

Thank you Commissioner's for this chance to address you on the Proposed Rate Increase before you:

Thomas Water Service has come before you claiming they are entitled to this rate increase to recover capital investment. This is far from the truth of the matter. We the customers of Thomas Water have in many ways shown that his intention is to use UTC to further his gains and maximize the value of Thomas Water to sell it.

We have all seen this same shame before, in the Enron, WorldCom and other business in the recent news, only to learn that there lies and deceit has cost many untold dollars and problems yet to be discovered.

Rich Hathaway has so stated in emails to his boss that his intention is to sell, and he will get the UTC to buy off on this rate increase. And if he can't get what he wants he will go to court to get his end means, so he can over inflate the value of Thomas Water, in principle just as in the cases of Enron and WorldCom stock.

Thomas Water has provided receipts for there claim of investment, we have shown a reasonable doubt to those receipts and the manner they were generated, however staff feels that our arguments and information has no bearing on this rate increase. However this reasonable doubt should be the first sign that something is wrong here.

Second Rich Hathaway's attitude toward his customers show total disregard for prudent business practices, by the expensive contracts he entered into for maintenance and operation, and not trying to keep his cost down so his profit margin is up. He does this so he can come to you to show he needs a rate increase, when in reality he was just making poor decisions.

My question to you is when does this stop. If you give him this absorbent rate increase to help in his selling of this system, who's here to stop the next owner from claiming the same to get a rate increase to re-sell and re-sell over and over again. When does this death spiral stop?

It stops here with you. Your duties as commissioners are to ensure that regulated utilities work with in the rules, set forth before them in your charter as the UTC. To make sure this price gouging is not tolerated and proof is required that is not questionable. Because in a captured market as this is such, where do we turn too, we turn to you. We ask that you not read what regulations say, but what they mean. They mean to us that you will not allow a rate increase so to increase profit margin on the sale of this system. Its means greed and attitudes like Rich Hathaway's are checked at the door of the UTC

Thank you,

Steve Routt
President of Board of Meadow Ridge Homeowners Association
Arlington, Washington.