

Defending Water

Sept. 27, 2013

In the Skagit River Basin

No. 13

Now is the Time to Rekindle Citizen Trust

A request to the Anacortes City Council for a written termination of the Tethys water agreement

Council Member Ryan Walters
Council Member Eric Johnson
Council Member Cynthia Richardson
Council Member Erica Pickett
Council Member Brad Adams
Council Member Brian Geer
Council Member Bill Turner

Dear Council Members:

The muddlement of the City of Anacortes-Tethys Enterprises water agreement stands for a city process gone wrong during this mayoral and city council election. Now is the time to rekindle citizen trust by voting to terminate the Tethys water agreement in writing.

The city council voted to approve the agreement, voted for its extension and now needs to vote to terminate the agreement, lest a loophole remain, allowing Tethys to assign its water agreement to another corporation.

Mayor Dean Maxwell stated in a KUOW Radio interview aired on Sept. 23, 2013, that, "he believes the deal is dead." In the people's eye, his belief is no guarantee that the deal is dead. Now is the time to rekindle citizen trust, guaranteeing no loophole that will carry mistrust and fear and continue to paralyze our town.

Tethys was secretly brought to town, negotiations among the mayor, city council and Tethys occurring secretly and citizens given one day's notice in the Skagit Valley Herald of the agreement before city council discussion and voting approval.

I was among ten citizens who personally approached Mayor Maxwell at city hall before he signed the agreement. We requested a public hearing. Mayor Maxwell refused, saying that the agreement was "the city's business."

This year's election is about "the people's business." Candidates are quick to promise respectful citizen involvement regarding development and the town's vision. Anacortes needs a fresh start.

Defending Water in the Skagit River Basin requests, on behalf of Anacortes citizens, that you put a written termination of the water agreement with Tethys on your agenda and vote to terminate the agreement by Oct. 14, 2013. Now is the time to rekindle citizen trust in the city council to perform "the people's business" during this election.

Sincerely,

Sandra Spargo
Defending Water in the Skagit River Basin
The Alliance for Democracy

Cc: Mayor Dean Maxwell



Defending Water in the Skagit River Basin is an arm of **Defending Water in Washington**. Both are part of the national **Defending Water for Life Campaign of the Alliance for Democracy**. The **Alliance** believes that water is a fundamental right for people and nature.

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