

From: [TOEWS Kimberly * PUC](#)
To: [TOEWS Kimberly * PUC](#)
Subject: FW: Docket UW 186
Date: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:20:31 AM

From: John Barg <JBarg@bargcoffin.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 4:56 PM
To: PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC <PUC.PUBLICCOMMENTS@puc.oregon.gov>
Subject: FW: Docket UW 186

Public Utilities Commission of Oregon
Administrative Hearings Division
P. O. Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

Re: Sunriver Water LLC Request for Service Rate Increase -- Docket UW 186

Dear Members and Staff of the PUC:

Please accept this comment opposing Sunriver Water LLC's proposed rate increase, Docket UW 186. Once again, Sunriver Water is seeking an outsize increase to its rates – an increase of about 40% -- “to increase [its] annual revenues by \$726,542,” also about 40%, according to the “Customer Notice” dated August 25, 2021. I received the “Customer Notice” today, September 3, 2021.

As a Sunriver homeowner and rate-payer, I expect Sunriver Water to provide timely advance notice of its plan to seek a rate increase, and to offer some justification for the increase. The “Customer Notice” I received today was the first notice I have received, and the Notice contains no information whatsoever to justify any rate increase, much less a 40% increase, other than its boilerplate “current revenues are insufficient” and its desire for “a reasonable return on the Company’s needed capital investment.” A 40% increase in service rates and revenues is not a “reasonable return” in the current economic environment.

As the regulator charged with protecting consumers from overreaching and the sort of high-handed behavior we are seeing from Sunriver Water, the PUC should reject out-of-hand the requested rate increase, and deny Sunriver Water any rate increase whatsoever to deter utilities from seeking to overcharge their customers. Otherwise, Sunriver Water will have every reason to continue seeking, without justification, outlandish rate increases, hoping the PUC will trim back modestly the requested increase. It is in the public interest to require utilities to seek service rates that are truly reasonable and fully justified.

Please provide me with all notices, submissions, and orders in this matter at the mail address below.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,

John F. Barg

Mail address:

6 Sara Lane
San Carlos, CA 94070

Sunriver address:

2 Acer LN
Sunriver, OR 97707

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