

Thank you for the opportunity to speak...I'm Rollie Sauer, and today I am representing the Board of the Orcas Highlands Homeowners Association

Mr. Ireland, I'm told that WW is an efficient and well run organization.

You must however, understand, that the residents of this island, hold very dear to them, its beauty, its environment and all of its natural resources...the wildlife, the trees, the scenic views, and yes...the water...owned by the people of Washington and in the past managed under the stewardship of the owners of Rosario.

We do not want the future of our precious water in the hands of a California Corporation dedicated to maximizing profits for their stockholders.

To that end...we want everyone to know that the OHA Board of Directors unanimously passed the following resolution:

"Be it resolved that Orcas Highlands Homeowners Association request that Eastsound Sewer and Water District join us in an annexation process of Rosario Utilities, LLC."

By the unanimous passage of this resolution, the OHA Board of Directors invites the cooperation of Eastsound Sewer and Water District in the above named project."

This process has begun. The ES&WD awaits our petition, and by virtue of being a "District", like the Airport, has the power of annexation and condemnation, and they can also sell bonds to raise capital.

Annexation involves having 10% of the registered voters living in the area served by RU and who voted in the last municipal election; sign a petition requesting ES&WD to annex RU. If ES&WD concurs with the request, the signatures on the petition are validated by the county auditor and it is placed on the ballot in the next election...only those served by RU will vote.

Assuming a simple majority agree, then ES&WD makes a good faith offer to purchase the utility. If the offer is rejected, then condemnation proceedings begin before an administrative law judge, aimed primarily at establishing a "fair market value". This process can take a year or two.

Yesterday, an offer was made to Laurie Cameron of Olympus (owners of RU) to purchase RU for the same price as what WW has agreed to.

Olympus, having succeeded with the controversial Master Plan, now has an opportunity as a mega-business to demonstrate corporate compassion and use it to their advantage in the forthcoming roll out of their business plan.

They would be able to market themselves as an exemplary corporate citizen, one who not only brought orderly development to Rosario Resort, but made certain that the future of the largest water resource on the island remained in the hands of its residents.

The opportunity exists Olympus...it's yours to take advantage of.

Mr. Ireland, given that the annexation and condemnation process will take a year or two and with significant cost which will be shouldered, on our side by many citizens, do you really want to be a short-term owner and additionally take on this conflict with your customers?

Thank You.