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September 6, 2005

Mr. Samuel J. Petrillo
Administrative Law Judge
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
PO Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148

RE: LONG BUTTE WATER SYSTEM, INC.
DOCKET # UW 110
Our File No. 05-286

Dear Judge Petrillo:

Our office represents Long Butte Water System, Inc. in this docket. This letter responds to the Request for Extension of Time submitted to you by a handful of people calling themselves the Whispering Pines Homeowners Association. Long Butte Water System, Inc. objects to the request for extension of the deadline for data requests for the following reasons.

First, the people who requested the extension are currently representing themselves to the PUC as the "Whispering Pines Homeowners Association." Enclosed is a letter of solicitation that reveals that the so-called homeowners association is, in fact, made up of a few individuals and not a legitimate homeowners' association. The proposed intervenors are not officers of any homeowners' association. The prior Whispering Pines Homeowners Association is defunct, having been dissolved in August of 1995, as shown by the enclosed entry in the Secretary of State's Corporation Division Business Entity Register. To our knowledge, the proposed intervenors had nothing to do with that prior homeowners association.

The enclosed letter shows not only how the individuals are trying to mislead the PUC, but also shows that those individuals are trying to solicit money from their neighbors with scare tactics and misinformation.

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For example, the letter mischaracterizes Long Butte Water System's pending application and rate figures. It also discusses (and mischaracterizes) the Long Butte Water System system development fee as a "hookup fee," a resolved matter that was already the subject of a prior docket.

Second, the proposed interveners provide no justification for their extension. They filed their Petition to Intervene late (without copying Long Butte Water System). None of the materials they have submitted show that they have made any attempts themselves to obtain records while this matter has been pending. Their request for an extension amounts to an attempt to delay these proceedings so that they can continue to try to solicit money from their neighbors, when there is no indication of when or if they will retain counsel to represent them.

The timeline for this matter has been delayed once already after the pre-hearing conference, and Long Butte Water System objects to any further delays.

Sincerely,



MARTIN E. HANSEN

MEH/lko

Enclosures

cc: Pat and Becky Hodge

Lisa Roberts - enc.

Jason W. Jones - enc.

Dan Rey - enc.

CONCERNED HOME OWNERS **OF WHISPERING PINES**

August 25, 2005

Dear Neighbor:

A group of us came together and would like to represent you and all of the Long Butte Water System customers. We are not asking for monthly dues, nor are we creating any new rules or regulations for our neighborhood. We want you to be aware of what Long Butte Water Systems is asking the Public Utility Commission to grant them at the expense of us all..

1. LBWS wants to raise your water base rate 117% to \$50 a month **AND** raise your monthly water usage rate by 55%. Most other water companies charge .15 to .80 per 100 cubic feet of water usage. Long Butte already charges \$1.48 per 100 cubic feet of water you use and **wants to raise to \$2.30**. LBWS is already one of the highest paid private water companies in the State of Oregon. Example:

A. Agate Water \$19.98 base rate/.69 cents per 100 cu. ft. of water usage

B. Avion Water \$20.00 base rate/.80 cents per 100 cu ft.of water usage

C. Sun Mountain Water \$20.00 base rate/.15 cents per 100 cu ft. of water usage

D. **LONG BUTTE WATER \$23.00 base rate and they want \$50. You now pay \$1.48 per 100 cu. ft. of water usage and THEY WANT \$2.30 per 100 cu. ft. of water usage!**

2. What is your monthly bill now? Here are some examples of what your total monthly cost **WILL BE**. If you are paying a total bill of:

Now \$50 per month, it **WILL BE \$82.73**

Now \$100 per month, it **WILL BE \$160.45**

Now \$150 per month, it **WILL BE \$238.14**

(You can request a copy of the estimated rate for your bill from Long Butte Water Systems, Inc. Call 383-2863)

3. We are not only going to fight this rate increase, we are going to pursue our right for a rate DECREASE!

4. If you built your home here you know the outrageous price you paid to install your water system. Compare this to these other private water companies:

- A. Agate Water hookup fee \$625
- B. Avion Water hookup fee \$450
- C. Sun Mountain Water hookup fee \$825
- D. LONG BUTTE WATER \$7,200

There is no reason any of us should be paying these extreme charges, and now they want more. Can you afford it?

In order for us to fight this rate increase and get a rate decrease we have to seek legal counsel. We would like to hire the law firm of Eck & Elliot L.L.P. in Bend. This company has already dealt with LBWS in the past and has a lot of documentation and information that we will not have to duplicate or reinvestigate. This attorney will be representing all of us and the benefits we all will receive should we win this request. Legal representation is **not free**.

We are asking you and all of our neighbors for a one time contribution of at least \$100 or whatever you can afford. Your check will be made out and go directly to the Law Firm of Eck & Elliott in an account that is set up for **only this matter**. We are also inviting the general public to join us in fighting this outrageous request.

Should the retainer be met and the cost to fight this issue is less than we all paid, the remainder will be divided between all those who contributed. We need everyone's support, as this does affect ALL OF US.

It is well worth this investment. Figure it out for yourself. How much will you be paying each month, each year? We think you will agree something has to be done and this is it.

We have until September 12, 2005 to make the attorney's retainer fee. Please make your check payable to Eck & Elliott L.L.P. and send it to: **65345 85th Placc, Bend OR 97701** by September 12, 2005. Your money will be documented and we will keep you posted on the progress. Should there be any reason this process is denied, 100% of all monies will be returned. The "Concerned Home Owners of Whispering Pines" is not making one dime of profit. We are just concerned neighbors who are tired of being taken advantage of. Aren't you?

Thank you!

If you have any questions you may call:

Dan Rey 388-7861

Lisa Roberts 382-0203

Sonnie Grossman 388-2159

Business Registry Business Name Search

New Search

Business Entity Data

09-06-2005
10:33

Registry Nbr	Entity Type	Entity Status	Jurisdiction	Registry Date	Duration Date	Renewal Date
406089-86	DNP	INA	OREGON	06-15-1994		06-15-1995
Entity Name	WHISPERING PINES ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SECOND ADDITION					
Foreign Name						
Non Profit Type	MUTUAL BENEFIT WITH MEMBERS					

New Search

Associated Names

Type	PPB	PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS				
Addr 1	65509 SW 93RD					
Addr 2						
CSZ	BEND	OR	97701	0000	Country	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Type	AGT	REGISTERED AGENT	Start Date	06-15-1994	Resign Date	
Name	TAMMY	WIBEL				
Addr 1	65509 SW 93RD					
Addr 2						
CSZ	BEND	OR	97701		Country	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New Search

Name History

Business Entity Name	Name Type	Name Status	Start Date	End Date
WHISPERING PINES ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SECOND ADDITION	EN	CUR	06-15-1994	

Please read before ordering Copies.New Search

Summary History

Image Date	Action	Transaction Date	Effective Date	Status	Name/Agent Change	Dissolved By
08-18-1995	INVOL DISSOLUTION	08-10-1995		SYS		

06-23-1995	NOTICE	06-26-1995		SYS		
06-15-1994	NEW FILING	06-15-1994		FI		

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