

WARNING: Your Monthly Liberty Commercial Sewer Invoice is about to be \$116.46...a whopping 37% increase!

BUT -- there is still time for you to protest to the Arizona Corporate Commission (ACC) as the Hearings are in mid September! First a few facts:

The ACC Staff, the Resident Utility Consumer Office (RUCO), The Town of Carefree and several HOAs are volleying NOW with Liberty Utilities as "Interveners" citing facts, figures, and financial documents, and are challenging Liberty's proposed rate increase which Liberty claims is needed to protect their profit margins. The City of Scottsdale passed a City Resolution opposing this proposed rate increase.

RUCO's position states, "**utilities have a natural business incentive to shift costs from non-regulated competitive operations to regulated monopoly since recovery is more certain with captive ratepayers.**"

When RUCO testified that Liberty's rate of return over the three years, prior to closing, were from 2 to 3 ½ times greater than the ACC authorized limits; Liberty called RUCO's facts, "twisted and concocted."

Liberty is expecting total compensation for closing and decommissioning an "ancient" Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), that was built in 1969, which continued to emit NOXIOUS odors and noises until the ACC ordered it closed in November of 2018!

Liberty's original estimates for closing this WWTP started at \$1.5 to \$2 million and eventually went to about \$7 million, but in the end, it allegedly cost Liberty over **\$11 million**. Close, but not **EXACTLY** !

Liberty now states, "all of the cost estimates it presented in prior rate cases were made without engineering bids," and that, "all cost closure estimates were made without knowledge of actual on-site conditions ..." And most telling, their president testified, the closure cost estimates that were provided by the Company to the ACC, in prior rate proceedings were, "**at best, guesstimates.**"

Fellow **Captive** Ratepayers: The ACC records clearly show that your 500 letters of protest were well-received by the ACC Commissioners at past Hearings. We **NEED** to do that **AGAIN** or we will be facing a 41.7% increase in our monthly sewer charges!

PLEASE NOTE: All the quotations above are direct from legal documents of public record.

If you are **OUTRAGED** with Liberty's proposed Rate Increase, resulting from their "**guesstimates**"; PLEASE take a few minutes **NOW** and write to the Arizona Corporate Commissioners... a sample letter is attached should you choose to use it as a guide for your own thoughts and comments.

Bob Moore, registered Intervener