

From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Mike Ritthaler
Submission Time: Mar 28 2023 3:26PM
Email: mike.ritthaler@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-965-6165
Address: 1507 Bedford Dr
Boise, ID 83705

Name of Utility Company: VEOLIA

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I completely oppose this rate increase proposal, and Veolia and their representatives should feel ashamed in bringing it. I do not believe this ask is in good faith, but merely an over the top bargaining tactic. As a public utility, their primary focus should be serving the public, not their own private coffers. People living in Boise are already getting squeezed by huge housing cost increases as well as the effects of inflation. I also take offense with including the \$10.5M acquisition of the Eagle Water Company as part of their improvements. I don't live in Eagle or benefit from that acquisition yet it seems my rates should go up to help pay for it. Finally, a few back of the envelope calculation shows the sheer avarice of this ask. Veolia has stated they have invested 70 million dollars in improvements, and are asking for an extra 12.1 million dollars a year to pay for it. That would allow them to recoup the cost in 5.7 years. Since, no doubt, they will never propose a rate decrease, they would have doubled their investment of 70 million dollars in ~12 years. That's the equivalent of investing in a 12 year corporate bond that pays a simple annual interest of 8.33%, with no risk, and further more will continue to pay in perpetuity. Would that we all had a chance for such an investment. Their track record in Flint, Michigan (they were contracted to assess the lead contamination) and Pittsburgh, (another lead contamination crisis after Veolia decreased water quality staff by half, and increased water rates by 20% over four years) shows that their interest is not to the public they serve, but to their profits. "

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From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 9:00 AM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Justin Nutzman
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 8:23AM
Email: justinnutzman@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-996-4174
Address: 5571 Old Ranch Rd
Boise, ID 83714

Name of Utility Company: Veolia Water

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "Good morning! I am relaying a concern over recent news I heard. We are very concerned to hear of Veolia's dramatic 24% rate increase request. From my understanding they bought Suez knowing the current rate of return. Their own public statements to investors detailing about record profits before their proposed rate hike. We feel their proposed rate is FAR out of line with their costs and other water utilities in the regional market and exceeds any measure of inflation. The IPUC needs to interface with Veolia and come to an understanding to provide water services at a reasonable cost. Thanks for your time. "

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From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 11:01 AM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Jeff Taylor
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 10:29AM
Email: jeff@dc208.org
Telephone: 208-440-3456
Address: 3809 W Camas St
Boise, ID 83705

Name of Utility Company: veolia

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "this arte increase is ridiculous. they want us to pay for their investments that we didn't approve. I do not support the increase, particularly on the heels of a significant increase that they already had recently. "

Name: Miranda Joondeph
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 10:43AM
Email: mirandafayj@gmail.com
Telephone: 406-633-0209
Address: 753 S Kiser Avenue
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Veolia Water

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I am opposed to Veolia's outrageous, predatory 24% rate increase request. They bought Suez knowing the current rate of return. Even their own public statements to investors boast about record profits before their proposed rate hike. Their proposed rate is FAR out of line with their costs and other water utilities in the regional market and exceeds any measure of inflation. The IPUC needs to hold Veolia accountable to provide water services at a reasonable cost and stop trying to gouge Idahoans, many of whom are on fixed and low incomes."

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From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 12:00 PM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Eric Joondeph
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 11:24AM
Email: cluck-calumet-0t@icloud.com
Telephone: 720-936-3312
Address: 753 S Kiser Ave
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Veolia

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I am opposed to Veolia's outrageous, predatory 24% rate increase request. They bought Suez knowing the current rate of return. Even their own public statements to investors boast about record profits before their proposed rate hike. Their proposed rate is FAR out of line with their costs and other water utilities in the regional market and exceeds any measure of inflation. The IPUC needs to hold Veolia accountable to provide water services at a reasonable cost and stop trying to gouge Idahoans, many of whom are on fixed and low incomes."

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From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 7:00 AM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Kelly Williamson
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 6:20AM
Email: k2plus3@gmail.com
Telephone: 503-460-7406
Address: 18330 N Goldenridge Way
Boise, ID 83714

Name of Utility Company: Veolia

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I am opposed to Veolia's outrageous, predatory 24% rate increase request. They bought Suez knowing the current rate of return. Even their own public statements to investors boast about record profits before their proposed rate hike. Their proposed rate is FAR out of line with their costs and other water utilities in the regional market and exceeds any measure of inflation. The IPUC needs to hold Veolia accountable to provide water services at a reasonable cost and stop gouging Idahoans.
Sincerely, Kelly Williamson "

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From: PUCWeb Notification <Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 3:00 PM
To: Jan Noriyuki <jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Thomas Wulbrecht
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 2:50PM
Email: mtnhome999@verizon.net
Telephone: 909-225-2697
Address: 18442 N. Burnt Car Pl.
Boise, ID 83714

Name of Utility Company: Veolia Water Company

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I am opposed to the 24% rate hike proposed by the Veolia Water Company. This outlandish increase far exceeds all measures of inflation, and they are not providing any increase in services to account for their added revenue proposal. I am on a fixed income, and if this increase is approved then I will be forced to cut back on other essentials. Say no to this gouging attempt."

Name: David Grunke
Submission Time: Mar 29 2023 2:52PM
Email: grun1078@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-301-5696
Address: 320 W Fall Dr
Boise, ID 83706

Name of Utility Company: Veolia Water

Case ID: VEO-W-22-02

Comment: "I am writing to urge the Idaho PUC to soundly reject the proposed general rate increase of 24.1% for Veolia Water customers. I do not believe Veolia has provided sufficient evidence to warrant such a significant increase in the cost of water for its customers. I understand that Veolia purchased the rights to water from Suez who bought the rights from United Water. This is a classic pattern (strategy) of merger and acquisition until a market monopoly is reached and no other choice is available for a consumer. Without the permission of such an entity as the PUC, I am confident that Veolia would have already implemented a 24% increase, if not more, from the residents of Idaho. Therefore, it becomes the duty of the PUC to protect Idaho residents from unfair and monopolistic increases that are unwarranted and solely in the interest of profit. Finally, I must say I was offended by the suggestion that this increase equates to "a cup of Starbucks" a month. Firstly, as a consumer, I try to avoid such unnecessary expenditures, which makes the flippant nature of this comment quite insulting. Secondly, whenever expenses to individual residences are minimized to things like "a cup of coffee" you know that a CEO somewhere is cashing in and buying a new yacht. I really hope it's not on my dime. Thank you."

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