



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**NEWS RELEASE**

Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNSEL AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN  
AQUARION WATER RATE CASE**

(June 20, 2013-New Britain) - The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) continues its advocacy on behalf of utility customers in the ongoing proceeding by which Aquarion Water Company (Aquarion) is seeking an increase in its rates. Public hearings are underway in this proceeding, and OCC is encouraging Aquarion customers to attend and have their opinions become part of the record.

There are a number of public hearings being held on the proposed rate increase. OCC was present at Tuesday's well-attended public hearing, the first of four, in Fairfield. A second public hearing will be held on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Mystic Middle School, 204 Mistuxet Avenue, Mystic; Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Torrington City Hall, 140 Main Street, Torrington; and Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Simsbury Senior Center, 754 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury.

Aquarion is proposing to increase rates over the next three years, effective on October 1, 2013. The initial overall increase would be 16.8%, and the second and third increases would be approximately 2%. As the customers' advocate, OCC is carefully reviewing the details of the proposal and will be raising issues and concerns with respect to the proposed rate increase in our filings with PURA.

A Final Decision is expected from PURA on August 21, 2013 in Aquarion's rate case.

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*The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) is the State of Connecticut's advocate for all utility ratepayers. OCC seeks to ensure just and reasonable rates and reliable utility service for customers of Connecticut's electric, gas, telephone, and water utilities and reasonable protection for cable television customers. For more information, visit [www.ct.gov/occ](http://www.ct.gov/occ).*