

Public Comment on the Recurrent GLWA and DWSD Water Rate Hikes

Want to save money and begin lowering the cost to the rate payers?

Bonds to build a **good water system** will reduce operating costs and costs to the ratepayer. Cleveland has been reducing their costs to its citizens by instituting sound practices; Cadillac, MI., a town of about 10,000 and an area of about 2 ½ square miles installed their anaerobic digesters in 1963; superintendent Doug Langworthy said that they use the biogas produced to reheat the sludge, but that the Cadillac plant is too small to develop a system for heating buildings or for fueling gas fired cars like the Ford Duel Fuel vehicle; we are not too small.

Boston uses the methane gas generated to produce electricity to run its Deer Island plant. Minneapolis bought NEFCO (New England Fertilizer Company) natural gas driers before DWSD did, but when they realized that the driers didn't work well without anaerobic digestion as the 1st phase, they added the digesters. The digesters help dewater the sludge which allows the driers to use less natural gas to dry the sludge for fertilizer and/or to meet the moisture content requirements of land fill disposal. How much land does the government own that could be

used as an alternative to contracting for landfill delivery and disposal?

Chicago spreads and sprays sewage onto fields. Also, how much government land can be developed into ditches?

Are our NEFCO driers currently working? Or are we paying NEFCO \$23 MILLION a year to make **their** design work? We sold bonds for \$150 million for the drier construction; NEFCO's bid was to DESIGN, BUILD, and OPERATE these driers for 20 years with a total contract of \$683 million. Should we be charged to rectify NEFCO's design and construction? Should we sue to recover the construction cost?

Could we reduce treatment costs and reduce the expense of infrastructure piping collapses, by separating the storm water from the sewage and constructing storm water ditches to the rivers and to uncovered creeks that are currently covered? I am a

Detroiter: DWSD is trying to add a rainwater tax, call it a fee, yet leave the amelioration of the sewage overflow into the river up to the individual residents, businesses, and churches; the inefficient, wasteful CSOs do not and will not work. While Michigan literally lets Nestle “steal” our spring water up north, our public water entities pollute the water for the fish and people downstream by building big CSO’s that overflow onto those below and by utilizing chlorine that results in cancerous chlorine compounds. Holland, Tokyo and Toronto have separated their storm water into ditches, and it works.

The payback for doing the right things: the reduction of floods, sewer pipe and surrounding infrastructure collapse, the reduction of treatment costs, and **healthy water**. Good water is critical for a healthy life and will promote the public health of the drinkers of it, and may reduce health care costs. It is the duty of our government to protect the health of its people and the total environment by providing healthy water to everyone. Substitute Infra-red, ozonation, and activated carbon or membrane filtration treatment for the currently used liquid chlorine that morphs into cancerous chlorine compounds. Lower Operating Costs will offset bond repayment for this. Plan and act for our future and those who come after us. Water is our asset and we need to deal with global warming and possible future in- migration. Storm water pipes to ditches are doable. Please put this into minutes. CindyDarrah,greatlakeswaterprotectioncommittee.blogspot.com nlgcjd@yahoo.com, (313) 414-5181, 492 Peterboro, Det. 48201