

Concerned Citizens of Greater Diamond Point Docket UW-080926 May 23, 2008
Petition Opposing rate increase

Concerned Citizens of Greater Diamond Point do not approve the proposed rate increase on 2 key points:

1. We object to the rate increase until the AU submitted rate related expenditures are audited by the Concerned Citizens of Greater Diamond Point.
2. Withhold rate approvals until all conditions are met.
 - (a) CCoGDP or the regulatory agencies should not give up the only leverage, money, while important issues are unresolved. Aquarius misleads readers of the DWSRF Loan applications about having negotiated a Franchise Agreement with Clallam County when it had not. Clallam County sent Aquarius a notice that failure to comply with a new Clallam County Franchise Agreement to the County Prosecutor May 29th, 2008. Clallam County had excused past dues of \$12,000 for Aquarius and it's customers between 2000 and 2008.
 - (b) Aquarius failed to obtain a rate increase from the WUTC by the June 4th, 2008 due date as a condition for approval by the Public Works Board (PWB) on the four new 2008 DWSRF Loan requests. The PWB Staff are recommending an extension of another 3 months to their Board of Commissioner meeting on June 3rd, 2008.
 - (c) The Eagles Rest residents and AU agreement to fix continued drainage on their properties remains unresolved.
 - (d) The proposed DP tank upgrades exceed earlier agreed upon scope.
 - (e) Collaborative scope/design of the DP upgrade, ultimately CCoGDP had to involve a lawyer requesting information.

In addition, can the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission explain the advantage of its Single Rate Tariff as applied to Diamond Point residents? Why isn't a balance or checkpoint included in the single rate principle, to prevent the punitive rates we are continuing to experience? A previous meeting at the WUTC held 2003, was not concluded satisfactorily, although we were assured that the rates increases would balance out with the increase in new customers. Doesn't the WUTC have a legal responsibility to ensure a fair and balanced implementation for all customers?

To add insult to injury, AU proposes a 1.6M\$ pipe replacement project for DP, to be funded via a surcharge. At \$5/month per customer, AU claims an annual budget of \$50,000 for incremental implementation. That's a total project duration of 32 years!!! Why would the WUTC even consider such a cash stream? We will have to live with torn up streets for 32 years. Neither AU nor DP customers will be alive by then. This is totally unacceptable, all of DP suffering and paying for AU's failure to execute 2 funded projects in a timely fashion. CCoGDP considers this proposal a reward for extremely poor management and it is highly unlikely that such a surcharge can be collected without extreme protestation by the community.

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1. We object to the rate increase until the AU submitted rate related expenditures are reviewed by Concerned Citizens of Greater Diamond Point.
2. Withhold rate approvals until all conditions are met.

I do concur and wish to have my complaint filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

Signed; 

Print Name; Terry Luther

Date; 6 3 08

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