



COLORADO
Oil & Gas Conservation
Commission

Department of Natural Resources

1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203

ORDER 1-83
Doc# 2303200
Date: 10 /18/ 2018

HEARINGS FILE MEMO

From: John Axelson
East Environmental Supervisor

To: Hearing File - Order 1-83

Date: October 18, 2018

Subject: Status of Actions Ordered

In August 2018, COGCC received a call from a customer of the North Washington Water Users Association (NWWUA) trying to get information on Order 1-83 that was approved by the Oil & Gas Conservation Commission on October 22, 1999. The caller alleged that the water quality provided by NWWUA was bad and that after reading order No. 1-72 and 1-83, it was his understanding that the customers of NWWUA should have been connected to City of Thornton water after approval of the order. He believed that the customers were still receiving contaminated well water and also wanted to know what happened to the \$320,000 provided to NWWUA to connect the customers to Thornton water.

There was no information provided in the Hearings files that documented what happened after Order 1-83 was approved. COGCC was able to confirm that the \$320,000 was appropriated and given to NWWUA. Additional information was provided by Mr. Bruce Chameroy (Home 303-252-4842, Cell 303-947-6698) in a conversation with John Axelson on October 3, 2018.

Mr. Chameroy stated that he was on the NWWUA Board of Directors and spearheaded the effort to get the customers connected to City of Thornton water. He said it was a long process, but NWWUA did ultimately get a resolution with Thornton to connect the 53 residents, at the time, with Thornton water. He confirmed that NWWUA received the \$320,000, but before they proceeded with the city water connections, a new Board of Directors was elected.



Mr. Chameroy stated that the new Board of Directors did not want to proceed with the city water connection and started spending money on improvements to the well and well house that had previously been damaged by a fire. Mr. Chameroy indicated that he started a recall effort to get the new Board members removed. He was ultimately successful, but too much time had elapsed to use the funds provided by Order 1-83 and the Thornton water connection was never made.

Mr. Chameroy stated that there was a two-year time limit to use the funds and when COGCC determined that the funds had not been used to make the water connection in the allotted time, they requested the money back with interest. Mr. Chameroy said that the funds were returned with interest and that NWWUA had to take out a loan to make the full payment as some of the funds had already been spent. When asked if he had documentation on the return of the funds, he stated that NWWUA did have documentation and he could provide it if requested.

As to the current water supply being provided to NWWUA customers, Mr. Chameroy confirmed that the original well drilled in 1958 that had been impacted by nearby oil & gas wells was still being used as the source of water. A second well drilled in 1970 is no longer in use due to casing corrosion problems. Mr. Chameroy indicated that there was methane mitigation installed on the well and distribution equipment and there has never been another fire at the well house. He said there are currently 40 customers who still receive NWWUA water.

COGCC reviewed CDPHE information on the NWWUA. From this review it appeared that NWWUA was performing required sampling and analysis of water and filing reports and complying with water quality parameters required by CDPHE. The customer who made the inquiry was given the information by phone and referred to CDPHE regarding any water quality concerns he had with NWWUA.