From: Gomez, David (UTC)
To: Gomez, David (UTC);
Subject: Reasons for Rosario choosing hydroxyl treatment
Date: Thursday, September 13, 2007 12:21:28 PM

From: Deem, Stephen (DOH)
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2007 1:07 PM
To: 'Sandy Taylor'
Cc: Jobin Suthergreen; 'duane franklet'
Subject: RE: Reasons for Rosario choosing hydroxyl treatment

Dear Sandy:

It was nice to speak with you today (June 25, 2007).

Regarding your request to clarify the statements in your June 18 email. I was the engineer for the State Dept of Health (DOH) at the time in question and do remember some of the issues! DOH did not pressure Rosario to rush the design of a new treatment plant and in fact favored slow sand filtration for this utility setting. The Departmental Order (DO) was issued in April of 1999 due to several violations and failures. Section 1.8 of the DO lists a sequence of events relative to Rosario "Failure to construct water treatment facility ..." that may clarify the issue. On December 4, 1996 DOH issued a review letter explicitly concurring with Rosario's decision to pursue installation of a slow sand filter and setting up piloting parameters. On June 3, 1997 Rosario sent a letter proposing an alternative treatment option. On July 22, 1997 Rosario submitted an engineering report for a new treatment facility. On November 20, 1997 DOH approved the engineering report. Rosario did not submit the required construction documents for the treatment facility. As stated previously, DOH finally issued the Department Order in April 1999 after no action by Rosario. This DO was issued over two years after Rosario had received the OK to proceed with Slow Sand Filtration.

Steve Deem
WSDOH

-----Original Message-----
From: Sandy Taylor [mailto:cmos@rockisland.com]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 11:56 AM
To: Deem, Stephen (DOH)
Cc: Jobin Suthergreen
Subject: Reasons for Rosario choosing hydroxyl treatment

Steve

I hope you can provide us with some historical information on why Rosario Water Utilities decided to use a hydroxyl system. At a public meeting about the proposed rate increase prior the sale of the utility company, the issue was brought up about the extremely high cost of the hydroxyl treatment plant, and why it was chosen over a sand filter system, similar to that used by Doe Bay, the parks and Olga Water. The response from Laurie Cameron (representing the owners of
Rosario) was
that their hand was forced by the state Dept of Health in 1999/2000. She said that due to complaints from the consumers, DOH was forcing them to have a new plant on line very quickly, and the short scheduled prevented them from considering slow sand.

I do not expect that you can tell me what they were thinking, but I hope you can rule out the claim that DOH forced them to make this expensive decision. The consumers are complaining that they have to bear the brunt of the rate increases due to the poor decisions. The owners are deflecting the responsibility of the decision to DOH, saying Rosario had no choice.

I hope you can shed some light on this.

Thank you for your time,

Sandy Taylor