

INFORMATION SHEET

Argyle Estates Water Supply Rate Increase Request

(Case No. WR-2022-0345)

Introduction: The Missouri Public Service Commission.

The Missouri Public Service Commission regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas, steam, water and sewer companies and has limited authority over telephone providers in the state. The Commission ensures the public has access to safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility service. The Commission must balance the interests of the public – ratepayers – as well as company shareholders. In proceedings before the Commission, rates are set to give the utility company an opportunity – but not a guarantee – to earn a reasonable return on its investment after recovering its prudently incurred expenses.

In addition, the Commission regulates the state’s rural electric cooperatives and municipally-owned natural gas utilities for operational safety. The Commission also oversees service territory issues involving investor-owned electric utilities, rural electric cooperatives and municipally-owned electric utilities as well as those involving privately-owned water utilities, public water supply districts and municipally-owned water districts. Utility services and infrastructure are essential to the economy of Missouri. Virtually every Missouri citizen receives some form of utility service (electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water or sewer) from a company regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

When did Argyle Estates Water Supply file its rate request with the Public Service Commission?

On June 13, 2022, Argyle Estates Water Supply filed a water rate case with the Missouri Public Service Commission seeking to increase annual water operating revenues by approximately \$6,000. According to the customer notice, for a residential customer using approximately 7,500 gallons of water per quarter, Argyle Estates seeks to increase quarterly water rates from the current rate of \$56.39 per quarter to \$85.74 per quarter. Argyle Estates states the reason for the requested increase is to cover increases in expenses and/or investments in the Company’s facilities.

Has the Commission decided this case?

No. The Commission will review all of the information filed in this case and then render a decision based on the evidence.

What is the format of this local public hearing?

There will be a question-and-answer session followed by the formal local public hearing.

- 1) **Question-and-Answer Session:** Those attending can ask questions of representatives from the company, the PSC Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel. Comments on the case should not be made during this part of the public hearing.
- 2) **Formal Local Public Hearing:** After the question-and-answer session, there will be a formal local public hearing where members of the public can make statements under oath. Those statements will be transcribed by a court reporter and will become part of the case record. **Only the Commissioners or the Regulatory Law Judge may ask questions during the formal local public hearing.**

The questions and answers made during the question-and-answer session WILL NOT be part of the case record or considered by the Commission when it decides whether to grant the request.

What is the purpose of a local public hearing?

The purpose of the local public hearing is to give you the chance to express your opinions, concerns and requests on the record.

May I testify?

Yes and your comments at today's local public hearing will become part of the case record.

You may also send written comments to the Public Service Commission regarding the rate case or any service related issues. Please see the information below as to how to submit written comments to the Public Service Commission. When sending in written comments, please reference case number **WR-2022-0345**.

Will I be able to ask the Commissioners questions during the local public hearing?

No. You may express your concerns to the Commission, but the Commissioners will not be able to answer your questions. They are prohibited, by law, from expressing an opinion until they have heard all of the evidence.

Written comments may be mailed to:

Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Send electronically to: pscinfo@psc.mo.gov

Or through the Commission's website: psc.mo.gov
(Please reference Case No. WR-2022-0345)

PSC TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 1-800-392-4211

Office of the Public Counsel

P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

1-866-922-2959 or 573-751-4857

Send electronically to: opcservice@opc.mo.gov
(Please reference Case No. WR-2022-0345)