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March 21, 2016

The Honorable James Huston, Commissioner
The Honorable Aaron Schmoll, Administrative Law Judge
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
101 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 East
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Aqua Indiana Rate Case: CN 44752

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you in my capacity as the President Pro Tem of the Indiana Senate and also as the Senator from Indiana's 16th Senate District.

Recently, you received a proposal from AQUA INDIANA to raise sewer rates for its Aboite Sewer district by approximately thirty percent (30%). A brief history of Aqua's rates over the past decade or so reveal a pattern of continuous and significant rate increase requests and awards. A review of those rate requests and the ultimate rate granted by the IURC is attached to this letter.

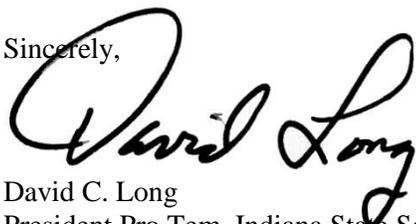
I personally believe that the current rate request by Aqua Indiana is excessive and inappropriate. The publicly suggested reason for this most recent rate increase is to handle additional sewage that Aqua has negotiated to take from the City of Fort Wayne. This was part of the agreement reached when the City agreed to pay Aqua millions of dollars to purchase Aqua's Aboite water system in 2014-15.

Aqua has agreed to take approximately 500 million additional gallons of sewage per year from the City in return for minimum payments of \$125,000.00 per month. To the best of my knowledge, none of this additional sewage Aqua will treat comes from the Aboite area. Yet Aqua is asking the Aboite ratepayers to pay for the expansion of the Aboite sewer works so it can handle the City's additional sewage. For which Aqua is going to be paid no less than \$1.5 million dollars per year by the City.

This rate request is blatantly unfair, and should be rejected by the IURC. I hereby request that the IURC and OUCC immediately schedule several public hearings in the Aboite area concerning this rate increase proposal. I further ask that these hearings take place as soon as possible and be held at a time that allows for maximum public participation.

I look forward to those public hearings, and ultimately, to the rejection of this inappropriate and unfair rate increase request by Aqua Indiana. Aqua should be told to pay for the expansion of its Aboite sewer works from the profits of the sale of its Aboite water system to the City of Ft. Wayne, as well as from the lucrative contract it has signed to treat the City's sewage.

Sincerely,



David C. Long
President Pro Tem, Indiana State Senate
Indiana State Senate District 16

CC: Chetrice Mosley, IURC Executive Director of External Affairs
A. David Stippler, Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor