

0107

1 BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

2 COMMISSION

3 WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION)

4)

5 Complainant,)

6)

7 vs.)

8)

9 ILIAD WATER SERVICE, INC.,)

10)

11 Respondent.)

12 -----

13

14 A public hearing in the above matter
15 was held on November 16, 2006, at 6:38 p.m., at 305
16 Center Street West, Eatonville, Washington, before
17 Administrative Law Judge PATRICIA CLARK.

18

19 The parties were present as follows:

20

21 WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
22 COMMISSION, by MICHAEL A. FASSIO, Assistant Attorney
23 General, 1400 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest,
24 Post Office Box 40128, Olympia, Washington 98504;
25 telephone; (360) 664-1192.

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32 Kathryn T. Wilson, CCR

33 Court Reporter

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INDEX OF EXHIBITS

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EXHIBIT:

MARKED:

ADMITTED:

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE CLARK: Good evening. It's about 6:35,
3 November 16th, 2006, in the Eatonville Community Center
4 in Eatonville, Washington. This is the time and the
5 place set for a public hearing in the matter of the
6 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
7 versus Iliad Water Services, Incorporated, given Docket
8 No. UW-060343, Patricia Clark, administrative law judge
9 for the Commission presiding.

10 The record should reflect that immediately
11 preceding this evening's public hearing that I
12 explained the process of testifying in these
13 proceedings to all members of the public who are
14 present for this evening's hearing. I'll take
15 appearances at this time. Appearing on behalf of the
16 Commission staff?

17 MR. FASSIO: Good evening, Judge Clark and
18 members of the public. My name is Michael Fassio,
19 assistant attorney general, representing Commission
20 staff. We also have Danny Kermode and John Cupp of
21 Commission staff, and Staff is here to hear your
22 comments today, and we appreciate your attendance. We
23 are available to answer whatever questions you might
24 have at the conclusion of the hearing.

25 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Fassio. The

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1 record should reflect that a representative for Iliad
2 Water Services, Incorporated is not present this
3 evening.

4 MR. DORLAND: Excuse me.

5 JUDGE CLARK: Are you entering an appearance?

6 I don't have counsel for Iliad Water Service,
7 Incorporated, present. Thank you.

8 I have a number of individuals who have
9 signed in on this evening's sign-in sheet. Some of you
10 have indicated that you wish to testify this evening.
11 Some of you have indicated that you are unsure and
12 maybe you want to testify this evening. You don't need
13 to make up your mind until I call the names on the
14 list, and then at that juncture, it would be
15 appropriate to decide. If you think you might be
16 testifying this evening, I would like you to stand at
17 this time and I will administer an oath. If you would
18 raise your right hand, please.

19

20

21 Whereupon,

22

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC,

23 having been first duly sworn, were called as witnesses

24 herein and were examined and testified as follows:

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1 JUDGE CLARK: As I indicated before we went
2 on the record, I am going to call on individuals to
3 present their comments in the order in which you signed
4 up. I would like to apologize in advance if I butcher
5 anyone's name. It's not on purpose. Please correct me
6 if I mispronounce your name.

7 The first individuals that I have on the list
8 that indicate that they might be interested in
9 presenting comments this evening are Mike and Sheila
10 Anderson. Do either one of these individuals wish to
11 comment this evening?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 JUDGE CLARK: Please come forward. Make
14 yourself as comfortable as possible. If you could
15 state and spell your last name for the record.

16 THE WITNESS: Sheila I. Anderson,
17 A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.

18 JUDGE CLARK: Make any comments you wish.

19 MS. ANDERSON: During this whole time, I
20 don't know a whole lot of what's going on. Just from
21 the letters that we have received is I'm concerned
22 about why they didn't apply to the state for the one
23 percent loan. I don't really feel like paying 11
24 percent, and they've had plenty of time to do this from
25 when it was supposed to be done in '01.

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1 To me, Iliad has never really explained
2 anything. When we've trying to contact them in any way
3 to get explanations, we don't get anything, and the
4 only time I get any information is when Karen Rice is
5 kind enough to get the information, but Iliad has never
6 been able to be contacted usually in any way, the owner
7 of the water company, and I feel when it first started
8 that all these -- there was no bids in any way or no
9 explanations of why there was not any bidding done on
10 the final price, and other companies that we've dealt
11 with, other properties, they usually are a little more
12 organized in letting people know what's going on, and I
13 feel they've never really let anyone know, and I've
14 just talked to a few of the neighbors that just said
15 they've gotten a letter from Iliad, from Alder Lake
16 Water that their water is okay to drink, and I'm like,
17 we've never heard that it wasn't okay to drink, and
18 this has kind of gone on. You hear about this after
19 the fact that it's okay, and we've never -- a lot of
20 people don't get anything. We didn't receive any of
21 this, and this was just received by quite a few of the
22 people here.

23 I don't know if we can say anything about as
24 far as the people, the new houses that are coming in
25 that they have postponed that they can't hookup when

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1 they have been paying quite a few years. I've just
2 heard hearsay that people that are wanting to build a
3 house and they can't do it, and they've been paying
4 this payment and there is not enough hookups, which
5 seems quite bizarre, and I'm concerned about if we have
6 to do a bigger tank. I'm concerned about that. If we
7 pay this amount now and in another year, here we come
8 up with a thing about needing a bigger tank, because
9 I'm aware of another place we have that the tanks are
10 quite costly. They run from one hundred to two
11 hundred. What's going to happen to that too. Is that
12 going to come up like this thing did?

13 I just think there should have been a little
14 more explanation or somebody could have been contacted
15 at any point instead of answering services from Iliad,
16 and I really do not want to pay this high interest, and
17 I think there should have been, when it first started
18 there should have been more bids to show us where they
19 came up with this and what the reasoning is. I never
20 really understood the reasoning what they were actually
21 trying to do. There was no explanations at all.

22 And I would really prefer to pay one percent,
23 not eleven, if I have to do this, and how far can they
24 go by saying, there is going to have to be more stuff
25 down two years down the line. Is there a limit, or can

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1 somebody answer as far as another tank, like if another
2 house wanted to come in, and they have the right to
3 build a house, and they are stopping them from building
4 their house being their tank isn't big enough, would we
5 all have to share that expense, and just answers like
6 that I would like somebody to tell me.

7 JUDGE CLARK: When the hearing concludes this
8 evening, Ms. Anderson, those are questions you can
9 certainly address to the Commission staff. I'm not
10 certain they will have answers, but I know they will
11 certainly try to respond to those inquiries.

12 MS. ANDERSON: When they do these tests, I
13 don't know how often they do them, I assume monthly,
14 every couple of months when they do the bacterial test,
15 why don't they just give us -- like up in Holiday
16 Hills, they write a letter and say, Hey, we tested.
17 Everything is fine. Why don't we get anything like
18 that?

19 All of a sudden we get a letter saying it's
20 okay to drink, but it wasn't at one point. That's kind
21 of scary. You are drinking water that is all of a
22 sudden okay but it wasn't? I'm finished.

23 JUDGE CLARK: I do have just a couple of
24 questions for you. I'm interested in knowing how long
25 you've lived in this area.

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1 MS. ANDERSON: We have had our lot up there
2 probably 15, 16 years. We were just kind of camp lots
3 at first, and we've been there permanent for six years.

4 JUDGE CLARK: So you've been a full-time
5 resident for six years?

6 MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

7 JUDGE CLARK: And you've been a customer of
8 Alder Lake Water system that entire time?

9 MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

10 JUDGE CLARK: Do you have any questions,
11 Mr. Fassio?

12 MR. FASSIO: No questions.

13 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you for your testimony
14 this evening. The next names I have on the list are
15 Philip and Liann Arnold. Are you individuals
16 interested in presenting comments this evening? If you
17 would please state your full name for the record, and I
18 think you should spell both your first and last name
19 for the record.

20 MS. ARNOLD: My name is Liann, L-i-a-n-n,
21 Arnold, A-r-n-o-l-d.

22 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Please make any
23 comment you wish.

24 MS. ARNOLD: My comment is pretty much
25 similar to Sheila's in just dealing with the lack of

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1 communication. My husband, Phil Arnold, and I
2 purchased our property on Alder Lake. We moved in on
3 the 22nd of July. At no time during the process in
4 disclosure were we notified of this problem with the
5 water, were we notified of this future expense.

6 When I was finally able to contact Alder
7 Water, we hadn't had a water bill for two months, and I
8 would call and leave messages. I had notified them in
9 June of us buying the property. I had called and left
10 messages. I finally got in touch with someone. It
11 took awhile to get a monthly water bill, and when I did
12 finally get a monthly water bill, it had two late
13 charges on it, but it was the first bill I had
14 received.

15 At no time was the fact that there was going
16 to be this future expense coming up or that there were
17 problems with the water. We too received a notice in
18 the mail saying, your water is fine and we don't know
19 there was a problem. There hasn't been any disclosure
20 to someone coming in. We found out from the neighbors.

21 JUDGE CLARK: Does that conclude your
22 comments?

23 MS. ARNOLD: That's it.

24 JUDGE CLARK: You are talking about moving in
25 on the 22nd of July; of 2006?

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1 MS. ARNOLD: Yes.

2 JUDGE CLARK: Do you have any inquiries,
3 Mr. Fassio?

4 MR. FASSIO: No questions, thank you.

5 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you for your testimony,
6 Ms. Arnold. The next names I have on the list are Mark
7 and Kathy Morris. If you could state your full name
8 for the record and spell your last name.

9 MR. MORRIS: Mark Morris, M-o-r-r-i-s.

10 JUDGE CLARK: Make your comments.

11 MR. MORRIS: My main comments are we've been
12 living there for eight years, and we've received, I
13 think, probably an annual report of the water quality.
14 When problems have arisen, I've run into the same
15 problems of calling the numbers and offices and getting
16 an answering machine with no call-backs or no
17 responses.

18 When this came up, this particular incident
19 of putting in a water purification system, I kind of
20 found out about it word of mouth rather than direct,
21 received some information from the water company
22 belatedly after I found out that it was submitted to
23 the health department or something or other, not really
24 sure, and that it was rejected and reapplied for
25 something else for a hearing of some kind to find out

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1 about the legitimacy of it. Unfortunately, I missed
2 that hearing.

3 It appears to me that very, very little
4 information has trickled down to the actual owners, and
5 that as a business, very little information goes to the
6 people that run the business or pay for the business,
7 pay for the service, I should say. Requesting the sums
8 of money required to do this from my limited experience
9 very limited, seems extremely outlandish, but here
10 again, I'm very limited.

11 I would like to see at least some
12 documentation provided from bids that have been
13 proposed, reasoning, general basic information, why we
14 are doing this, what it entails, where it's coming
15 from, where it's going. Somebody coming up and just
16 handing me a bill and saying, you need this, I don't
17 buy into that. I want to see some facts and some
18 literature and some real information. That's why I'm
19 here. That's all.

20 JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Morris, did you get any
21 kind of notification from the Utility about putting the
22 chlorination system in?

23 MR. MORRIS: I received information word of
24 mouth from a neighbor.

25 JUDGE CLARK: So you've never received any

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1 documents from the Utility explaining what they are
2 trying to do?

3 MR. MORRIS: No. I think I might have
4 received something from Mr. Cupp regarding the hearing
5 explaining what they were trying to do.

6 JUDGE CLARK: You indicated you had spent the
7 last eight years at Alder Lake.

8 MR. MORRIS: Yes.

9 JUDGE CLARK: You've been a customer of Alder
10 Lake Water system that entire time?

11 MR. MORRIS: Yes.

12 JUDGE CLARK: Do you have any questions for
13 Mr. Morris, Mr. Fassio?

14 MR. FASSIO: No questions.

15 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Morris. The
16 next names I have are Ron and Karen Rice.

17 MS. RICE: My name is Karen Rice. I have one
18 thing I would like to say first. Donna LaFrance and
19 Jack Frost could not be here. She gave me a letter
20 that she would like submitted into this hearing. Do
21 you want it read or just give it to you?

22 JUDGE CLARK: You can just give it to me. I
23 already have an exhibit list started, and I will mark
24 this --

25 MS. RICE: May I approach you?

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1 JUDGE CLARK: Absolutely.

2 MS. RICE: (Witness complies.)

3 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. The record should
4 reflect that a one-page letter dated November 13th,
5 2006, and bearing the signatures of Donna LaFrance and
6 John Frost has been marked for identification purposes
7 as Exhibit 77, and Ms. Rice, you should feel free to
8 make your statement.

9 THE WITNESS: I have been a water user since
10 1985. I bought the property before the well was
11 installed. I had two lots. I sold one, had paid the
12 \$1,500 hookup fees, and I have paid a user fee, not a
13 nonuser fee. User fee runs 23.13, I believe. I'm not
14 sure about a nonuser fee. It's, I believe, usually
15 about half for the people that have nothing on their
16 lots.

17 I would like to submit into evidence the
18 August 16th docket, UW-060343, with Iliad Water
19 Service, Incorporated, and Danny Kermode.

20 JUDGE CLARK: Are you referring to --

21 MS. RICE: This is past, and I was at that
22 meeting.

23 JUDGE CLARK: You are referring to the open
24 meeting that was conducted on August the 16th, and you
25 are referring to the staff recommendation of Danny

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1 Kermode?

2 MS. RICE: Yes, I am.

3 JUDGE CLARK: That document is already in the
4 record. That is a document that was introduced at the
5 evidentiary hearing that was conducted on November 8th
6 and 9th.

7 MS. RICE: I would like that to be reviewed
8 again by the commissioners and yourself, if you would.

9 JUDGE CLARK: Yes. That is one piece of the
10 evidence that must be reviewed in this. After we've
11 taken testimony from a few of the witnesses, what I
12 would like to do is take a very short recess, and I
13 want to confer with you to insure that I have exactly
14 the same document that you have. I don't want to put
15 two documents in the record, but I want to make sure I
16 have the same one you have.

17 MS. RICE: Okay. Also, I would go now to a
18 letter I had received the other day from Iliad, and it
19 says that the purveyors of Alder Lake Water located in
20 Pierce County was issued a state health department
21 order on 10/20/06, and this directs the purveyor to,
22 No. 1, install the disinfection treatment facility,
23 which is fine, but it was already on this particular
24 piece of paper that we got on August 16th showing that
25 the health department had done that in the year 2000,

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1 so we have now a second order. (Witness indicating.)

2 No. 2 on this document said a certified water
3 operator had been satisfied. That meant absolutely
4 nothing to me. I did not understand that statement,
5 and this comes from my water service company, and I
6 called Ingrid Solomon (phonetic) with the health
7 department, and she advised me that they did not have a
8 certified water operator for our system, so I would
9 like to admit that letter also, and then I would also
10 like to go back to one this one that was issued with
11 Danny on the 16th saying that yes, we have a new letter
12 here of which we never received a copy of this, ever,
13 to begin with. (Witness indicating.)

14 JUDGE CLARK: When you say "we never received
15 a copy of this," what are you referring to?

16 MS. RICE: I'm referring to the purveyors of
17 Alder Lake Water system that have to direct to
18 disinfect to get a certified water operator, and I felt
19 there should have been one given to us back in the year
20 2000. I never received one.

21 JUDGE CLARK: Let's make sure the record is
22 clear, so if you can let me have that last letter.

23 MS. RICE: Okay, and Ingrid Solomon did
24 advise me that construction is to be completed by March
25 30th, 2007.

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1 JUDGE CLARK: So this is the first document
2 you want me to mark for identification?

3 MS. RICE: Yes, and this is the one you have
4 with the other copy. (Witness indicating.)

5 JUDGE CLARK: I'm going to have you hold onto
6 that one for just a minute, and this is the document
7 you want me to take into evidence; is that correct?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, and also to note that I
9 had never received one in the year 2000 from Iliad.

10 JUDGE CLARK: A one-page document bearing the
11 title, Notice to Water System Users, Department of
12 Health order issued and bearing the signature Sondra
13 LeBaron, dated November 8th, 2006, has been marked for
14 identification purposes as Exhibit 78. I'm sorry to
15 interrupt your testimony, but I just want to make sure
16 the record is clear.

17 MS. RICE: Also, I would like to put in, if
18 it's not in your record, the petition that we all
19 signed on April 3rd, 2006, in reference to the
20 chlorination proposal. It says, "We the undersigned
21 customers of Alder Lake Water Company strongly urge you
22 to require Iliad Water Company, d/b/a, Alder Lake Water
23 Company, to use the state revolving funds to finance
24 their proposed project involving installation of a
25 chlorination system for the water serving Alder Lake

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1 Estates in Pierce County."

2 "Their proposed financing of 11 percent plus
3 three to five points in loan fees places an undue
4 burden on us, the customers. The 1.5 percent financing
5 that could be provided by the state revolving fund
6 would help us considerably in making the cost of the
7 project manageable for our small community. We realize
8 that this could delay implementation of the project
9 until 2007 and feel that this is not unreasonable or
10 unduly risky given that Iliad has already delayed the
11 project for over five years, and then come December
12 31st, it will be six".

13 "We believe Iliad should have applied for the
14 state revolving fund at the very beginning of the
15 process. Failure to do so is negligence on their part
16 and demonstrates that they have no concern for their
17 customers."

18 JUDGE CLARK: And you want me to receive that
19 petition as well?

20 MS. RICE: Yes. That was signed by everyone
21 in this room, I believe, originally at one time, so you
22 may already have a copy of all of our signatures on
23 that one too.

24 JUDGE CLARK: And I think that the signed
25 copy of the petition is in the record, but I'm going to

0125

1 go ahead and mark this for identification purposes as
2 Exhibit 79. It bears the title, "Community Petition,"
3 and the date April 3rd, 2006.

4 MS. RICE: When this first came up on the
5 letter notifying us again in 2004, it was a statement
6 saying they wanted 3,300-some dollars, that say that if
7 you paid it right now, it would drop to \$3,000, and it
8 looked like a bill to me. I called up Iliad and got
9 their answering service, because that's a toll-free
10 number, and was told they would call me back, which
11 everyone knows if you call their answering service you
12 are not going to get a call back unless it's a water
13 emergency.

14 So then I called the office. Sondra wasn't
15 in. Dave wasn't in, and the nice lady told me that she
16 would leave my message with them and they would call me
17 back, and I told her, I said, I need to know who, what,
18 when, where, why, why am I getting a statement saying
19 to pay \$3,000? So I waited three days, and finally, I
20 called the UTC, and I asked them if they could please
21 tell me what was going on, and they said, We have no
22 idea. Fax us the copies of the statement, please.

23 So I agreed with some of my other neighbors.
24 They are not giving us who, what, when, where, why.
25 It's my understanding that the system is built for 35

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1 customers. We have 38. When they first based the bill
2 to us, what is based on 35 customers, now it's gone up
3 to 39 customers. If you talk to Ingrid Solomon, she
4 will tell you the system is for 35 and that Iliad says
5 that there are 27 customers. Every lot there has a
6 water service to it. I can probably list you four
7 lots -- if you would like the names of the owners, I
8 could probably tell you -- four lots that have never
9 actually hooked up to this water, but everyone else
10 has.

11 I don't have anything against Iliad. I see
12 in these papers that he says that it is for profit, and
13 that was one of the reasons that he had said that he
14 did not want to pursue the SRF financing, was the
15 company was a for-profit water system, and that's in
16 the record that I asked to be kept, and that it would
17 increase his cost and it would increase the time in
18 implementing the loan and the construction.

19 Well, back to this again. It's going to be
20 2007, if Ingrid Solomon is correct, and they haven't
21 given them until the 30th of March, 2007. We are still
22 looking at that same time frame. That's why I wanted
23 to know how many letters were sent out. What was the
24 cost two-and-a-half years ago when this was first in
25 December of 2000 proposed by the health department as

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1 compared to today, and I wanted to know if their
2 company was going to absorb the difference for waiting
3 six years, and I wanted to know how many bids they did
4 receive on the job, and thank you to the UTC. They did
5 give me that information, and so that showed me what
6 the cost breakdown was, and I wanted to also know
7 exactly what they were going to do and why, and I
8 wanted to know when is the schedule start and
9 completion date, and I wanted to know the location of
10 the chlorination site, which I believe to be in my
11 yard, and I believe that it will be a building that is
12 10-by-14 feet from the papers I received, and then I
13 called and asked if that was a taxable building who was
14 going to pay the taxes, being as the land was mine but
15 the building was there. I have no answer to that yet
16 other than they feel the building isn't sizable enough
17 to be taxable. I would like that in writing, and then
18 I wanted to know when I called John Cupp and talked to
19 him why wasn't a filing done with the UTC so that we
20 could have some answers to our questions, because they
21 knew nothing when I called them and asked me to fax
22 what I had.

23 I have nothing against Iliad. I have had a
24 good relationship with Iliad. I've been on this water
25 system for 20 years. Every time the well pump would

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1 dry, I could always count on calling them and giving
2 them my name and say, Our well pump just dried again,
3 and they would say, Go out, Karen, and shut the well
4 down and we will send the kid out from Ballard down to
5 fix it, and I would go out and shut it down and they
6 would come out and reset the pumps again. That has
7 happened three times.

8 They have since lowered the well about 30
9 feet, and that doesn't happen anymore because Alder
10 Lake was just down 50 feet from high water, and in the
11 past, we would have been without water again, but I
12 still would like to see plans of what is to be done,
13 where, when, why, what, and I do have the complaint
14 that calling that answering services, and if Sondra is
15 not there or Dave Dorland is not there, that Sondra
16 LeBaron is not there or Dave Dorland is not there, the
17 other woman that answers the phone sounds older like I
18 am, and she can't give you any information.

19 I also feel that this 11 percent plus this
20 three to five per point is a hardship on us. We may
21 live on Alder Lake, but we are an average income
22 community. We have a couple of disabled people. We
23 have people with children that are trying to put their
24 children through college. We have retirees, and we do
25 have a few that have some money. Is there anything

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1 else I can answer for you?

2 JUDGE CLARK: A couple of questions that were
3 prompted by some of the information you gave me. One
4 of the things I'm interested in is your notice that the
5 chlorination system was going to be placed in your
6 yard.

7 MS. RICE: The well is in my yard. If they
8 put it in the well head, it will be in my yard.

9 JUDGE CLARK: So there is already a 10-by-10
10 well house.

11 MS. RICE: No. There is no well house
12 whatever. It's just open to the air.

13 JUDGE CLARK: So how did you receive
14 notification that there would be a 10-by-10-foot
15 structure placed either adjacent to or over the well
16 for the chlorination system?

17 MS. RICE: Ingrid Solomon, health department.
18 It's in the paperwork.

19 JUDGE CLARK: And was that a telephone call
20 or was that a letter?

21 MS. RICE: It was my telephone call initiated
22 to her to find information. She sent me a packet of
23 information from the public disclosure law.

24 JUDGE CLARK: Do you recall when that was,
25 approximately?

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1 MS. RICE: No. I would have to go back home
2 and look at the envelope.

3 JUDGE CLARK: That's all right. Do you
4 happen to remember if it was before or after the
5 Commission's August 16th open meeting?

6 MS. RICE: It was before. I have talked to
7 Ingrid for quite a few years now.

8 JUDGE CLARK: You also referenced a document
9 that was apparently a notice or something regarding the
10 approximate \$3,000 payment, and you indicated that it
11 looked like a bill to you. Is that a document that you
12 would like me to mark as an exhibit?

13 MS. RICE: No, because the UTC contacted
14 them, and they did send a follow-up letter and said
15 they were sorry, that it was not a bill, and we did
16 receive that from Iliad saying, This is not a bill. It
17 may have looked like it and you may have taken it for a
18 bill, but it was not.

19 JUDGE CLARK: I think that's it, but let me
20 look just one minute. Yes, that's it. Thank you.
21 Mr. Fassio, do you have any questions?

22 MR. FASSIO: I don't have any questions for
23 you.

24 MS. RICE: Thank you for your time.

25 JUDGE CLARK: The next name has indicated

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1 that they are not interested in testifying. Linda
2 Howard? If you could state your full name for the
3 record?

4 MS. HOWARD: Linda E. Howard, H-o-w-a-r-d. I
5 have some questions for the commissioners. When we
6 first bought our property, we were the first buyers,
7 and I bought four water rights. For 21 years, I have
8 been paying nonuser plus user fees. When we put that
9 well in and gave them an easement over our property, we
10 were told that they had to show proof of putting \$1,000
11 a year into our water system before they could ever
12 assess us of anything.

13 Now, if you add up the user fee and the
14 nonuser fee, I've already paid them \$5,000 for water
15 hookup to start with. Then I've paid them over \$5,000
16 in water fees. They have never done anything to our
17 wells. You will get a letter in July saying that, Oh
18 we did a water deal in January, and we had E-coli. Why
19 weren't we ever told that in January when we are all
20 drinking it? They never notified us. There is no
21 communication. You call up there. Half the time you
22 don't have anybody answer the phone.

23 Then the girl that bought the property next
24 to me from my sister, they can't build a house being
25 there is no water available, but they've been paying a

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1 water bill for 21 years. Why is there no water? I
2 have the same problem. I have another lot that I can't
3 sell because there is no water availability. When I
4 got a building permit, they didn't even know that there
5 was fire hydrants, and this is our water company? They
6 put them in, but they didn't know they were there?

7 None of us have got letters saying what they
8 are doing or why they are doing this or why it was
9 ordered, and if they can get a loan at one and a half
10 or three percent, why should we pay them 11 percent
11 interest, plus three to five points? I have one other
12 question. It says lots must be at least one acre in
13 size to utilize individual wells. That is what is on
14 our short-plat map, and I was wondering, what happens
15 if I put my two pieces back together and drill my own
16 well? Can I do that? Because according to the county,
17 it's on their papers. That would give me over an acre
18 of property, or are they going to say you can't drill a
19 well, or are they going to change the rules on you
20 again?

21 JUDGE CLARK: Well, these are questions that
22 the Commission staff can certainly try to answer at the
23 conclusion of this evening's hearing, but as I noted
24 earlier, some of your questions they may not know the
25 answer to because it may not specifically address

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1 utility regulation. If that's the case, hopefully they
2 will be able to direct you to someone who might be able
3 to answer those.

4 MS. HOWARD: If the water company would just
5 communicate with us. If we have E-coli in our water,
6 we should be notified within 24 hours, not six months
7 down the road, and I do have letters at home that show
8 it.

9 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Mr. Fassio, do you
10 have any inquiries?

11 MR. FASSIO: Thank you. Ms. Howard, just one
12 question. You said earlier in your testimony that
13 there was a nonuser fee.

14 MS. HOWARD: Yes.

15 MR. FASSIO: Can you help me understand what
16 that fee is?

17 THE WITNESS: I have two lots together. I
18 paid the \$1,250 to help put in the well. That was a
19 back piece, the piece I'm living on, the piece next to
20 me, and the piece up on the hill. We bought all four
21 pieces, and I have two pieces left. Now, I pay a
22 nonuser fee. I have a water hookup back there. The
23 water is there, and I pay ten dollars a month every
24 month nonuser fee, and I have for 21 years, but the
25 water has never been used, and that's the way they bill

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1 everybody up there if you have more than one piece.

2 MR. FASSIO: Thank you.

3 JUDGE CLARK: The next individual who
4 indicated they might be interested in testifying is
5 Dennis Struck.

6 THE WITNESS: I don't have any comments.

7 JUDGE CLARK: Shawna Nunley?

8 THE WITNESS: I don't have any comments.

9 JUDGE CLARK: Tracey White?

10 MR. WHITE: Tracey White, T-r-a-c-e-y,
11 W-h-i-t-e. I first purchased four lots in 1994. I
12 currently have one lot left. For the past 12 years,
13 I've been paying 11.57 nonuser fee, and I've never used
14 any water up there, but I have paid the fee. I think I
15 am here like many of us are here is just out of the
16 frustration of dealing with Iliad over the years. They
17 have, whether it's purposeful or not, have very
18 deceptive business practices, are very difficult to get
19 ahold of. I've actually gone to the UTC once before to
20 try to get help when I purchased the four lots
21 originally. The escrow company sent a letter to Iliad
22 asking if there were any fees, and they said that the
23 \$1,500 per lot had already been paid prior to my
24 purchasing it.

25 When I went to sell one of the lots, they

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1 said, Oh, no, it hasn't been paid, and I said, Well, I
2 have a document from you and I've brought it here
3 saying it has been paid. They said, We made a mistake
4 or whatever. It's not there. We want the money. So
5 to prevent the one lot from not closing, I transferred
6 that \$1,500 over to one of my other lots and still have
7 not come to resolution.

8 You've heard people testify about the
9 difficulty of getting ahold of them. In 1997, July
10 7th, I called and left a message with Iliad, and July
11 8th, July 12th, August 5th, 7th, 8th, 14th, and August
12 18th, I talked with Dorland. He said they would
13 resolve it next week. August 21st I called again.
14 August 26th I called again. September 8th, September
15 9th, September 17th. Basically, it goes all the way on
16 into leaving messages into '98, and it's never been
17 resolved.

18 So I think we are here out of our frustration
19 of dealing with the Company and their business
20 practices, and I guess this was the first time I heard
21 they were a for-profit business. That's disappointing,
22 because I just think that they've mismanaged this for
23 so many years, it's very frustrating -- what I thought
24 was a bill, this \$3,000, you pay it now you get a
25 discount. What's up with this?

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1 So I think the frustrations I have is just
2 the poor communication, paying over \$1,700 over the
3 past 12 years and really have nothing to show, and I'm
4 also hearing that maybe the fact that even though I
5 have a water hookup there, because I have it hooked up,
6 I may not be able to build a house because there is no
7 water hookup, so that's bothering me. I would like to
8 know about that.

9 I guess I'm here just to say that Iliad's
10 business practices over the years have been very
11 frustrating. Their lack of communication has been very
12 frustrating, and whether it's on purpose or not, I
13 don't know, but they are dishonest dealings with me
14 over documents that they signed and said, Yeah, you've
15 paid, and they come back and say, No, you haven't.
16 That's been frustrating.

17 So I want to make sure the Washington
18 Utilities and Transportation Commission keeps an eye on
19 the process and try to do the best for the public they
20 can. Obviously, Iliad must have a legal right to do
21 what they are doing. I just hope that you guys keep an
22 eye on them.

23 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. White. Any
24 questions, Mr. Fassio?

25 MR. FASSIO: Who have you spoken with at the

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1 Company? Do you remember the names and people?

2 MS. WHITE: I've spoke with Dave Dorland. In
3 fact, I went downtown -- I talked with Dorland again in
4 August, Sandra, Dorland, faxes, so those have pretty
5 much been the people in this documentation that I've
6 talked with.

7 MR. FASSIO: Dave Dorland?

8 MR. WHITE: Dave Dorland.

9 MR. FASSIO: Thank you.

10 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. White.

11 Stephanie Struck?

12 MS. STRUCK: I have a couple of questions.

13 JUDGE CLARK: If you could state your full
14 name for the record and spell your name.

15 MS. STRUCK: Stephanie Struck, S-t-r-u-c-k.
16 First of all, who owns the well? Is it the community's
17 well? I hear they say they bought rights to the well
18 or they paid in for it, so who owns it; anybody know?
19 So I think it's our well, so are we contracting out to
20 this business to do maintenance on this well; is that
21 right? It seems to me -- is that not right?

22 JUDGE CLARK: These are questions that the
23 Commission staff can certainly attempt to answer for
24 you.

25 MS. STRUCK: It seems to me that when you

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1 have someone who is contracted to do maintenance on
2 something that is owned by the community, then our
3 interests should be taken and asked for when making
4 decisions on what's going to be done with that well.
5 We were never asked or told about installing this
6 chlorination program, and we were never asked about a
7 type of loan, and so for them to say, You have to have
8 this, you have to pay this much, and you are going to
9 pay 11 percent interest, to me is totally unfair,
10 especially since I believe it's our well.

11 In my mind, I'm thinking we should fire them
12 and go get a different company to maintain our well,
13 especially since they are not giving proper service and
14 not communicating with the people. That's how it is in
15 my mind. I don't know the answers to that question as
16 far as who owns it and can we fire them and get a
17 different company, because really, I've never seen them
18 out checking the fire hydrants to see if they are
19 working. The only time I've seen Iliad out there is
20 when we had a drought four years ago and they came out
21 and drilled, and we went three or four days without
22 water because the well went dry.

23 I do know that every year we get a letter
24 from Iliad you can water alternating so the well
25 doesn't go dry, and we have received a letter, I think

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1 once a year, that says the water is okay to drink. I
2 do remember the incident with the E-coli, and it was
3 several months after the incident, and my kids are
4 drinking the water. It would have been nice to know at
5 that time that I should be watching, or we could have
6 bought a filter to put on the sink, or I could have
7 bought water.

8 But as far as who owns the well, when you
9 have a contract with a company and you have a mutual
10 working agreement there, then we should be consulted as
11 to what kind of a loan we are going to have, and we
12 should have an acting decision and how much we are
13 going to pay as far as interest. So if we want this
14 company that is working for us to take out a loan and
15 install this system, then they should listen to us when
16 we talk about a loan, and they should listen to us when
17 they talk about what kind of a system we want,
18 especially if they are going to try to charge us more
19 money. I want to say it's kind of like robbery in my
20 mind, kind of like you've got to have water, and that's
21 all I have to say.

22 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Mr. Fassio, any
23 questions?

24 MR. FASSIO: Just a couple. How long have
25 you lived in the Alder Lake community?

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1 MS. STRUCK: Six years.

2 MR. FASSIO: And you've been receiving water
3 from Iliad?

4 MS. STRUCK: Yes.

5 MR. FASSIO: Do you recall when you first
6 learned about the need for the chlorination treatment?

7 MS. STRUCK: It was probably two years ago,
8 she said? I remember that letter, and I thought it was
9 a bill too, and at that time, my husband was ill with
10 cancer. We were barely making our house payments. I
11 literally started crying when I received that bill
12 because I thought, how are we got to pay that when we
13 are just barely making our house payment right now, and
14 then there was quite a few phone calls going on at that
15 time.

16 I know that Karen had called us and we were
17 talking, and I called the water company as well and did
18 not receive an answer back, and then at that time, she
19 told me that I could call Mr. Cupp, and I did so, and
20 then shortly thereafter received the second letter from
21 Iliad stating that it was not a bill. It was
22 misunderstood, but you know what? It was a bill. It
23 looked to me like a bill. I think that was just the
24 Company backtracking themselves because they knew they
25 had goofed. I'm being kind of harsh and I'm sorry.

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1 That's the way I see it.

2 MR. FASSIO: Thank you.

3 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Yes?

4 MR. JOHNSON: I'm Robert Johnson. I would
5 like to say a few words if I could. I've lived at
6 Alder Lake since October of 1999. When I first started
7 hearing about the problems with the water company,
8 Karen had asked me if I paid a hookup fee, because I
9 bought my property from her and I wasn't sure. She
10 said, I paid them \$1,500 so you shouldn't have to pay.
11 Since then, I've found where I paid a \$500 hookup fee
12 for the water company, and also, I have a letter here
13 from Alder Lake Water Company from March 29, 2001, that
14 says, "We are in the process of installing a new water
15 treatment facility per Department of Health
16 requirements to meet DOH and EPA standards." I don't
17 know if you want a copy of that.

18 JUDGE CLARK: Yes, certainly, and this is
19 something that I can take for the record?

20 MR. JOHNSON: Sure. And also, did you want a
21 copy of the thing that everybody thought was a bill?

22 JUDGE CLARK: I certainly want to take
23 anything that you want to give as an exhibit.

24 MR. JOHNSON: Well, here's what they sent us,
25 and I guess that's about it. It's been kind of a whole

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1 mistrust thing since the get-go, and half the people
2 here get information from them and half of them don't.
3 Anything else?

4 JUDGE CLARK: Let me mark these. I have a
5 one-page document bearing the letterhead of Alder Lake
6 Water Company bearing the date March 29, 2001, and I've
7 marked that for identification purposes as Exhibit 80.
8 I have a three-page document bearing the letterhead of
9 Alder Lake Water Company and the date August 18, 2004,
10 and that I've marked for identification purposes as
11 Exhibit 81, and I think that the letter and the
12 attached financial response that you've provided in
13 Exhibit 81 appears to be self-explanatory so I don't
14 think I have any questions on that. You indicated that
15 you moved there in October of '99?

16 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, and I was paying a bill
17 for six months before that, nonuser.

18 JUDGE CLARK: So you paid a nonuser fee
19 initially. Do you have a residence on this?

20 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

21 JUDGE CLARK: Was the residence existing, or
22 did you build on this property?

23 MR. JOHNSON: We built.

24 JUDGE CLARK: In '99?

25 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. We moved in in October of

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1 '99.

2 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Mr. Fassio?

3 MR. FASSIO: I don't have any questions.

4 JUDGE CLARK: I have Eugene and Rosey --

5 THE WITNESS: No questions.

6 JUDGE CLARK: Diana Hally?

7 MS. HALLY: Diana Hally, H-a-l-l-y. I have
8 purchased a lot with Ms. Howard, and I was the gal they
9 were talking about that bought the lot in '98, and we
10 just recently this last summer decided that we wanted
11 to build, and I've been paying water bills since we
12 purchased that, which I believe is a user fee, which I
13 found that out just recently, so that's eight years of
14 paying. I think the nonuser fee should be 15. We used
15 the lot maybe twice in the last eight years, because we
16 don't have a house or anything up there other than
17 there is a water spigot and a one-bedroom septic.

18 So when I went to apply and had some
19 surveying done for a two-bedroom septic, I was turned
20 down because I had inadequate water and that the
21 Department of Health needed a chlorinated system, so I
22 can't build, so I was pretty disappointed this summer,
23 and we were pretty excited about putting something up
24 there, and now we are kind of in a holding period right
25 now.

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1 So I just kind of wanted to come up here and
2 say that, and pretty much Karen had summed up any
3 questions or any of the information that I would like
4 to have presented. She seems to have done a bit of
5 research. I do get the letters yearly about the water,
6 and I remember the E-coli thinking, Golly, I would hate
7 to be up there and having my kids drinking this, so I
8 question if the water was clean, so that was a little
9 concerning at the time, and then I also remember
10 getting that bill. Because I'm not up there, I have
11 friends that have a cabin up there, and I called them,
12 and I'm like, What is this, \$3,000? We don't even live
13 up there. So I was concerned about that bill as well.
14 That's all I have to say.

15 JUDGE CLARK: All right. Do you have any
16 questions, Mr. Fassio?

17 MR. FASSIO: No questions.

18 JUDGE CLARK: Mark Pritchard?

19 MR. PRITCHARD: Mark Pritchard,
20 P-r-i-t-c-h-a-r-d. I'm one of the newcomers in the
21 area. I came in November '04 to start building a
22 house, and my first experience with Iliad was trying to
23 obtain a water availability letter so I could get my
24 building permit. When I asked them for a water
25 availability letter, they would not give me one unless

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1 I paid them \$3,250 assessment fee plus an extra fee.
2 At the time, I didn't know about the WUTC. I moved
3 here from New York City, and so I didn't contact the
4 WUTC.

5 When I mentioned it later, they were shocked
6 that I was being charged \$3,250 assessment fee because
7 they hadn't approved any, I think is what they told me,
8 and I've not been able to find any other resident that
9 ever paid any similar assessment. So I'm wondering if
10 they were just shafting an out-of-towner, somebody that
11 didn't know any better that seemed to have money, and I
12 don't really have that much money. I'm sort of getting
13 by on what I can scrape together in this job I'm
14 working out.

15 After I built my house, I pretty much put
16 everything I have into that house. As far as I'm
17 concerned, I've already paid them an assessment of
18 \$3,250 that was illegal probably, and I consider them
19 an adversary, and like everybody else, I've never been
20 able to communicate well with them. When I was first
21 beginning my project back in New York, I called and
22 called and called and never got any response. Once in
23 a great while, I would speak with Sondra LeBaron. That
24 was one out of maybe 20 calls or so.

25 I finally did get my water availability

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1 letter, and then it turned out that the connection fee
2 they were trying to charge me was overblown, because
3 they were trying to say that I required a larger
4 connection than I really needed to, so John
5 straightened that little bit out for me and saved me
6 \$3,000 by having them charge me the correct fee rather
7 than an inflated fee for the connection charge, and I
8 believe that's 600 something that they charged, and it
9 was supposed to be \$300-something, so it was a \$300
10 difference.

11 All of that just indicated to me that they
12 were out to get as much money from me as they could any
13 way they could whether it was legal or not, so to me,
14 that's an adversarial relationship, and I will do
15 everything I can to see that they get what they
16 deserve, which I think they should be put out a
17 business honestly.

18 I would like to see our water system
19 supported by a different company in a different way
20 that was responsive to our concerns. I received the
21 same letter that others have mentioned. That green set
22 of documents was the first communication that I
23 received about this new assessment for the water
24 treatment facility, and I shot back a letter to them,
25 because they were mentioning interest rates and

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1 everything, and they can't offer a loan through the
2 mail without giving any information. There is a
3 federal law about offering credit. You have to get
4 certain information, so I let them know about this and
5 I communicated with John about it, so then they sent
6 this other letter saying it was all a mistake and
7 backtracking. Again, another indication to me that
8 they were just trying to get whatever they could by
9 skirting the WUTC.

10 And I know I probably shouldn't talk about
11 hearsay. There is lots of stories about the water
12 company and how they manage all their other little
13 companies, because they are a consorting of many small
14 companies, and they try to avoid regulation by keeping
15 their operations under a certain limit that has less
16 regulation. I also paid the nonuser fee or whatever,
17 11.53, prior to my getting the connection hookup, and
18 then I started paying the \$23.13 a month.

19 So what I would like to see happen out of all
20 of this is to get proper financing at 1.5 percent
21 calculated as an additional to our monthly fee, which
22 I've been informed by the Washington Utilities and
23 Transportation Commission would come to about \$18 a
24 month, and then that way, the cost of the improvement
25 would be spread out over time in a reasonable way, and

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1 if property changes hands, the new owner assumes
2 responsibility as they should rather than it being a
3 lump sum date by one owner, which is very difficult to
4 recoup no sales if you want to.

5 I think those are the basic points I wanted
6 to bring up; particularly the fact that they already
7 charged me an assessment fee of \$3,250, and they
8 couldn't give me a water availability letter until I
9 did, and obviously moving from here New York, I didn't
10 have a choice really. I had to go ahead with it. Any
11 questions?

12 JUDGE CLARK: I don't think so. Thank you,
13 Mr. Pritchard. You were very thorough. Mr. Fassio?

14 MR. FASSIO: When you say "John," do you mean
15 John Cupp?

16 MR. PRITCHARD: Yes.

17 MR. FASSIO: The assessment that you paid,
18 when did you pay that; do you recall?

19 MR. PRITCHARD: I believe it was around May
20 2004. Actually, I have my file over there. If you
21 want, I could look later on and try to figure out exact
22 dates, but that was right around the time I applied for
23 my building permit in May, so it was April or May I
24 paid it in order to get the water availability letter,
25 which I needed in order to get the building permit.

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1 MR. FASSIO: So the assessment was to get the
2 water availability letter?

3 MR. PRITCHARD: No. The assessment was for
4 unspecified improvements that had been done in the past
5 on the water system is what they had told me, so they
6 were claiming to me that they had made improvements,
7 already gone through the same process they are going
8 through now to try to get money through an assessment
9 to do an improvement. That's what I thought they were
10 doing, but it seems that they had never gotten
11 permission from the WUTC to levy such an assessment.

12 I would like to know the answer to that. I
13 would like you to question them in hearing as to what
14 is there rationale for that particular assessment.
15 What improvement is it related to specifically? How
16 many others in the development paid those? I would
17 really like to get them on the line and specify what
18 assessments they did receive from which people at what
19 time, because they claim to me that other people had
20 paid these kinds of assessments of multi-thousands of
21 dollars. I haven't found any so far.

22 MR. FASSIO: Thank you.

23 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Pritchard. Yes?

24 THE WITNESS: I have one other question. How
25 often is the water tank cleaned? I don't think it's

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1 ever been cleaned in 21 years.

2 JUDGE CLARK: Is there anyone else who has
3 comments they want to present right now?

4 MR. PRITCHARD: I have one more point that I
5 would like to bring up. That was when I got the paper
6 on my property when I bought the property, the little
7 clause at the end of the contract that specify all the
8 covenants that go with the land, there is a specific
9 covenant that mandates me to use the services of Alder
10 Lake Water Company in perpetuity, me, my forbearers, my
11 relatives. It's like a mandated monopoly.

12 I am apparently legally operated by this
13 covenant to use their services, and to me, that means
14 that they should be highly regulated and that there
15 should be ways to get this to -- I would like to create
16 a well for myself and produce my own water supply, and
17 they could on that because it needs the permission of
18 the water company that the water company would need to
19 improve it -- of course subdividing my lot and getting
20 the part that's up above taken out of that covenant so
21 I can do something up there, because they can't even
22 serve that land up there. Their well is only about a
23 third of the two-thirds of my land. They couldn't
24 possibly service because it's above the level of the
25 tank.

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1 JUDGE CLARK: From whom did you purchase your
2 property, Mr. Pritchard?

3 MR. PRITCHARD: Private individual.

4 JUDGE CLARK: Does that prompt any additional
5 questions, Mr. Fassio?

6 MR. FASSIO: No.

7 JUDGE CLARK: If no one else has any comments
8 they want to make at this time, what it sounds to me
9 like is that there are a number of people who have
10 questions, and I'm thinking that perhaps our time might
11 be better spent taking a little time and giving people
12 the opportunity to ask questions. I saw a hand go up
13 indicating that there might be someone else who wants
14 to give comments. I don't want to discourage if there
15 are people who want to give comments. After we take a
16 little recess, we will certainly try to accommodate
17 those, but I'm trying to balance this and make sure we
18 get some of these questions answered this evening if we
19 can. Did you want to present comment, sir?

20 MR. RICE: I only have one, so I will be
21 short.

22 JUDGE CLARK: State your name for the record.

23 MR. RICE: Ronald Rice, R-i-c-e. My wife has
24 pretty much covered everything except for one concern I
25 have. The well is on our property, and it is my

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1 understanding that that water should be checked by the
2 health department or something like that once a month,
3 and I can guarantee you it is not. If it is, it's not
4 off our property because we have a way of telling when
5 they come to draw some water from that well, which I
6 won't explain, but the point is that it's sometimes two
7 or three months before they show up, and they have a
8 maintenance person that comes out, but my real concern
9 is because of my lack of understanding how they are
10 getting this water to have it tested and then we got
11 don't get any information back whether it's good or it
12 isn't as far as drinking water is concerned.

13 So my one complaint is I really would like to
14 know where they are getting this water that they are
15 testing and when, because I admit we are not home 100
16 percent of the time, but I do have away of telling
17 whether they've come and done anything to that well.
18 That's all I have to say.

19 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Rice. Any
20 inquiry?

21 MR. FASSIO: No, thank you.

22 JUDGE CLARK: Is there anyone else who would
23 like to make comments? Okay.

24 MS. RICE: I have a question which I would
25 like to see happen, and I would like this court to talk

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1 to the commissioners. Please get Iliad to talk to us.
2 Like I said, the well is on our property. When Dave
3 was running it, we had a good rapport to a degree. Now
4 that apparently we've changed hands, we are not
5 contacted quite as much. Would the Commission please
6 help us to get more input into our community?

7 We see Steve once in awhile come to the well
8 head, check the well, but that's the only person we
9 ever see or it's the only thing we ever get. Just get
10 some communication going with the Company to the
11 people.

12 JUDGE CLARK: When you say "Steve," that
13 would be...

14 MS. RICE: Steve is the little redheaded kid
15 that does the water samples, the maintenance person
16 that comes out. Thank you for your time for listening
17 again.

18 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Any other comments?
19 What I would like to do then is take a recess to give
20 people the opportunity the opportunity to ask any
21 questions that you might have of the Commission staff.
22 Again, if you have procedural questions about what will
23 happen next, you should feel free to address those with
24 me. After we have had the opportunity for you to ask
25 some questions I'm hoping that we will have time to go

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1 back on the record if there is anyone who wishes to
2 make additional comments this evening. Why don't we
3 take a recess for approximately 10 to 15 minutes.

4 (Recess.) (Exhibit 82 marked.)

5 JUDGE CLARK: We are back on the record. Is
6 there anyone else who wishes to present comments to
7 have the Commission consider an adjudication of this
8 matter this evening? Yes?

9 THE WITNESS: I would like to add one more
10 statement.

11 JUDGE CLARK: If you can just repeat your
12 name.

13 MR. MORRIS: Mark Morris. One more thing I
14 forgot to add is that ever since we moved in, we have
15 always provided our own filtered water system, water
16 purification system. I have been looking into the
17 whole house water purification system and softener, and
18 one of the things that struck me was we could afford to
19 do a very elaborate one for the price we are being
20 charged for just this chlorination system. It was kind
21 of like we were talking, well, could we do this instead
22 or separate from? We are planning on doing one on our
23 own anyhow because we never really trusted the water.
24 That's all.

25 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Any additional

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1 questions, Mr. Fassio?

2 MR. FASSIO: No.

3 JUDGE CLARK: Additional comment?

4 MS. HOWARD: Linda Howard. I would like to
5 know, do we get a copy of the bids for this work? Who
6 bid on it?

7 JUDGE CLARK: That's really a question. I
8 don't want to cut you off, Ms. Howard, but what I'm
9 trying to do is see if anyone else has comments, and
10 then we will adjourn for the evening so that the court
11 reporter can go home. If you have questions, hopefully
12 we can stay for a little bit later and try to answer as
13 many questions as you might have.

14 Are there any other comments for the
15 Commission to consider? Then let me just very shortly
16 explain the process. This evening's hearing was the
17 last piece of evidence that the Commission will
18 consider in this matter and the evidentiary record will
19 be closed. I am going to admit all of the admits that
20 were presented this evening, specifically Exhibits 77
21 through 82 are received in evidence and will be
22 considered in the final decision.

23 The next phase of this process will be
24 posthearing briefing, which will be conducted by both
25 the Company and the Commission staff. Those briefs are

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1 due on November 29th. After that, the Commission will
2 issue an initial order. Either the Company or the
3 Commission staff may file a request for review of that
4 order and a final order will be issued by the
5 Commission.

6 I want to thank everyone for coming out
7 tonight and giving the Commission the opportunity for
8 presenting your comments, and we are adjourned.

9 (Public Hearing concluded at 8:15 p.m.)

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