

**Customer Comments for Increase in Rates by Aquarina Utilities, Inc.**

**Docket No. 20190080-WS**

In 2016, the Public Service Commission, over the objections of the residents, approved a rate increase for non-potable and wastewater requested by Aquarina Utilities. That huge increase in water rates almost put our golf course out of business. We have since instituted a series of pumps to get water to irrigate the golf course. Now we are going to be punished for saving money by an increase in potable water and wastewater rates.

We are retirees and live on a fixed income – as are the majority of residents in Aquarina. The proposed monthly water rate increase is a 50% increase for our meter size - **\$19.80 to \$29.97** plus an increase in our base water rate per 1,000 gallons from \$7.18 to \$ 10.87.

Here is how this increase will affects us: We are a family of 2 adults; we do an average of three loads of wash a week, using a HE washing machine and we live in an HOA that maintains our lawns (and the increased water rates approved in 2016 forced a huge increase in our HOA fees) , so no household water is used on lawns As you can see, our water usage is minimal.

**Our February bill was: used 3750 gallons of water x \$7.18/1000 gals. = \$26.93 + \$19.80 (base facility charge by meter size) = \$46.73. Add \$44.81 for wastewater = \$91.54.**

**Under the proposed rate increase, 3750 x \$10.87/1000 gals. = \$40.76 + \$29.97 (increased base facility charge by meter size = \$70.73. Add \$70.00 (approximate cost for wastewater) = \$140.73. An increase of over 50%.**

This proposed increase is unconscionable, especially now in these financially troubled times. We don't know how we can cut back on our water use to compensate for the increase in rates. Water is a basic human need and we are at the mercy of a water company that continually increases our rates.

Janet and Larry Olson

122 Whaler Drive, Melbourne Beach, FL

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COMMISSION  
CLERK



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