



11706 S. Throop Street

Chicago, IL 60643

Dec. 11, 2017

The Honorable Richard R. Boykin, Chair
Cook County Human Relations Committee
County Board Rm., 5th Fl, Rm. 569
Cook County Bldg.
118 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60602

Commissioner Boykin:

It is our most hope that your deliberative body's proceedings on affordable water in Cook County, especially in poor areas in the county's South and West divisions, yields the following results that collectively are of great concern to us as residential and commercial property owners and renters:

*A comprehensive policy in cooperation with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, cities, villages, towns, and townships that reduce and eliminate alarming levels of lead, fluoride, disposed controlled and over-the-counter drugs and pharmaceuticals, and other substances that would compromise water quality, safety, and protection in the region;

*Some type of oversight that would assure that Chicago's Southland and the county at large would not revisit the felonious dealings that occurred in the village of Crestwood under the administration of the late Village President Chester Stranczek that were characterized by that southwest suburban village switching without the full knowledge of its residents and businesses the village water supply from Lake Michigan water to tainted well water while charging residents and businesses alike Lake Michigan water prices;

*Some type of oversight to assure that communities and portions of communities that has historically use well water and are still using it are not charged for Lake Michigan water, as was once the case for decades for a black Chicago community dating back to the 1930s on Chicago's Far Southeast Side near what is now Altgeld Gardens and Murray Homes.

Additionally, we also note that the vast majority of our elders preceding and among the Me Generation are dead set against allowing the city of Chicago to install water meters on their homes, despite quoted incentives from the administration of Mayor Rahm Emmanuel, because they frankly have no confidence in the city charging them fairly via meter readings as opposed to estimations conducted for decades.

Much thanks for reading our truth.

Very sincerely,

Mark F. Armstrong, Team Leader

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