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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
DOCKET # 240151
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

98504-7250



P.O. Box 188
Freeland, WA 98248
May 31, 2024

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Commission:

We are informing you of our opposition to the rate increase of Cascadia Water Company LLC. Docket number 240151. We are the owners of lot 2 block 1 in Glow-Crest community serviced by Cascadia Water Company in Freeland, WA. We have 2 ready to serve hookups to this lot that were purchased in 1990. No financial fees for the ready to serve hookups were charged at that time.

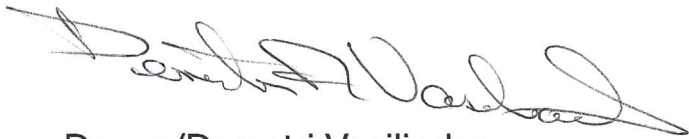
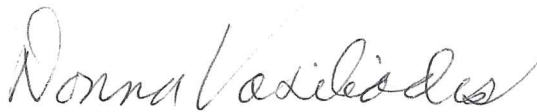
Cascadia acquired the assets of Lehman Enterprises, Inc approximately 8 years ago which had been providing water to the community and our lot. No fees were required since no meter/ water was being used at the time. A letter dated December 2020 by Culley Lehman, General Manager of Cascadia Water LLC stated "since it's acquisitions of Water Systems, the Company has done very well to manage its operating expenses in the face of inflation". They indicated that a rate of \$17.50 per month for each ready to serve hookup upon approval of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

The initial rate of \$17.50 was followed by increases as follows, 4/1/2021- 23.1%, 10/1/2021 -18.8%, 4/1/2022-15.8% which gave a rate of \$21.36 per month in April of 2022. There have been increases since April 2022 and the rate is now \$29.35 per month per ready to serve hookups with no meter or water use.

The proposed rate increase from \$29.35 to \$56 per month for ready to serve individual hookups is approximately 90%. THIS RATE INCREASE IS UNACCEPTABLE. Water is an essential commodity that is required for human life and not to be used as a means of making excessive profits. We surmise that the large increase on the customers is for acquiring other independent water companies. There has been no financial transparency to the customers for these rate increases.

The Commision should deny the request of Cascadia Water LLC for the proposed rate increases for July 1, 2024.

Sincerely,



Donna/Demetri Vasiliades