

COMMENT FORM FOR: JOHN & MARY POLETTI - ID# 3358

Consumer Information	
Confidential Comment	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Contact Method	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> None
Name	JOHN & MARY POLETTI
Organization Company	
Address	P.O. BOX 2003; 64 TINA'S TRAIL
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Comment Information	
Theme	Cost of Living, High Rates, Low Income, Mismanagement, No Alternative, Poor Customer Service, Senior Citizen
Open Date	09/20/2007
Filing Support	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Undecided
Closed Date	
Source	<input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Mail <input type="radio"/> Phone <input checked="" type="radio"/> Web
Web Create Date	
Pubic Involvement Lead	John Cupp
Duplicate Comment	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Description	<p>Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250</p> <p>Subject: General rate filing UW-070944</p> <p>I am a property owner living on Orcas Island and receive water from Rosario Utilities. The reason we did not go down in mass to protest what Enron Pacific North West, other wise known as Rosario Utilities, Orcas Water Holdings and Rosario Resort, is because we feel we would not be heard. A large percentage of us are seniors and don't have the energy or funds to travel overnight to a hearing. When a hearing was held last summer on the island there was a large turnout. Six years ago we went down in mass and the WU&TC ruled in favor of the utility over our objections. We all feel that the WU&TC is not looking out for our interests. Under the law it is your responsibility to protect us.</p> <p>I hate to be redundant but some obvious problems that are not being addressed but must be if you represent us. How can a utility company transfer water rights to a holding company owned by the same party and then be forced to buy them back at an outrageous</p>

price. Where was the consideration on the first transaction? That is a legal point. Second, talk about a conflict of interest. It seems the WU&TC approves of this transaction. When the rights are now being sold for \$10,000.00 the position of the WU&TC is that it is hard to tell what they are worth even though a water appraisal company put a value of \$1,500.00 per acre-foot. Where would the WU&TC draw the line, \$200,000.00 per acres foot?

WU&TC refuses to address the problem of the treatment plant. We have been told they can't. What utter nonsense. The Health Department required the plant to be able to process 624 gallons per day. If the requirement had been less the plant could have provided more hookups and more revenue. The 624 gallons per hookup is not needed on Orcas. We don't have large families or lawns and at any given time including the summer only 70% of the residents are living on the island. Dean Evens was asked about this requirement and he said that he would have reviewed the number if asked to by the utility company. They never did and we were not permitted to ask for a review. The utility company would have been showing a profit all these years if this had been addressed and they were permitted to sell 50 more hookups. Now Orcas Water Holding has written a demand note to the Utility for the \$100,000.00. Does the conflict of interest ever stop.

When he permits were put up for sale six years ago the resort grabbed 50 of them right off the top. They were not first in line but sent the sheriff out to disperse the queue that had formed around midnight. To compound the problem, the resort purchased the fifty hookups for \$3,100.00 and later sold them for \$8,500.00. This income belonged to the utility, not the resort. That is \$150,000.00 that never got run through the financial statement of the utility. Talk about a conflict of interest.

Now the over runs and loan balances are going to be converted from debt to equity and we end up paying for a conflict of interest that the WU&TC will not address. This is a derelict of duty. What is our recourse? Appeal to our local state representatives? Ask for an investigation on the ruling where we feel we are not getting an impartial review?

The mission statement of the WU&TC is to "Ensure essential consumer protection through fair rates, compliance with service quality and equitable business practice standards, and reliability of delivery systems." Clearly this is not being done and we can only ask why? Welcome to the banana republic of the late state of Washington.

Very truly yours

Attachments

Follow-Up Information		Other Follow-Up Information	
Follow-Up	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Other Follow-Up	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Follow-Up Staff		Other Follow-Up Staff	
Follow-Up Complete	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		

Issue Information	
Issue ID	169