to raise everyone using their service..(as if we had a

4/17/2007

choice).. I would not mind if it was based on usage..but their entire history is based on when they want more money to expand..they dont want it out of their pocket...plus....

whenever there is problem with odors, and drainage, etc...they ignore the conditions...and hope the wind starts blowing from the other direction soon...so someone else will smell it. Their drainage throughout the neighborhood that we live in has been connected to their latest subdivision..and obviously it is not made to handle the additiional (that we got our rates raised for).

They do not charge on usage...they charge on their whim...for their personal gain...and I think that is not a valid reason for requesting increase. They are wanting to give themselves a raise!!...instead of investing the resources they have wisely and giving value for the charge.

Approval is not in our anyone's interests, except their own. They have no intentions of improving the existing system, nor addressing the existing problems with these funds...they are wanting to expand their interest.

Looking for earth-friendly autos?

Browse Top Cars by "Green Rating" at Yahoo! Autos' Green Center.

Russo, Jim

From: Deb Chatfield [deb@EliteLendingUsa.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2007 11:58 AM

To: Water.Sewer

Subject: Rate increase Request QS-2007-0008

To Whom It May Concern:

I feel that this rate increase is excessive. 100% increases in the Service Connection Fee, Permit/Inspection Fee & also the Re-Inspection Fee is not a reasonable increase and apparently they are just looking to settle for any increase. What is meant "increases to the Utility Plant"? This proposal contains a lot of words and not numbers, maybe a better presentation would be where the money goes...

It would seem that the growth in the area would not overwhelm the current sewer system and monies in any business need to be set aside for the capital improvements and it should not expect the public to pick up the tab for poor or no planning. The drawing board has been full for the increase in population in Platte City for many years and this is not a new issue.

I think that ANY increase for the residents is too much.

Thank you for your time.

Deborah Chatfield

4/25/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Leslie Christians [lcvalk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 3:47 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Timber creek sewer rate increase

Several years ago they increased from 17.00 a month to 27.00, a 63% increase. Now they want an additional 32.24% along with 100% increase in connection, inspection and re inspection fees. I truly feel that they should keep up with inflation but this is rediculus with over 95% increase in 2 years. I have no problem with making a profit and when you check their books, really check to make sure things are truly in order. They are using the same reasons as before and I truly believe this increase is out of hand (OURS).

Thank you,
Leslie Christians
15955 NW 134th Circle
Platte City, Mo. 64079
Phone:186-858-4423

Expecting? Get great news right away with [email Auto-Check](#).
Try the [Yahoo! Mail Beta](#).

4/10/2007

Russo, Jim

From: janene.coleman@gm.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 4:34 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Rate Increase for Timber Creek Sewer Co.

To whom it may concern:

I am interested in communicating that I do NOT want a rate increase for my sewer service. It is my opinion, based on 14 years of paying water/sewer/trash commitments, that the current rate is applicable for the monthly service I receive. A 32 percent increase is unfounded and greedy.

Please do not increase my rates.

Thank you.

Janene Coleman
13640 Wagon Pass Rd
Platte City, MO
64079

4/10/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Chris Fullinwider [phillygirl@kc.rr.com]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 8:54 PM

To: Water.Sewer

Subject: QS-2007-0008

I just received a notice that informed our family of the request by Timber Creek Sewer Company to increase our monthly rates by 32.24%. I am outraged by the greed of this company!! What increase in services am I to expect for this level of increase?? In an economy where many working people do not receive a cost of living raise, companies are laying off, and upper management receives astronomical raises and bonuses while the working class receives little if anything, this is an additional burden we don't need. Our water and sewage service is adequate, but not worthy of a 32.24% increase. I can't imagine what benefits that increase will provide to my current service. Once I receive a 32.24% increase in my current salary, I will be more inclined to consider this proposed increase.

Please put some consideration into this letter,
Dean and Christina Fullinwider

4/17/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Erin Galbraith [egalbraith_76@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 12:40 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer CO Increase

In Response to:
Timber Creek Sewer Company Increase
Reference Number: **QS-2007-0008**

To Whom it May Concern:

My husband and I were shocked to hear that the Timber Creek Sewer Company is demanding such an increase in their rates. We moved to this area about a year ago and were aware that rates run a little higher, in general, because it is a town with a good reputation (Platte City, MO). We are also aware that there is a possibility of the city re-annexing and therefore starting to extend commercialization out our direction. However, being that we are outside city limits, to date, and have no options on our sewage system, we feel that it is an unfair monopoly that have no right for such a drastic increase in rates. I understand that rates will go up, especially to protect the company, but if and when we are given a choice to choose a company (if and when we are annexed into the city), they won't have our support.

Concerned Citizen,
Erin N. Galbraith

Erin N. Galbraith
egalbraith_76@yahoo.com

Finding fabulous fares is fun.
Let Yahoo! FareChase search your favorite travel sites to find flight and hotel bargains.

Russo, Jim

From: Dawn Gallegos [DGallegos@Ccharities.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2007 7:29 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: QS-2007-0008 Rate Increase Request

I am a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, and I would like to voice my opposition to the rate increase request QS-2007-0008.

April 22, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

The company's infrastructure is fairly new—the oldest sewer lines were built in 1995. These are not old lines that need frequent service, further raising questions about the rate increase request. I would like to have exact figures the company has submitted to justify the increase request:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what types of additional staff are needed to support the business?

As Missouri law dictates, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

4/25/2007

Sincerely,

Dawn Gallegos

4/25/2007

Russo, Jim

From: James Goering [jamesjened@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007 9:08 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer Co. Rate Increase

Reference: QA-2007-0008
Public Service Commission
Office of the Public Counsel

In regards to the proposed rate increases;

With the Grinder charge, this looks to be a 48% increase in monthly charges.

I'm not sure how costs could increase that drastically for justification.

We're in a high growth area. So, is the company spreading capital costs over the current customer base? Shouldn't the company spread equipment and other infrastructure costs over the projected growth numbers?

I don't have time to investigate the spread of these costs. I put my trust in your hands to do an impartial evaluation. If the basis of this cost increase is mainly an increase in capital costs, and the overhead staff for this; then, I feel the developers, the sewer companies, and the future base of customers should absorb more of these costs.

Regards,

James Goering
jamesjened@msn.com
13415 Timber Park Lane Platte City, MO 64079

The average US Credit Score is 675. The cost to see yours: \$0 by Experian.
<http://www.freecreditreport.com/pm/default.aspx?sc=660600&bcd=EMAILFOOTERAVERAGE>

Russo, Jim

From: Jim Hedrick [hedrick.jim@uniteone.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007 12:57 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: QS-2007-0008

Attachments: Timber Creek letter.doc



Timber Creek
letter.doc (35 KB...

Please see attached letter concerning QS-2007-0008 rate increase.

Thank you

Jim Hedrick

Hedrick Construction Co. L.L.C.

1063 Couchman Dr. ~ Kearney, Mo. 64060
Phone 628-5428 ~ Fax 628-3148

04/30/07

Public Service Commission /Office of the Public Counsel
Att: Water/Sewer Dept.
Jefferson City MO. 65102

Reference # QS-2007-0008

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is James Hedrick. I live at 6626 N.E. 134 terrace Smithville MO. in the Johnson Ridge subdivision which is served by Timber Creek Sewer Co... Also I own Hedrick Construction Co. L.L.C. which builds homes in the same subdivision.

I would like to express my concern over the proposed rate increase by Timber Creek. I feel that a 32.24% rate increase is very excessive. If you include the additional \$5.00 charge for the grinder pump that makes the rate increase over 50%. I think a modest increase in the monthly charge would be understandable remember the cost of living increase is less than 3%. I also question the statement that the increase is due to utility plant and infrastructure investments. The infrastructure investment to Timber Creek Sewer Co. in Johnson Ridge was \$0.00. The developer paid Timber Creek Sewer Co. for all the equipment and installation for the entire system. Timber Creek Sewer Co. actually made money on the sale of the equipment and the installation labor. I believe this is the norm for all systems in Clay and Platte County.

From the construction company side of this I think that a 100% increase in the connection fee is very excessive a well. There is no logical reason why any fee should double in price.

I am a small business owner and I understand prices are rising but the increases asked for in this proposal are way out of line with other price increases I've seen in the last year. The typical price increases that I have seen from my suppliers are in the 3% to 7% range.

Please consider these concerns when acting on this proposal.

Sincerely
James Hedrick
816-628-5428

Henry comment.txt

From: THENRY7@kc.rr.com

Sent: Sunday, April 22, 2007 11:09 AM

To: mopco

Subject: request number QS-2007-008

I think this raise is unfair My water bill isn't this high I think it is unfair that we all pay the same when I'm just one person. I don't use that much water.

sincerely teresa henry 13465 timber park lane platte city mo 64978

Customer Comment

Date: 4-23-2007

Facility: Timber Creek Sewer Co

Case Number: QS-2007-0008

Name: Russell Hinchee

Address: 13745 Coal Trails, Platte City, MO, 64079

Phone Number: 816-431-6630

Comments:

- Wants to object to the proposed rate increase
- 32% is a large amount to be raising rates
- Water bills are just as high and increasing the rates would be out of hand

cb

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 64102
Water.sewer@psc.mo.gov

Attn: Water/Sewer Department:

I am writing this letter to oppose the rate increase for the Timber Creek Sewer Company regarding request **QS-2007-0008**. I think the proposed rate increase is a pretty steep increase and I think it comes without justification. Currently we are already paying \$323.64 per year and the new increase would jump us up to \$428.04 per year (that is without figuring the additional \$5.00 per month grinder pump charge. I think the \$26.97 per month charge is adequate and doesn't need to be re-evaluated at this time.

Thank You,

Crystal Jalloul
Oak Creek Subdivision
Platte City, MO

Russo, Jim

From: Crystal Jalloul [crystal.jalloul@brrarch.com]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2007 12:20 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Proposed Rate Increase

Attachments: Proposed Rate Increase.doc



Proposed Rate
Increase.doc (37...

Attachment enclosed for Oak Creek Subdivision, Platte City MO 64079

Crystal Jalloul
BRR Architecture, Inc.
6700 Antioch Plaza, Suite 300
Merriam, KS 66204
direct: 913-236-3391
main: 913-262-9095
www.brrarch.com

kansas city | bentonville | phoenix | san francisco | tampa | miami

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Russo, Jim

From: Sarah Johnson [sarahbjohnson@kc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2007 9:53 AM
To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer monthly rate increase

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been a resident of the Lakes at Oakmont subdivision just south of Platte City, MO for the past 6 years. During that time I have seen our sewer rates increase from 16.00 plus dollars to 26.97. Now I understand that there is another proposed increase to \$35.67.

It befuddles me why this is so. There are at least four major new subdivisions in process with several homes already sold and at least one smaller subdivision with townhomes that are occupied. Why must I be responsible for the increase in cost when obviously the area is growing and will continue to grow? Surely there are enough homes, existing and new construction, that this enormous increase should not be allowed. \$35.67 is close to the amount of my monthly water bill!!!

Please do not allow this egregious hike to happen.

Thank you,

Sarah Johnson
15960 NW 131st CT
Platte City, MO 64079

4/26/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Kuehn, John CIV USA TRADOC [john.t.kuehn@us.army.mil]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 12:39 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov; jkuehn1@kc.rr.com
Subject: Proposed Rate Increases (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: **UNCLASSIFIED**

Caveats: NONE

Sir, I received your 06 april 2007 correspondence which is seeking a substantial sewer rate increase almost 33%. This increase in our bill would be well beyond inflation and does not account for all the additional income generated with the existing infrastructure as new houses and paying customers are brought on line. I understand that processing costs also go up as well as the initial capital investment--but at the other end their will be increased revenues to match. I cannot accept that operating costs will go up this much, if at all. I strongly urge you to more comprehensively show why such a drastic increase is needed...other than perhaps poor planning and accounting. I am opposed to this sort of arbitrary and high-handed increase unless more information is provided. I cannot imagine how a double-digit increase is necessary at this time.

Respectfully,

John T. Kuehn
13140 NW Ridgeview Drive
Platte City, MO

Classification: **UNCLASSIFIED**

Caveats: NONE

4/9/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Tonymartensdodge@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2007 8:13 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: request # QS-2007-0008

To whom it may concern:

As a resident of this sewer district for approximately six years I find this rate increase exorbitant and unwarranted. After hooking up to Timber Creek sewer company the monthly charges were about \$15.00 per month, and now they want to increase that to over \$40.00 per month. As a business owner myself it would certainly be profitable if I could raise my prices over 100% in a six year period. Also, why is there an extra \$5.00 charge per month if your property uses a grinder pump, as my home does? Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Phillip A. Martens
12790 NW 145TH TERR
Platte City, Mo. 64079
816-270-2253

See what's free at AOL.com.

5/1/2007

Customer Comment

Date: 4-11-2007

Facility: Timber Creek Sewer Co.

Case Number: QS-2007-0008

Name: Cecil Murray

Address: 15765 NW 134th St., Platte City

Phone Number: 816-858-2128

Comments:

- Has had sewer odor problems w/lift station for over 4 years.
- Co recently suggested and installed charcoal filters on his house which has helped, but he wonders if this is due to Co wanting rate increase.
- Co had a lawyer talk to the HOA members to intimidate residents about complaining about odors. Indicated they would sue those who complained.
- Said he has talked with Martin Hummel of PSC, but Martin says he cannot make them repair the odor problem.
- Said a DNR inspector has been there but nothing has been done.

cb

Russo, Jim

From: RICHARD NOTHNAGEL [rcnoth@msn.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 21, 2007 10:51 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Sewer Rate Increase for Timber Creek Sewer Co.

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.

Office of the Public Counsel
Attn: Water Sewer Dept.

I am writing to let you know that as a resident of Timber Park in Platte City MO that my wife and I are dead set against any rate increase for Timber Creek Sewer Co. My feeling are if they want to expand in Platte City they should expand and then let the new customers incur most of the costs. It is my understanding that the City of Platte City wants to have Timber Creek Sewer put in service to a commercial area on the east side of I-29 and that is one of the reasons that the Sherry's want to raise my rates when I won't be getting anything in return. If Platte City wants Timber Creek Sewer to do \$500K of expansion then the city should help to off set the costs not the established small customers. I understand that the cost of doing business has gone up but NOT at 32.24% for a established residential customer. About 3 years ago Timber Creek Sewer was allowed a very large rate increase when a new subdivision that the Sherry's own was started and I also felt then that the rate increase wasn't justified at that time. Thank you for your time and effort in getting this resolved.

Richard and Carmen Nothnagel
13360 Timber Park Lane
Platte City, MO 64079

4/25/2007

Russo, Jim

From: splemmons22@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2007 8:17 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer Company Rate Increase

RE: QS-2007-0008

To Whom it may Concern:

My husband and I are residents of Oakmont Hills and we are very concerned at the proposed increase in the sewer rates. If passed this would be the 2nd rate increase in less than 5 years. At a time when inflation has increased at around 3% per year and our income has increased at that 2-3%. This increase of over 30% seems to out of line with the economics of the time. Of course we are also concerned with the strain on our current budget if fixed expenses are allowed to run out of line with what the economy as a whole is doing. We would ask the you consider our protest of such an extreme % rate raise to the current clients and to also consider that the raise is very close to the previous increase also of a substantial % increase.

We and all current homeowners appreciate your consideration of our issues with this increase.

Thank you
Greg and Shirley Plemmons
13035 NW Ridgeview Dr.
Platte City, MO 64079

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5/7/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Earl Plotner [eplotner@kc.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2007 12:47 PM
To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: RE: QS-2007-0008

In regards to the "Initial Customer Notice" dated April 6, 2007 from Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. for a rate increase would like for you to consider our comments.

We moved into this community in April 2004 and our "monthly sewer rate" was \$16.50 but shortly after, there was an increase of 63.45%, making it \$26.97. The "service connection CIAC charge" was \$1,000 and there was an increase of 60%, making it \$1600.

Now, less than 3 years later the Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. is asking for another rate increase? We request you thoroughly and seriously consider disallowing the proposed increases...there is just NO justification in:

Monthly Bill increase of 116.20% from April 2004/\$16.50 to proposed increase to \$35.67

-OR-

Service Connection Fee increase of 220% from April 2004/\$1000 to proposed increase to \$3200.

As for the monthly bill---it should be based on the amount EACH household uses---NOT the same amount for each household! Why should a household of 2 adults pay the same amount for sewer usage as a household that has 6 children & 2 adults? We don't pay the same amount for the water usage, it's based on actual amount of water we use! It shouldn't take a "rocket scientist" to figure out that a household of 8 uses far more water/sewer than a household of 2 adults; therefore this whole concept of "equal" billing is NOT FAIR!!!

Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. has a monopoly in this area and we do NOT have a choice of service providers; therefore it appears they have the right to request whatever they please. We ask that you CAREFULLY and completely review their supposedly "valid" request and also consider putting yourself in the homeowners position where a 116.20% increase of monthly billing rate & a 220% increase in connection fee is absurd!

Thank you.

Ronald Earl & Betty L Plotner
eplotner@kc.rr.com

5/7/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Monica Puls [mpuls@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2007 11:17 AM
To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov
Cc: mpuls@earthlink.net; Me at Work
Subject: REF # QS-2007-0008

Public Service Comm. and Office of the Public Counsel;

As a homeowner in Platte City, MO and recipient of services from Timber Creek Sewer Co. Inc. I would like to request direction to or a formal copy of the findings as requested in the audit/investigation that the office of Public Svc Comm. would be conducting, concerning the fee increase request from Timber Creek.

I would argue that the increase is not due inflated costs and maintenance but due to the lack of understanding by the companies in the Platte City area; as to how to deal with the current urban sprawl. As a bedroom community of the KC Metro Area, Platte City should have been more proactive in their determinations of services and subsequent fees vs. raising the costs for consumers at a whim. I would point out that poor management and preparation is to blame for the situation and that the consumer should not be financially accosted because of this.

A nominal increase is expected at times but increases in the amount of 100% are preposterous and require detailed specifications as to why with a guaranteed audit pursuing by the Public Svc Comm.

Please respond via email or home address as to how we can view the findings.

Respectfully,
Monica J. Puls
12920 NW Ridgeview DR
Platte City, MO 64079

Russo, Jim

From: Schmidt, Aaron [aschmidt@huntmidwest.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2007 4:04 PM

To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov

Subject: QS-2007-0008

Attachments: Timber Creek Sewer Letter Pg. 2.JPG; Timber Creek Sewer Letter Pg. 1.JPG

Please find comments regarding request number QS-2007-0008. The original letter will arrive via U.S. Mail

<<Timber Creek Sewer Letter Pg. 2.JPG>> <<Timber Creek Sewer Letter Pg. 1.JPG>>

Aaron Schmidt
Manager of Construction
Hunt Midwest Real Estate Development, Inc.
8300 N.E. Underground Drive, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64161
(816) 455-2500
(816) 455-8701 Fax

5/7/2007

From: Allen Smith [asmith01@uniteone.net]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2007 3:40 PM
To: watre.sewer@psc.mo.gov; mopco
Subject: Ref: QS-2007-0008 Platte City/County

I am in amazement that this increase was even considered, based on the amount of the jump per household. I do not believe that we should incur this percentage and further wish that this is totally refused throughout the entire area. I am "Opposed" and many of the homes in Oak Creek are in arms over this tactic and outrageous request. By no means will this get approved, or there will be a decrease of families in the area because we will have a voice together.

Allen Smith

Hunter Drive

Platte City, MO 64079

Russo, Jim

From: D. Stewart [rhapsody@uniteone.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2007 11:09 AM
To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Rate increase for Timber Creek Sewer Co.

Reference: **Request # QS-2007-0008**

We are writing to protest the proposed rate increase for the Timber Creek Sewer Co in Platte City, MO.

We are residents of the Summerset Subdivision. In 2002, the subdivision hooked up to the Timber Creek Sewer System. The charge for service was \$16.50 per month. Two years later, they asked for and received a 63.5% rate **increase** which brought our monthly fee to \$26.97.

Now just three years later, they want an additional 32.24% increase for a total of 95.74% increase over five years.

Our annual cost for sewer service will increase \$104.40. Where will it end??

When we agreed to switch from a septic system to public sewer system, we did not expect unreasonable, double digit rate increases. How can such increases be justified? I would hope you would carefully consider this request and **DENY** the rate increase.

Jim and Diana Stewart

5/16/2007

Russo, Jim

From: John/Nancy Stewart [jdsnas@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 7:50 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Request # QS-2007-0008

From: John & Nancy Stewart 13720 Station Dr. Platte City, Mo. 64079 Tel# 816-858-3772

Unlike Timber Creek Sewer Co, most sewer charges are based on customer water usage. Our household consists of 2 people; so our water usage is less than the average family. We also have a 2nd home in Florida; so we are not in residence in Platte City for the entire year. We are paying the same amt. as every other family regardless of their size which we feel is not equitable. In less than 3 years we have seen our sewer bill go from \$11+ to \$26.97 and not to possibly more than \$35.

We feel the current charges are exorbitant for the services we receive and for the amount of water/sewage which we currently put thru the sewer system.

John & Nancy Stewart

Russo, Jim

From: Larry Terrell [lterrell@kc.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2007 10:19 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: QS-2007-0008

My husband and I live in Summit Way and would be affected by this increase. My husband has not had an increase in pay in 4 years and I am retired on Social Security. We both feel an increase of 32.24% is excessive. We can see that the company would need a slight increase to cover increase in overhead, but not almost 33%. Our sewers are in and we paid when we purchased the house for that. We don't feel it is necessary to pay again for someone else to have sewers installed, when they will be charged for installation too. There has to be some way to prevent companies from being able to increase service charges by this amount. If we were to have a vote it would be a resounding NO! In the past when we as a family have had an increase in expenses and a decrease in revenue, we have bit the bullet and cut our expenses to cover the difference. We believe that business should try to do what individuals do. We have taken pay cuts over our lifetime and still managed to pay the bills. Let the companies do the same.

Thank you, Larry and Michael Terrell 16715 NW 137th Court, Platte City, MO
64079

Russo, Jim

From: David Trewin [adtrewin@uniteone.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2007 11:59 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: Nancy Wakefield; Jason.Brown@house.mo.gov; mopaco@ded.mo.gov; 'Jay Nixon'; charlie_shields@senate.mo.gov; Jay Nixon
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer Company's Unwarranted Rate Increase Request

May 2, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is unnecessary.

You have given the Sherry's, Timber Creek Sewer Company's owners, a monopoly that YOU are suppose to control, we have no other recourse but to ask you to look at the facts.

Wouldn't every privately owned company like to be in the Sherry's shoes? How many hundreds of homes have been added to their sewer company, raising their revenues, with NO marketing cost to Timber Park Sewer Company. There is currently, according to the Platte County Economic Development Commission, over 2,000 homes on the drawing board in just Highland Oaks, Hills of Oakmont, Running Horse and Seven Bridges. This leaves out several other developments like Bedford Falls, Summit Way (Owned by the Sherry's) and Fox Creek. And it also leaves out the retail development at the end of Running Horse Road. And, a new Town House development with another 148 hook ups, will be decided on this month.

Why should there be a rate increase with all this growth both current and planned that is HANDED to the Sherry's.

Until 2004, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rate was increased to \$26.97. Now, just three years later, an increase to \$35.67 is being requested. By any reasonable analysis, this rate of increase is extreme, representing a whopping 116% increase over the original rate. How can that be justified when growth along has provided Timber Creek such a landfall.

From the company's notice, we also understand they propose to double connection fees, permit/inspection fees, and re-inspection fees.

We appreciate that company investors expect a reasonable rate of return on their investment, but surely 116% increase in the span of three years exceeds this expectation.

As Missouri law requires, I look forward to an aggressive, independent audit of the company's books and records by commission staff. Furthermore, because of the magnitude of this rate increase request, I strongly believe a local public hearing, where all facts, figures, income, and expenses can be presented publicly, is appropriate.

5/7/2007

I am asking the others, I have sent a copy of this message, to be aware of this unwarranted rate increase and to understand we need any assistance. I hope that Attorney General Jay Nixon is as interested in consumer protection as his web site and survey suggests. This would be a great place to protect consumers. To my elected officials I ask help in that many of your constituents are affected by this as will others in the future.

Sincerely,

A. David and Lynda Trewin
16075 NW 135th Street
Platte City, MO
64079

CC: Jason Brown, Missouri House of Representatives, Jason.Brown@house.mo.gov,
CC: Office of Public Counsel/Attn Water-Sewer Department, mopaco@ded.mo.gov,
CC: Jay Nixon, Missouri State Attorney General, consumer@ago.mo.gov. and
ag@ago.mo.gov
CC: Charlie Shields, Missouri State Senator, charlie_shields@senate.mo.gov
CC: Nancy Wakefield, President, Timber Park Home Owners Association,
nancywake65@hotmail.com,

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.467 / Virus Database: 269.6.2/784 - Release Date: 5/1/2007 2:57 PM

5/7/2007

Facsimile Cover Sheet

To: *Water / Sewer Dept*
Company: *Public Service Commission*
Phone:
Fax: *573-751-1847*

From: Tom and Nancy Wakefield
Company: 13385 Timber Park Dr, Platte City, MO
Phone: (816) 858-3670
Fax:

Date:
Pages including this
cover page:

Comments:

May 2, 2007

Public Service Commission
Attn: Water/Sewer Dept.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

Re: Request number QS-2007-0008
Timber Creek Sewer Rate Increase Request

As a customer of the Timber Creek Sewer Company, I feel the requested rate increase is excessive. I am asking that The Office of the Public Counsel conduct an audit and investigation of this rate increase.

I would like to have a map of the sewer system that goes through Timber Park Subdivision, the first subdivision where the sewer system was placed. Now all of the sewage water from Timber Creek Sewer Company that is to the north and east of our subdivision goes through our neighborhood.

Until 2003, we paid \$16.50 a month for sewer service. That year the rates were increased to \$26.97. Now, just four years later, an increase to \$35.67 is requested. According to my math, that is a 116% increase in four years.

I would like answers to the following questions:

- What are the increases in utility plant and infrastructure investment?
- What are the increases in operation and maintenance expenses?
- What are the increases in the Public Service Commission's annual utility assessments and DNR's annual sewer discharge permit fees?
- How many and what type of additional staff are needed to support the business?

I look forward to appearing at the public meeting to voice my concerns.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wakefield

Nancy Wakefield
President, Timber Park Homeowners Association

Russo, Jim

From: Timberpark01@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2007 4:00 PM
To: Water.Sewer
Cc: mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: Rate Increase for Timber Creek Sewer Co.

On August 15, 2003, I received a letter from Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. requesting from the Missouri Public Service Commission, a 63.4 percent increase in their sewer rate. They were approved for a rate increase. On April 6, 2007, Timber Creek Sewer Co., Inc. is again requesting another increase of 32.4 percent. I wrote a letter to Missouri Service Commission Water and Sewer Department after receiving the first letter back in 2003, expressing my dissatisfaction. However, I did not receive a response to my letter and noticed the rate did increase. I feel that a company needs to have adequate return on their investments but I believe 2 raises in 3 and a half years is excessive, especially with such a large increase.

Sincerely,

Dean Winter
Timber Park Resident

See what's free at AOL.com.

4/9/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Cyndi [cyndiw@kc.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2007 7:33 PM
To: Water.Sewer; mopco@ded.mo.gov
Subject: QS-2007-0008

I am sending this email in regards to the notice I received from Timber Creek Sewer. They state that they wish to increase rates by 32%, but in reality, it is 50%, as they are adding an additional \$5 "grinder pump" monthly fee. Rates were under \$20 in 2004 when we moved in here, so they have already raised them once, quite substantially. I totally understand cost of living raises. I'd like to know someone who gets a 50% raise every 2-3 years!!!

They are requesting this raise for a variety of reasons, one which is for infrastructure. Why should those existing houses have to pay for the new development?

In closing, \$40 for just sewer is by far the highest fee I have EVER paid. I, along with everyone else I have spoken with, would appreciate you NOT approving their request for an increase in pricing, certainly not a 50% increase.

Thank you for your time.

Cyndi Wolfe
816-858-2233

5/7/2007

Russo, Jim

From: Mike and Ruth Woodard [mrwoodard@mac.com]
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2007 8:53 AM
To: Water.Sewer
Subject: Timber Creek Sewer Rates

I am forwarding you this letter from Cyndi Wolfe to reiterate our feelings on the rate increase. We TOO strongly request you not approve such an hefty increase in rates.

Thank you again,
Mike and Ruth Woodard