



JAMES SKOUFIS
Member of Assembly
99th District

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April 24, 2014

Audrey Zibelman, Chair
Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Ms. Zibelman:

I am writing to express my deep concern with United Water's recent application for a 24.5% rate increase in Rockland County. It is my understanding that the state's Utility Intervention Unit (UIU) has done a full review of United Water of New York with a focus on United Water's Management Services Company. The UIU found a 15% fee increase from the Management Services Company to United Water in 2012-2013 and 13% increase in 2011-2012, far exceeding inflation. I believe these increases are indicative of serious management issues that should be addressed before any rate increase is sought.

My constituents and I recognize the enormous fiscal impacts your decision will have on our ratepayers and communities. A rate increase at this time will have significant, adverse effects on my Stony Point constituents, many of whom are still in the process of rebuilding following Hurricane Sandy.

I strongly urge you to closely consider the recommendations by the UIU and Rockland County Municipal Consortium during your review process, keeping in mind the financial hardship any rate increase will have on Rockland County residents and businesses.

Thank you for your attention to this very serious matter.

Sincerely,

James Skoufis
Member of Assembly