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Water Utility Coordinating Committee to Meet November 8th

Port Townsend, WA—On Wednesday, November 8th, the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) will hold its second meeting of the year at the Tri-Area Community Center in Room 102 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Agenda items will include a recap of the August 18th meeting, a review of membership and discussion of a new consultant contract with Marc Horton of HDR Engineering. The meeting will also address both old and new items pertaining to various water systems in Jefferson County, such as Bridgehaven, Olympic Water and Sewer, the PUD, Eaglemount Rockery Water System, the City of Port Townsend and the Moa-tel Service Area and Northup Water System request. The meeting will be chaired by Commissioner David Sullivan. The public is welcome to attend.

“WUCC is comprised of water purveyors in Jefferson County, the County’s Department of Community Development (DCD) and Environmental Health, and Washington State’s Department of Health,” said Al Scalf, Director of DCD. “The WUCC maintains a dialogue between utilities, dealing with issues as they arise and reviewing new or updated water system plans. A water system over a certain size has to have a water system plan, with those plans being periodically updated.”

WUCC also considers changes to a water system’s service area. If a purveyor wants to expand its service area, the WUCC considers and approves that proposed expansion. The hope is that the WUCC will prevent, or minimize, overlap of water service areas.

A water system that intends to expand into a future service area must have a water system plan identifying current and future service areas. A service area has a designated water purveyor to provide water service to that specified area with exclusive rights for their approved area. A water purveyor has the responsibility to plan for providing services, implementing its water system plan and managing the water utility within its service area.

WUCC considers a wide variety of issues as they relate to water, including watershed planning, regional conservation, fire flow protection and technical assistance for small water systems.

For more information, contact Rachel McHugh at the Department of Community Development at 360.379.4482 or via e-mail at rmchugh@co.jefferson.wa.us or go to the County’s Web site at www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment.