



Montana Public Service Commission

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PSC Seeking Input on Sewer Rates at July 9 Virginia City Hearing

Are the new sewer rates in Virginia City reasonable? The Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) will be gathering information to help answer this question at a July 9 meeting in Virginia City. Earlier this year, 39 residents of the community filed a complaint with the PSC, which stated that the new sewer rates implemented by the Virginia City Council were not reasonable, and were unjustly discriminatory. The hearing, during which the PSC will hear from both the citizens filing the complaint and City Representatives, is at the Community Center, 123 West Idaho Street, and begins at 5:30 pm. The public will also have the opportunity to comment.

Commissioner John Vincent, whose PSC District includes Virginia City, said, "I hope the public can make it to the hearing and share their views with the Commission, allowing us to make the most informed decision possible. This is an important case that has the potential to directly affect all sewer service customers in Virginia City."

In addition, written remarks can be sent to the PSC at P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601 or through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Additional information about the case can be found under docket D2009.4.52 on the PSC website at <http://psc.mt.gov/eDocs>.

Made up of 5 elected commissioners, the PSC works to ensure that Montanans receive safe and reliable service from regulated public utilities while paying reasonable rates. Utilities regulated by the PSC generally include private investor-owned natural gas, electric, telephone, water, and sewer companies. In addition, the PSC regulates certain motor carriers, and oversees natural gas pipeline safety and intrastate railroad safety.

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