

**Instructions for Protesting a Water Company
Rate Increase**

NMPRC Rule 17.12.770 NMAC

NMPRC Rule 17.12.770 NMAC implements a state law passed in 2005 that allows a small water company to propose rate increases of no more than 50% to its customers. For a utility with one thousand five hundred (1,500) or fewer service connections in any operating district or division, averaged over the previous three (3) consecutive years, a protest must be signed by ten (10) percent, or more, of the utility's ratepayers, or twenty-five (25) ratepayers, whichever is more, receiving service from the utility at the time the change in rate or rates is filed. For a utility with more than one thousand five hundred (1,500) but less than five thousand (5,000) service connections in any operating district or division, averaged over the previous three (3) consecutive years, a protest must be signed by ten (10) percent or more of the ratepayers receiving service from the utility at the time the change in rate or rates is filed. If sufficient protest(s) to the Commission are received, the Commission will review the rate increase in a formal rate case. If less than the required number of the customers protest, the rate increase will go into effect without a formal rate case.

To file a protest you must be a customer of the water company. The protest must be received by the Commission within twenty (20) days from the date the rates are filed with the Commission. The date the rates are filed will be stated on the notice to customers that you have received from the utility or through a special notice.

To protest, fill out the enclosed protest form completely. You can leave the case number blank and you do not need to fill out the attorney information if you do not have an attorney.

You must deliver a copy of the protest to the water company either in person or by mail. Then you should send ten (10) copies of the rate protest form and certificate of service to:

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
P.O. Box 1269
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1269

For more information, call the Commission at 505-827-6940 or 1-888-427-5772, or contact the water company.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING
OF NEW RATES BY

)
) CASE NO. _____

(Name of Water Company)

**PROTEST
TO PROPOSED RATE INCREASE**

SUBMITTED BY:

Name of Protestor: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

(Attach the name, mailing address, and telephone number of each protestant.)

ATTORNEY INFORMATION:

Attorney's Name:

Attorney's Address:

Attorney's City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Attorney's Phone: _____

(Attach the name, mailing address, and telephone number of attorney of each protestant.)

I am a customer of the

(Name of Water Company)

I protest the rates being proposed by the above named Water Company.

I protest the proposed rate(s) affecting the _____
_____ Class of customers (i.e., residential,
commercial, industrial, irrigation, etc.).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING)
 OF NEW RATES BY)
 _____)
) CASE NO. _____

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the attached protest issued on _____, 20____, was mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following Water Company:

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

 (Signature of Protestor)

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.