FILED October 04, 2013 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF) PLEASANTVIEW UTILITIES, INC. FOR A NEW) SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES.)	CAUSE NO. 44351-U
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INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR'S

NOTICE OF FILING

PUBLIC'S LATE-FILED FIELD HEARING EXHIBIT 3

October 4, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Murray, Atty, No. 28916-49 Deputy Consumer Counselor

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing *Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor's Notice of Filing Public's Late-Filed Field Hearing Exhibit 3* has been served upon the Petitioner, who is not represented by counsel in the captioned proceedings, by electronic service on

October 4, 2013.

Matthew Sherck Pleasantview Utilities, Inc. 3812 West Galaxy Drive Connersville, IN 47331 <u>msherck@co.fayette.in.us</u>

Tiffany Murray, Atty. No. 28916-49 Deputy Consumer Counselor

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR 115 West Washington Street Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204 <u>infomgt@oucc.in.gov</u> 317/232-2494 – Phone 317/232-5923 – Facsimile

Haeny, Kathleen

From: Fran [mikecolassaco@gmail.com] Sent: UCC Consumer Info To: Subject:

Tuesday, August 13, 2013 4:03 PM Proposed rate increase

Re: Cause numbers 44351-U (water) and 55432-U (sewer)

To Whom It Concerns:

I am very dismayed about the proposed water & sewer rate increases proposed. The first notice I had was in the newspaper on August 9 (Fri)—which is only 15 business days prior to the decision. This is inadequate time for appropriate responses. Is this the legal time limit?

One can cite increases in various ways to deflect the truth. As a general consumer, a much smaller rate increase was proposed at one time by the ownership of Pleasant View Utilities (PVU) --- 2007 (?) --- IF we, the consumers in Pleasant View, would forego oversight by an Indiana regulatory body. If however, if we chose NOT to allow the private ownership this 'freedom' from regulation, our water bill would likely increase much more. The consumers voted to keep the IN regulatory body and as expected the sewer/water bill increased from \$25. to \$50.00, personally. However, I was relieved to know the quality of the water would be monitored.

It is my understanding, consumers in Pleasant View now receive better-quality water from Connersville. However, the underground pipes need to be repaired (monthly per workers' reports) often and can cause disruption of service in the area frequently. My concerns addressed to the IDEM are: During the past 35 years, what has the private ownership (PVU) done to maintain (vs. repair immediate/emergency breaks) the sewer/water lines AND the Treatment-plant? Does the IDEM require the same? Compared to similar subdivisions--- size and age etc.--- how much is revenue to expense expected and legitimate?

I realize PVU needs to make a profit but what is the company's obligation both legally and morally? The treatment plant reportedly needed repairs 10 years ago; the residents in Pleasant View would not absolve PVU's responsibilities then so the area had to receive water from Connersville Utilities. Now it appears to have been a 'temporary fix' and once again, residents are left with increases while being 'locked-into' our only water source-'middleman'--- Pleasant View Utilities. Perhaps it is time for PVU to answer some of the above questions also.

We, residents in Pleasant View, have managed without street lights, sidewalks (safety issues) and fire hydrants (which increases homeownership insurance) but to be 'held hostage' by these forced water increases, while others profit for years, is outrageous and unconscionable.

Sincerely,

Fran Bender-Colassaco

Haeny, Kathleen

From: Web Form Poster [michelle.l.spivev@gmail.com] Tuesday, October 01, 2013 9:28 PM Sent: To: UCC Consumer Info Subject: Website Contact Form Title: Mrs. First Name: Michelle Last Name: Spivey Email: michelle.l.spivey@gmail.com Street Address: 973 S. Co. Rd 350 W City: Connersville State: IN Zip: 47331 Phone: (765)338-9956 ext. Type: mobile No Phone Service: Case Number: 44351-U Pleasantview Utilities Comments: Regarding the rate increase of over \$26.00 a month to the current sewer rates. This amount of increase will be a financial burden to many of the residents of Pleasantview. There are an estimated 17 homes in Pleasantview that are currently unoccupied. This does not include the 24 apartments within this small community. There are also an unknown number of homes that are rented. These temporary residents may choose to reside outside of Pleasantview if they are unable to afford the rate increase. Fayette County has the highest unemployment rate in Indiana which is 11.4%, according to the Indiana Workforce Development at http://www.stats.indiana.edu/maptools/ma ps/thematic/laus/laus 07 2013.png. The projected increase is unreasonable for the people that Pleasantview Utilities serve. I don't dispute that updates to the sewer system may be needed. However, as in every expense related decision, we must consider what we can afford. A \$26.00 increase to a monthly bill is not a solution that is feasible for the residents in Pleasantview. I would hope that the OUCC would take this into consideration as they make they make their decision in regards to the community which I reside. Thank you, Michelle and Michael Spivey 973 S. Co. Rd 350 W Connersville, IN 47331

Haeny, Kathleen

From: Sent: To: Subject: Web Form Poster [townsendenterprises@yahoo.com] Thursday, October 03, 2013 11:50 PM UCC Consumer Info Website Contact Form

Title: Mrs. First Name: Jennifer Last Name: Townsend Email: <u>townsendenterprises@yahoo.com</u> Street Address: 3384 Serenity Pkwy. City: Connersville State: IN Zip: 47331 Phone: ()- ext. Type: home No Phone Service: Case Number: 44351-U Pleasanview Utilities

Comments: My family does not drink the water out of the faucets. We bring ourwater from town. Water pressure is awful. Takes forever for the washerto fill.We think the rates are high now let alone a huge rate hike.Ourwater bill will be more than our gas and trash bill put together.Rates have gone up in the past and nothing has been fixed.I truelyhope that the comments made to the OUCC from the residents ofPleasantview are evaluated closely in the final decision!