


5-30-14

To: Clerk of the Board, regarding rate increase
for sewer charges.

Living on a fixed income as I do, it is very
hard to make ends meet as it is. I live
alone, my husband past away in 2010, I
already pay \$54.89 for sewer, raising it \$6.43
doesn't sound like much, but any amount
can be hard to manage, it all adds up.

Thank you
Mildred Garner



2014 JUN -3 PM 1:22

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Friday, 23 May 2014

To: Laguna County Sanitation District
Santa Barbara County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

2014 MAY 23 PM 1:11
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

From: Roger and Jeanne Brunel



Dear Santa Barbara Sanitation District Board Member,

This letter is in response to the announcement of the Laguna County Sanitation District hearing on 17 June 2014, regarding the proposed sewer rate increase.

To that end, my wife and I would like to take this opportunity to 1) make a point and 2) ask a question.

The point we would like to make is that we pay approximately 2.5 times more to treat 1 gallon of our sewer water than we pay to purchase 1 gallon potable water. Please see Attachment.

And our question is: Could someone from the Santa Barbara Laguna County Sanitation District please inform us on how much other California sanitation districts of our size are charging Single Family Residence to dispose of their sewer waste. We would like to ask that question when we attend the hearing in 17 June, and we would appreciate if we could be provided with the yearly rates of some 2 or 3 other California districts of comparable size.

We appreciate the opportunity given to us to communicate with an important service provider in our community.

Cordially yours,

 & 
The Brunels

Attachment

Background

The average water usage in our household of two during past winter months when the sprinkler systems were essentially turned off is approximately 5,500 gallons a month. This would be the amount of water that would make its way to the sanitation treatment plant from our home.

In 2013, our household paid an average of 0.46 cents per gallon of potable water.

In 2013, our household paid approximately \$726 for a Single Family Residence sewer sanitary treatment services.

Calculations

Amount of water sent to the sanitary sewer treatment plant from our home in one year:

$$5,500 \text{ gal./mo.} \times 12 \text{ mos./yr.} = \mathbf{66,000 \text{ gal./year}}$$

Our 2013 Single Family Residence bill from the Laguna County Sanitation District to treat 1 gallon of sewer water from our home was:

$$\$726/\text{yr.} \times 100 \text{ ¢}/\$1 / 66,000 \text{ gal./yr.} = \mathbf{1.1 \text{ ¢/gal.}}$$

Finding

Ratio of sewer treatment cost to purchase price of 1 gallon of water:

$$1.1 \text{ ¢/gal} / 0.46 \text{ ¢/gal.} = \mathbf{2.39}$$

Conclusions

1. It's costing our household approximately 2.5 times more to treat 1 gallon of water than it does to purchase it, and
2. It seems counterintuitive that it would cost more to dispose of something (sewer water) than it does to purchase it (potable water.)

May 19, 2014

County of Santa Barbara
County Board of Supervisors
Clerk of the Board
County Administration, 4th Floor
105 East Anapamu St
Santa Barbara, Ca 93101

2014 MAY 21 PM 1:18

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

re: hearing to propose raising sewer rates

I am writing to let my feelings known on the upcoming hearing on June 17, 2014 with Laguna Sanitation wanting to raise the sewer rates for their customers in the coming year.

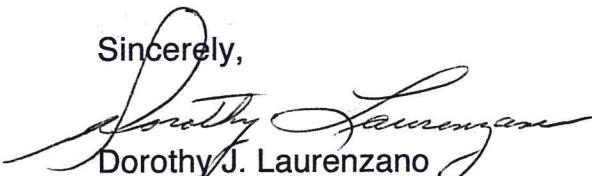
The rate they now charge is well beyond my means, but now they want to increase that rate to \$813.04.

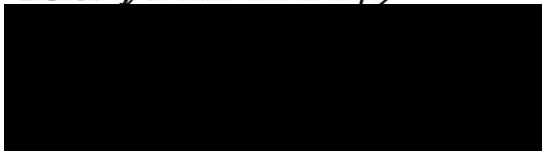
All the income I get is from social security and that is 873.00 per month, and I would like to see any of you supervisors live on that. My husband died 1 1/2 years ago, and all the income that comes into my household now is my social security.

This proposal is ridiculous, especially since most of my friends living in Santa Maria township is paying a much, much, lower rate for their sewer services.

I would appreciate it very much if you would consider this letter when making your final decision on this matter.

Sincerely,


Dorothy J. Laurenzano



15 May 2014

Laguna County Sanitation District
Clerk of the Board, 4th Floor
County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Reference: RATE INCREASE NOTICE
DATED 29 APRIL 2014

Subject: NO RATE INCREASE

Attention: Board of Supervisors

As usual, you are ill advised. I would bet that not one of you or your staff have been to this or any other "Wastewater Treatment Plant". Your "MISMANGEMENT" by being "Ignorant" is really poor policy. These people at Laguna County Sanitation District are "empire builders". The County should NOT be in the wastewater business. You should contract with the City of Santa Maria or, better yet, ANNEX Orcutt to Santa Maria. Laguna Sanitation just completed an "upgrade" in the last 5/6 years paid for by taxpayer bond issues. Time to stop the FOOLISHNESS. We opt NO! Your sewer rates are double comparable entities.



Fred Spiess



2014 MAY 19 PM 3:40
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

May 13th, 2014

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

Subject: Laguna County Sanitation District Proposed Rate Hike

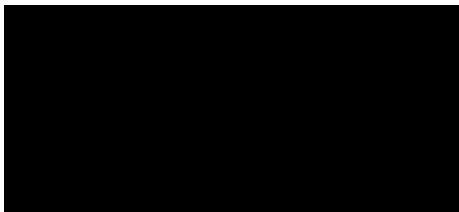
We emphatically request that you **not approve** the subject proposed rate hike. Any rate increases for our sewer services need to be diligently investigated and scrutinized for efficiency and necessity. Also a detailed audit needs to be performed to review wages, subcontracts, benefits and effectiveness. Individuals on fixed incomes do not receive 12% increases and continual granting of proposed rates will erode our fiscal stability.

Please consider this a written protest to the rate hike.

Gary Taylor
Dorothy J. Taylor

Gary and Dorothy Taylor

2014 MAY 15 PM 1:13
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



May 14, 2014

Clerk of the Board
Santa Barbara County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

2014 MAY 15 PM 1:13

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear Clerk and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

This is a **letter of protest** against the proposed rate increase for the Laguna County Sanitation District serving Orcutt and unincorporated Santa Maria.

This letter of protest represents a protest for **three single family residences** that we own in the Santa Maria/Orcutt "Y" area. These address are:

[REDACTED] (our family's personal residence for over 38 years);
[REDACTED] (We have owned these properties for over 30 years as part of our retirement financial plans; and for the record, due to college costs for our kids, we still have sizable mortgages on each one.)

In regard to my protest as it relates to our personal residence:

By way of introduction, I am a retired Court School Teacher and Juvenile Institution Officer having served well over 40 years in positions both with the Santa Barbara County Education Office and the Santa Barbara County Probation Department and living on a fixed income. Although we try to live fairly conservative financial lives, rises in the cost of health insurance and raises in taxes like the one proposed makes living in this county very difficult!

In regards to our rentals:

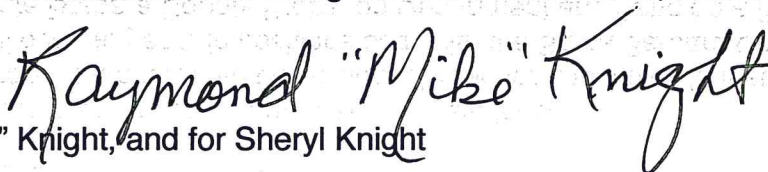
We have always attempted to keep our rents fair and reasonable. For instance, Mrs. Ownby has rented from us for 14 years. She and her husband's starting rent was \$1200/month and today it is only \$1300 when the fair market rate is about \$1700. Part of the reason for not raising her rent is that she is now a widow living on SSI and has had multiple bouts with life threatening illness for the last five years.

Our other rental has turned over more often so we have a closer to a true fair market rent on it. Nevertheless, we do like to rent to military folks who need rents to not increase as much as anyone.

In conclusion, I am asking the Board to really consider hard what a huge impact a 12% increase will have on retirees and tenants in our area of fairly modest incomes levels. Also, I want the Board to consider how **unreasonable** it is to expect that they could get 50% of the residents of any area of the county to participate in such a protest when a 50% turn-out for an election is difficult! **Let it be noted that from the best of my memory we have never written a letter of protest to any county official for any reason in the 47 years that we have resided in this county, but we are exhausted from being burdened with federal, state and county taxes!**

Respectfully,

Raymond "Mike" Knight, and for Sheryl Knight



5/14/2014

...

Richard Hart



2014 MAY 16 PM 1:04

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara
California 93101

Dear Clerk to the Board,

Proposed Laguna County Sanitation District Rate Hike

I wish to register my opposition to the 12% rate hike proposed but Laguna County Sanitation District. This proposed increase is significant and I would like to think that a demonstrable effort has first been made to contain costs through improved efficiency of their operation.

I confirm I am a homeowner resident at the above address.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Hart".

Richard Hart

5/14/2014

• • •

Patrick E. Glenn



2014 MAY 16 AM 8:23

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara
California 93101

Dear Clerk to the Board,

Proposed Laguna County Sanitation District Rate Hike

I wish to register my opposition to the 12% rate hike proposed but Laguna County Sanitation District. This proposed increase is significant and I would like to think that a demonstrable effort has first been made to contain costs through improved efficiency of their operation.

I confirm I am a homeowner resident at the above address.

Thank you,

Patrick Glenn

 5.14.14

May 5, 2014

2014 MAY -7 PM 1:57

Santa Barbara Co. Board of Supervisors
County Administration Bldg, 4th floor
105 East Anapamu St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

This is to ask you to deny any increase in sewer charges proposed by Laguna County Sanitation District. Their rates already are shockingly high. (On my property tax bill for 2013-14, the Laguna/sewer charge was a whopping \$654.33. That was \$149.58 more than my charge for the property taxes and school bonds combined.)

If their proposed sewer charge is okayed, literature from your office says my sewer charge would be \$87.12 higher than last year! A 12% increase!!! I'll bet my Social Security cost-of-living hike will not be 12% next time. It was 1.5% for 2014.

Please deny any rate increase. Residents, especially seniors, cannot stand constant increases on their bills.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Erickson

San Diego County Supervisor



May 10 '14

I wish to protest
the increase in
~~the~~ sewer charges
that ~~has~~^{has} been
proposed in your
letter sent early
this month. by
the Laguna County
Sanitation.
My address is.

Mary Frances Vigil



Mary Frances
Vigil

To - Clerk of the Board

From - Teresa Graves

2014 MAY -5 PM 1:18

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

I strongly disagree with the
increase in charges by
Laguna Sanitation District

I am an 80 year old widow,
my income has decreased now
and I'm afraid of losing my
home - of 55 years.

Teresa Graves

May 1, 2014

Dear Sir,

This is my written protest to the proposed increase in sewer charges for Laguna Sanitation services. In 1991 I paid \$191⁰⁰ for the year. If the increase is adopted I will have to pay \$813⁰⁰. Quite an increase over the years. You can be sure that my income has not increased.

Thank you,

2014 MAY -5 PM 1:21

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Just a note...