

EXHIBIT 6

WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

We, as consumers of Estates Water, are fully aware of the inequities described herein and which fully justify our resolve to oppose the UTC considering any further consolidation of the drinking water systems owned by Cascadia Water LLC on Whidbey Island, namely Lehman, Sea View, and Del Bay, with those owned by Cascadia Water LLC in Clallam County, namely Estates and Monterra. Estates Water users disagree with any new rate increase as a result of the planned consolidation of these disparate water systems. Such a consolidation would immediately, and in perpetuity financially harm Estates water system consumers. This is unfair, unjust, and unreasonable!

Cascadia has submitted figures of over \$700,000.00 for repairs, upgrades and or improvements for the rate increase proposal, with almost 100% of those expenses for the previous Lehman Enterprises systems on Whidbey Island. We have yet to be able to locate any reference to, consideration of or actual costs stated by Cascadia that may have had or will have an impact on Whidbey's water systems due to environmental conditions.

It is a well-established fact that Whidbey Island has had serious problems with both water quantity and quality for decades. Central Whidbey is in the Olympic rain shadow with the average annual precipitation of only 20-24 inches, hardly sufficient to refill ground water aquifers to meet the increasing demand. Water scarcity drives higher prices. Consumers of the Whidbey Island water system should pay for these additional water costs.

A study by the Island County Ground Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Program that was conducted from September 1984 to May 1986. It was the first such report on the conditions that are affecting the drinking water on Whidbey Island, included in this report was damage observed from seven landfills on the Island. The areas of interest in this matter include the Naval Air Station (NAS), Oak Harbor, Coupeville, Freeland and Langley.

The report stated that ground water quality at several of the sites noted in the Island Ground Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Program report are significantly degraded, repeatedly mentioning issues with the Freeland area: "Waste disposal operations at Freeland landfills have significantly impacted site ground water." Some of the Lehman Wells are in this general area.

Island County Public Health has produced a map that shows the locations of the various landfills on Whidbey Island. A copy is included in this document for your reference. In addition to the contamination from the seven landfills on Whidbey Island, there are other sources for drinking water contamination.

Included are spreadsheets that break down contaminants found in Cascadia's wells on Whidbey Island and wells located in Clallam County. This information was reported to the Environmental Working Group (EWG) by WA DOH and US EPA. EPA information comes from EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online data base (ECHO). This report provides information from trusted sources that there are water quality concerns with specific wells on Whidbey Island. Cascadia's rate proposal advised that T.E.L. #10, a Lehman water system well, needed a new well due to nitrate issues. Cascadia's information seems to confirm the old well was declining in productivity and or had problems due to contamination by nitrates. Thus, a new well was required.

There is significant difference between the geography, fresh water sources and groundwater aquifers in Clallam County and those of Island County on Whidbey Island. On the DOH arsenic map, the black dots show a level of contamination over 10 ppb while the red dots show the more serious areas of contamination, with levels over 50ppb. You will note that there are so many dots, black and red, that you cannot see the outline of Whidbey Island. There is only one black dot in Clallam County. This contaminated site is located on the west side of the Olympic Mountains

near Forks which is about 73 miles from the Estates and Monterra wells on the east side of the Olympics. It is safe to say that the Estates and Monterra wells are not affected from this contamination. A map from WA DOH that shows arsenic contamination around Washington State is included in this document for your reference.

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WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY (continued)

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The drinking water problems on Whidbey Island that have yet to be fully investigated or documented are those from Perfluoroalkyls Substances (PFAS or PFOA) contamination. PFOS/PFOA are all contaminants from the same basic chemical group. Contamination goes back decades resulting from many sources, the primary source being NAS operations. Ault Field and nine other areas of concern on Whidbey Island were listed as a Superfund Clean Up Site in 1997.

Additional damage from ground water contamination was identified in Coupeville. Naval operations used an airfield located directly above a major aquifer recharge area for that part of the Island. Again, PFAS contamination is suspected. When the Navy was forced to test the area from November 2016 through July 2019, their report showed egregious contamination.

In the city of Oak Harbor, population of 23,089 in 2019, a solution for purifying the contaminated groundwater had not yet been resolved. The US Navy, charged with the responsibility to supply Oak Harbor residents with uncontaminated drinking water has introduced a “fix”. Purchase water from the City of Anacortes. The drinking water in Anacortes is provided by the Anacortes water treatment plant. Situated on Fidalgo Island. Anacortes, population of 17,000 in 2019 is also challenged with the quality and quantity of groundwater. The city’s sole water source is the Skagit River. Water from the river is piped to the Anacortes water treatment plant. The Anacortes water treatment plant uses disinfection, coagulation and filtration to treat river water. It is then pumped via large water lines that run under the Deception Pass Bridge to the City of Oak Harbor, where the water undergoes further treatment. A booster pump provides water to all Oak Harbor city residents and the nearby Naval operations facilities (www.military.com/daily-news).

These Whidbey Island water issues are not found anywhere in Clallam County, more specifically in the Estates and Monterra water systems. Water consumers in Clallam County should not be forced to subsidize the escalating costs of drinking water for those who choose to live on Whidbey Island.

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