

The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: SHAD BOWERS
Submission Time: Mar 4 2024 4:05PM
Email: spectrums_hockey@yahoo.com
Telephone: 971
Address: 866 Deer Trail Rd
Blanchard, ID 83804

Name of Utility Company: CDS Stoneridge utilities LLC

Case ID: SWS-W-24-01

Comment: "I am contacting you (Idaho public utilities commission) regarding Stoneridges requested rate hike.

For starters Blanchard is a rather low income area which is largely comprised of retired people on fixed incomes or younger families who due to the economically depressed nature of the area are low income earners. the proposed 261% rate increase will have a significantly negative impact on the community.

The fact that Stoneridge hasn't had a rate since 2007 isn't the fault of the people relying on this utility, it is Stoneridges fault for not requesting a rate hike. To think that it is the consumers responsibility to make up for that by all the the sudden asking for a 261% increase is ludicrous.

My understanding is Stoneridge was originally tasked with providing a water utility for the surrounding area due to the concern that their own extremely high water demands would impact local private wells. in 2018 when the current ownership purchased the resort they knew what was involved with the utility. They chose to move forward with their purchase knowing the utility was part of doing business.

Stoneridge resort is the biggest beneficiary of the water utility. They use MASSIVE amounts of water. The fact that they have made \$900k in upgrades and repairs to the system should by in large be considered an expense of running a golf course and resort. the fact that they want everyone else to pay for their expense is troubling to say the least.

In the letter they sent out to explain the rate increase proposed they stated "(golf irrigation revenue is projected to decline to zero.)" Does this mean that they are expecting to pay zero for their MASSIVE water usage when increasing everyones rates by 261%? Once again Stoneridge is by far the largest consumer of their own water and probably the reason why the \$900k worth of improvements were necessary. why should the rest of us pay for their cost of doing business?

Their service isn't great either. we are often without water or the quality of the water is poor. Water coming from their system is often cloudy or has an odor. They are also very difficult to deal with often times. I was even witness to one of their employees becoming hostile with my neighbor. When my

neighbor wasn't having it they called for several people from Stoneridge to show up in what looked to be a show of force meant to intimidate. All because of a broken water shut off valve at my neighbors meter.

The fact is Stoneridge profits from their dealings at the resort. The utility is a part of running that type of business. Stoneridge takes from this community through special favors from the county and the fact that they stifle other business from thriving in our town. Please don't allow Stoneridge to take anymore from this community to benefit their wealthy customers/residents.

Name: Lynn Emery
Submission Time: Mar 4 2024 4:13PM
Email: laqemery@gmail.com
Telephone: 530-400-4972
Address: 66 Parkland Ct.
Blanchard, CA 83804

Name of Utility Company: Stoneridge Utilities

Case ID: SWS-W-24-01

Comment: "We have had a home in Stoneridge since 2007. We find the proposal to increase the water rates 261% unbelievable and unconscionable. If this was approved we would have one of the highest water rates in the nation! We ask you to please deny this request."

-----Original Message-----
From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 2, 2024 10:00 AM
To: ConsumerComplaintsWeb
Subject: Notice: A complaint was submitted to PUCWeb

The following complaint was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Gary Cook
Submission Time: Mar 2 2024 9:38AM
Email: glc44@me.com
Telephone: 208-966-7406
Address: 444 Stoneridge Rd
Blanchard, ID 83804

Name of Utility Company: CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC

Contacted Utility: No

Comment: "This is an outrageous rate hike. There is no proof that there has been any upgrade to the system, or to the sewer system. We would like facts, audits, and receipts for all upgrades to show that there is this kind of rate hike required. We have seen no evidence of any improvements.

This is an outlandish fee. \$24 is fair, but what would he be charging for overage above and beyond his requests??? We do not agree with his request to increase our rates from \$24 to \$86.65 base fee. It is unreasonable.

Gary Cook. Case #SWS-W-24-01. CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC"

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Jerry Purcell

Submission Time: Mar 5 2024 9:40AM

Email: jpurcell1965@gmail.com

Telephone: 253-209-9390

Address: 133 Forest Ridge Rd

BLANCHARD, ID 83804

Name of Utility Company: CDS StoneRidge Utilities LLC

Case ID: SWS-W-24-01

Comment: "I find the proposed rate increases completely out of line with current inflationary rates and they would have a large negative impact on a number of fixed income residents. It would also appear that the owner is attempting to recover lost revenue from the golf course, which I believe he owns. Not sure why as a homeowner I should be responsible to make up for lost revenue from the golf course. I would respectfully request the Id. PUC to perform a thorough investigation and audit into this request before making any decision. Thank you for your consideration. Jerry & Tricia Purcell"

-----Original Message-----

From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 4, 2024 1:00 PM

To: ConsumerComplaintsWeb

Subject: Notice: A complaint was submitted to PUCWeb

The following complaint was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Gary and Patricia Hartwig

Submission Time: Mar 4 2024 12:34PM

Email: winterokies@frontier.com

Telephone: 208-437-0888

Address: 345 Mountain View rd

Blanchard, ID 83804

Name of Utility Company: CDS Stoneridge utilities

Contacted Utility: No

Comment: "I am writing to scream about the proposed 261% increase they want. We have lived here for 20 years and are both in our mid 70's. We are on a very fixed income and with this increase would be disadvantaged as well as most of our neighbors in our neighborhood! Please vote this down. Thank you for listening "

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Stephan Rezac
Submission Time: Mar 5 2024 12:42PM
Email: stephanrezac@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-255-8243
Address: 28 Sans Souci Drive
Blanchard, ID 83804

Name of Utility Company: CDS StoneRidge Utilities

Case ID: SWS-W-24-01

Comment: "March 5, 2024

Hello,

I am writing regarding a water rate increase proposed by CDS StoneRidge Utilities (PO Box 298, Blanchard, Idaho 83804).

This utility has proposed water rate increases of 261% to 543%. On its face, this proposal is absolutely ridiculous.

CDS StoneRidge claims to have "invested" more than \$900,000 since ownership transfer. PLEASE verify this claim. I know the claimed investment has not been in infrastructure or system improvements, such as the water system infrastructure...the wells. pumps, transfer pipe system, etc. is the same as when purchased. I suspect the owner has transferred his OWN money as capitalization, which should be regarded as owner's equity and not an expense to be recouped from utility customers.

I believe that when CDS StoneRidge purchased the utility, Chan Karupiah, the owner, claimed to have enough cash and assets to fund improvements and capitalization. He should live up to this agreement without impacting users of the utility.

The operating expenses absolutely do not justify a rate increase. This proposal is about greed. The owner of CDS StoneRidge also owns a golf course...StoneRidge. The golf course used to get its water from the utility...but the golf course did NOT pay its water bill. Chan Karupiah, owner of the utility and the golf course, figured it was his money either way, so why handicap a marginally performing asset (the golf course). The golf course drilled its own water well and has separated from the utility for water supply. The employee related expenses are minimal. One person to read meters for six months of the year, who also takes chlorine readings every few days...a part time employee at best. Another part time person to

administer billings and receive payments. Chan Karupiah spends one day per week at StoneRidge...where he oversees the utility, the sewer system, the golf course, and the bar/grill. I am positive he has allocated too much overhead for his expenses into the rate increase paperwork.

CDS StoneRidge, the utility, has been chronically late with filings and reports due to the IPUC since it was purchased by Chan Karupiah...he has an open and well known disregard for these type of regulatory obligations.

I guarantee you that if IPUC insists on conducting a forensic audit of CDS StoneRidge financial statements and records, that Chan Karupiah will withdraw his rate increase request. He does not want ANYBODY to review/audit his actual financial statements!

Please deny this rate increase in its entirety.

Thank you.

Stephan and Nancy Rezac
28 Sans Souci Drive
Blanchard, Idaho 83804"
