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STATE OF WASH,
UTIL, AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In The Matter of the Petition of

WILLIAM L. STUTH, and AQUA TEST,
INC.,

TO AMEND/CLARIFY PROVISION
OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE
For Declaratory Order Designating
a Public Service Company

DOCKET NO. __A-050528

OBJECTION TO AND REQUEST
TO AMEND/CLARIFY PROVISION
OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810, Petitioners respectfully object to the current Prehearing Conference Order and request the Presiding Administrative Law Judge to amend or clarify Paragraph 7 of the Prehearing Conference Order in this matter as served on November 22, 2005.

The reason for this request is that the ultimate issue for Commission determination as a question of fact is whether a person or corporation owning, operating and managing a large on-site sewage system (LOSS) is a public service company under the public service laws of the State of Washington and thereby subject to Commission regulation as a public service company.

The proposed business model set forth in both the underlying

PETITIONERS' OBJECTION TO PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER -- PAGE 1 OF 2

ORIGINAL

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Petition for Declaratory Order and the Petitioners' Statement of Fact and Law describes the essential attributes of the utility service in more detail as follows:

[Whether] a privately owned for-profit company providing services to the public including and not limited to the management, ownership, operation, and maintenance of large on-site sewage systems and any components thereof all as defined by WAC 246-272B-01001 . . . is a public service company subject to regulation . . . by the WUTC?

Petition, ¶ 4.1. <u>See also Petition</u>, ¶ 2.8. <u>See Proposed Business</u>
Model, Petitioners' Statement of Fact and Law at pp. 13-14.

Accordingly, the utility service in fact provided the public, and which is to be considered by the Commission, is much more than simply "the operator of a large on-site sewage system" as currently set forth in the Prehearing Conference Order at ¶ 7. Counsel apologizes for any confusion or oversimplification of this most important issue that may have been made during the prehearing conference.

DATED this 25th day of November, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

RHYS A. STERLING, P.E., J.D.

Rhys A. Sterling, WSBA #13846 Attorney for Petitioners

Attorney for Petitioners

This is a more general definition of the model taking into consideration both existing and new large on-site sewage systems.

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that on the 25 day of Massifes

to all parties.