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September 14, 2011

RECEIVED
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

SEP 19 2011

CHAIRMAN
ALBANY, NY

Mr. Garry A. Brown, Chairman
New York State Public Service Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Chairman Brown:

As you are well aware, Long Island American Water is seeking a 20 percent increase in its rates and imposing it on customers who are already burdened by high taxes, high utility rates, high unemployment and fixed incomes. This cannot be allowed to happen.

The Public Service Commission cannot let this happen to the residents of Valley Stream and our surrounding areas.

This exorbitant potential rate increase is well above inflation or any reasonable return on an investment that a utility has a right to promulgate on an already financially stressed public.

We realize that Long Island American Water has built a number of water remediation stations within the area to increase water quality and alleviate the "yellowing" effect of lime stains on clothing. However, a 20 percent rate increase is way out of line.

Perhaps a more modest or incremental increase will be more palatable to our residents, instead of the shock and awe of a double-digit, one-time levy?

The public should not have to suffer the expense for a company merger, nor should major capital improvements be paid for up front rather than amortized over a number of years.

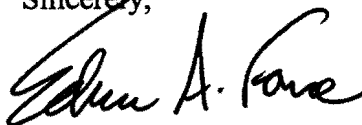
But is it not the mission statement of any water company to provide quality potable water at reasonable rates instead of using an opportunity to overly burden its customers?

It is the hope of the village of Valley Stream and water customers all over Nassau County that the Public Service Commission does the ultimate public service and denies Long Island American Water's request for a 20 percent rate increase.

Residents and ratepayers who are served by LIAW would be extremely grateful for this pro-people decision.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin A. Fare". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "E".

Edwin A. Fare
Mayor

EAF:rd

Cc: Commissioner Patricia L. Acampora
Commissioner Robert E. Curry, Jr.
Commissioner Maureen F. Harris, Esq.
Commissioner James L. Larocca
Honorable Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary