

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**In the Matter of the Petition of:**

Douglas and Jessica Rupp; Kathie  
Dunn and Chris Hall; Melinda  
Inman; Verlin Jacobs; Anthony  
Williams; Christine and Samuel  
Inman; Robert Jacobs; and Sam  
Haverkemp and Chris Portrey,  
Petitioners

**NO. UT-050778**

v.

Verizon Northwest, Inc.,  
Respondent.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**

**DEPUTY TIMOTHY FREIL**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**RUPP, et al**

**ISSUE: Impact of the lack of 911 service on Skyko 2**

**OCTOBER 12, 2005**

1 **Q. What is your name, address, and occupation?**

2 A. Timothy Freil

3 14000 179th Ave. S.E., Monroe, WA. 98272

4 My occupation is Deputy Sheriff.

5

6 **Q What is the general topic of your testimony?**

7 A. Telephone service in the isolated areas of Index. Law enforcement issues in

8 the Skyko 2 area. Same as any other area of Snohomish County, however the

9 isolation from communication has compounded the drug use and manufacturing

10 of chemical drugs and the problems it brings; i.e. burglaries, thefts etc.

11

12 **Q. What are your qualifications to testify on this topic?**

13 A. Assigned to the Index-Gold Bar area for approximately 6 years. I've been a

14 Deputy Sheriff with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office for 10 years and

15 worked in law enforcement for 32 years. My primary responsibility is the Gold

16 Bar region of Snohomish County. This area covers from the West end of Sultan to

17 the King County line and portions of the Skykomish area.

18

19 **Q. How do the residents of Skyko 2 and the surrounding area currently report**

20 **a law enforcement emergency?**

21 A. By driving into the town of Index to use the one and only pay phone located

1 at the General Store. This is an approximate 5 mile drive, and can be up to 14  
2 miles driving distance if you are camping "up river".

3

4 **Q. How does this method of reporting effect your response time as opposed to**  
5 **a 911 call from the location of the emergency?**

6 A. Time is critical in reporting an emergency, medical, accidents, fires etc. While  
7 responding to the incident, information is not available to the responders, as the  
8 caller is now not at the location to give us up to date information, description,  
9 has the incident escalated to violence, direction of travel etc.

10

11 **Q. Please describe what effect this difference in response time has had on the**  
12 **outcome of emergencies that your office has responded to in the past.**

13 A. As stated above, by the lack of updated or current information of the incident.  
14 Also stated below, as to the knowledge the crooks have as to some one reporting  
15 them to 911.

16

17 We have had numerous incidents where local service would be helpful: Traffic  
18 accidents, shooting, stabbings in the campgrounds, plus the other normal  
19 physical fights and assaults.

20

21 **Q. Please describe what effect having 911 service in Skyko 2 might have on the**

1 **crime rate in the area?**

2 A. We would have better reporting of the crimes that are occurring, some  
3 residents "don't want to bother going all the way to town". Telephone service  
4 would also act as a deterrent to crime, with the criminals knowing if someone is  
5 watching them, they would be able to report the incident right away. As it is  
6 now, the crooks know they have about 20-30 minutes before someone can report  
7 them.

8

9 **Q. Do you have any thing else that you wish to add?**

10 A. These responses above described normal driving time to obtain phone  
11 services. The approximate driving time can be doubled in foul weather, such as  
12 snow or heavy rain.

13

14 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

15 A. Yes, it does.