

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is a final letter to the commission to request that they deny the application of Freedom 2000 LLC for the Point Roberts solid waste and recycling service.

We have been without curbside service since 1 July for any service, either recycling or household garbage. This was the time in the year when we have our most residents. We are now at the time when we have our least residents.

I have arranged for help in getting my household garbage and my recycling to the transfer station at less cost than it was with curbside service.

I remain of the opinion that it is not clear whether or not anyone can serve the community of Point Roberts as county requirements and regulations now stand. I believe the county needs to appoint a commission of representative residents and solid waste management people to devise a system that will work for our very unique community.

I talked with the providers in the San Juan Islands, thinking that was the nearest equivalent in a geographic sense to Point Roberts. I learned quickly that there are significant differences that make a difference. We are both "island" communities, if you will; they are separated by the sea, we are separated by a foreign country. But there are also significant differences that give them advantages we do not have. The biggest difference, I believe, is that there is a thriving commercial base in the Islands. We do not have that, nor have we had in the 11 years I have been a resident. Why should we? Most of our property owners are Canadian and either are dual citizens, living here year round for the inexpensive (relatively speaking) housing and the lovely setting—these property owners patronize all things Canadian mostly. They do not patronize the few commercial entities we have ... except gasoline stations, of course, to take advantage of cheap gasoline relative to Canadian prices. I've seen little businesses come and go quickly. I do not, frankly, expect this situation to change. We will never have the commercial base that the San Juan Islands have.

I also believe that the activities of the three plaintiffs who filed the lawsuit against our then provider of service had a significant hand in ending Point Recycling and Refuse willingness to continue in business as it had practiced for the previous ten years. A long, and mostly boring, reading session of the documents submitted by Mr. Wilkoski in support of his asserting that there had been collusion between these three ladies and the current applicant for the certificate, David Gellatly (Freedom 2000 LLC), was an eye opener. I believe there was collusion. For some reason, one of the documents has Ms. Thomsen practically chortling about all the money to be made at the transfer station. The words on the page sounded very much like chortling to me.

Given the long and persistent attempt to "take over" the business here, by any means (and the fact that we residents were the ones left holding the bag (of garbage ... literally), I cannot believe it is good governance to reward said parties for their activities.

I have had and expressed to the commission my opposition to a businessman of Mr. Gellatly's integrity being awarded the official go ahead. He has a long history of ignoring regulations and rules of all kinds. As a dual citizen, he cheats both governments on both sides of the border ... In Canada he is American; in America, he is Canadian ... and he has managed for a good long while to avoid anyone's laws with this shell game. He has not maintained insurance; he has not operated under appropriate permits from every level of government. He has not cooperated in

any way with investigations by the Department of Ecology. And a disabled old lady (myself) was able to check out provided addresses in his application for this docket and find that they were not what he claimed they were. Residential addresses, seemingly chosen at random, were given as business addresses for suppliers. I only spent three days chasing down a few bits of the information he provided. Imagine what a professional investigator might discover.

We are tending to our household garbage and recycling as well as it ever was. I have not noticed any more curbside, or empty lot disposal than there has been in the 11 years I've been here. That has always been a problem. Just because we have no official curbside pick-up seems to have made no difference.

I would urge the commission to table this application until our county can devise a system that might possibly work for our very unique community.

Thank you.

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