

Why Request a Waiver to LT2 Rule? Because It Makes Good Sense and Cents

A rationale for supporting a robust effort by the Portland City Council in requesting a LT2 Waiver
December 5, 2010

By: Paul "Pat" Eck, Concerned Portland Citizen

INTRODUCTION: I moved to Portland three years ago and was impressed with the quality of the drinking water. Over the years I became concerned about the rapid increase in my water bills and the calls for attention to an impending change to the Bull Run water supply system including the covering/abandoning of the existing open reservoirs. I have attended two town hall meetings, read extensively on background materials on the Portland Water Bureau website as well as the Friends of the Reservoirs website. I have come to the conclusion that treating our Bull Run water and covering the existing reservoirs do not make cents or sense. Therefore I strongly recommend that the Portland City Council pursue administrative and legislative waivers to the LT2 Rule and allow the open reservoirs to remain uncovered with the addition of state-of-the-art security system upgrades.

Our Bull Run water system is now an organic, pure, sustainable, unfiltered system. This system works well for us and is not broken.

1. The Bull Run water system is a gift from our forefathers.
2. The Bull Run water system was well-planned, is passing the test-of-time, and should not be radically modified.
3. The proposed modifications stand a very good chance of introducing toxic and carcinogenic chemicals into our water supply. (Source: Scott Fernandez. "Op Ed" The Southeast Examiner, September 2010, pg. 2)
4. We may lose local control of this vital resource of the commons. (Source: Jeneen Interlandi, "The New Oil", Newsweek, October 18, 2010, pages 40-46).

THEREFORE, THE PROPOSED CHANGES DO NOT MAKE SENSE

The public is starting to reach the tipping point in regard to paying for essential services.

1. I have recently talked with an elder citizen forced to put his most recent water bill on his credit card due to the increase in rates. A single Mom with two children will lose her house when the cost of essential services increases unabated.
2. The citizens of Portland have an excellent record of financially supporting improved essential services such as the Portland Community College Bond issue. The public schools also need attention and the Portland Public Schools are bringing a large bond issue to its constituents this spring. The middle class and working poor cannot afford supporting projects that do not have value such as the LT2 driven water system modifications.
3. The cost-benefit does not warrant the remedy to problems that do not exist.
4. Privatization of the system may occur as the system accrues unmanageable debt. (Source: Jeneen Interlandi, "The New Oil", Newsweek, October 18, 2010, pages 40-46).

THEREFORE, THE PROPOSED CHANGES DO NOT MAKE CENTS

The Portland City Council must make decisions that are to the benefit of the people. We need proactive leaders--Leaders to continually monitor and adjust to the current situation when appropriate. We are about to lose our wonderful water unless you act now.

12-08-10

Parsons, Susan

From: P J ECK [pauleck@q.com]

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2010 4:18 PM

To: Parsons, Susan

Subject: Request to speak to City Council at the December 8th meeting

Hello Susan,

I am following-up on my phone inquiry in regard to requesting a slot on the December 8, 2010, City Council Agenda during the "Communications" portion of the meeting.

My name is: Paul "Pat" Eck

My address is: 11502 SE Washington Street, Portland, Oregon 97216

My phone number is: 503-262-4970

Description of message to be shared:

1. I want to thankk the Council for the Neighborhood Inspections Priogram
2. I have an interest in keeping the Portland water supply safe, sustainable, and affordable. I would like to share some of my insights with the Council on this topic.

Please let me know the status of this request at your earliest convenience so that I can plan accordingly. Also, let me know if you need any additional information from me.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Have a happy holiday season.

Regards,
Paul "Pat" Eck

1565-1

Request of Paul Eck to address Council regarding the neighborhood inspections program and the Portland water supply (Communication)

DEC 08 2010

PLACED ON FILE

Filed DEC 03 2010

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By *Susan Sanson*

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Leonard		
Adams		