

1 **Q:** Have you reviewed the direct testimony given by Mount St. Helens Tours, Inc. in this
2 matter?

3 **A:** Yes.

4
5 **Q:** Has that information been of any value to you in developing an opinion as to whether the
6 area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours constitutes a community or a portion of a community?

7 **A:** Yes. I have been able to arrive at a preliminary opinion on this question. However,
8 before I state that opinion, I would like to note that this opinion is subject to further
9 review should additional information on the people who live in the area around Mt. St.
10 Helens' Tours become available at some future time.

11
12 **Q:** What parts of the testimony is your opinion based upon?

13 **A:** My opinion is based on the testimonies of Michael Brown, Robert Butterick, Carl Gahan,
14 Larry Howard, Mariam Knudtzon, David Ledford, Jim and Pamela Leonard, Edward Lee
15 Nugent, and Mark Smith. All of these individuals are property owners in the area around
16 Mt. St. Helens' Tours. Were there to be a community in this area, these individuals
17 would comprise the membership of that community.

18
19 **Q:** Do you have an opinion as to whether the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours constitutes a
20 community?

21 **A:** Yes.

1 **Q:** What is that opinion?

2 **A:** Based on the testimony I have read so far, I would conclude that there is no single,
3 independent community in the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours at this time. A majority
4 of the property owners have purchased land in the area for investment purposes. They
5 appear to have minimal interest in living in the area and interacting with other local
6 residents. Two or these investors spend virtually no time in the local area and do not
7 participate in any local involuntary organizations, including the Home Owners'
8 Association.

9 This conclusion is supported by the perceptions of the homeowners themselves.
10 When asked if there was a distinct community in the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours,
11 most of the property owners recognized that there was not. While the opinions of
12 "outsider" social scientists and local residents are not always in agreement, community
13 researchers often consider local residents' perceptions of the "spirit of community" in
14 their deliberations as to whether a community exists in a specific area. In this case, the
15 fact that my judgement and that of most of the property owners is in agreement lends
16 support to the opinion that the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours is not a single,
17 independent community.

18 However, I would also point out that there are indications that a community could
19 form in the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours in the not too distant future. There is an
20 active Home Owners' Association that most of the property owners belong to, there are
21 full-time residents in the area, and it is apparent that these full-time residents feel a much

1 stronger sense of attachment to the area than most of the other property owners. It is
2 possible that if the number of seasonal and full-time residents were to expand, that an
3 independent community would be formed, and then we would look back at this time and
4 note the social origins of the community.

5
6 **Q:** What is your opinion as to whether the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours constitutes a
7 portion of a community?

8 **A:** Based on the testimony I have read so far, I would conclude that some of the property
9 owners, and in particular the full-time residents, can be viewed as members of the Toutle
10 Lake community. These residents have children who attend schools in Toutle Lake and
11 there is apparently a significant amount of social interaction between the residents of the
12 area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours and the other members of the Toutle Lake community.
13 In addition, I would note that even some of those property owners who are not active
14 residents of the area around Mt. St. Helens' Tours have been able to recognize that those
15 people who do live in the area should be thought of as living within the Toutle Lake area.
16 Thus, it is my opinion that the permanent residents of the area around Mt. St. Helens'
17 Tours are members of the Toutle Lake community, and thus are a portion of that
18 community.

19
20 **Q:** Does this conclude your responsive testimony?

21 **A:** Yes.