

Brief – Michael Skiendzielewski – Water Rate Board Hearings – June 6, 2018

1. The burden of proof is on the moving Party, in this instance the PWD. PWD must prove that a rate increase is both justified and needed, that all other options would be worse than raising the rates
2. PWD has admitted it has more cash than it projected, the cash is in the rate stabilization fund
3. PWD has admitted its collections have been better than projected which is its explanation as to why the rate stabilization fund is growing With the improved call center and low income plan, we should expect collections to once again be better than projected.
4. PWD has admitted that some PWD consumers are treated differently than others and there is nothing in this rate filing that will address that inequity
5. The only tool the Water Rate board has to force PWD to improve its operations, collections, and fair treatment, is to deny the PWD the cushion it is looking for through this rate increase.
6. Rate increases create a burden on consumers and should be avoided when not needed, justified or required.
6. Therefore no rate increase should be granted.

Sincerely,

Michael Skiendzielewski
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