



The Maine Water Company
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January 14, 2022

Trustees of the Kittery Water District
17 State Road
Kittery, ME 03904

Dear Trustees of the Kittery Water District,

Maine Water is in receipt of the "Petition to the KWD Board of Trustees December 2021" that has been presented to you and will be discussed at a meeting of the Trustees later this month. Its author is misinformed and has made false statements about Maine Water and our organization. The petition is now a public document that has made its way to social media. I believe it is important to set the public record straight and with your permission, I would like to attend the scheduled Trustees meeting to personally address the fallacies contained in the document and to answer any questions you may have.

In advance of your meeting, I would like to be clear that Maine Water admires and respects Mike Rodgers and your staff of water professionals. The citizens of Kittery, Kittery Point and Eliot are well-served by your local team. Our concern is the false and misleading statements in the petition. May I concisely present four facts:

1. Neither Maine Water Company nor its parent SJW Group (SJW) have the goal or ambition to acquire the Kittery Water District (KWD), to develop its watershed land holdings, or to be involved in the business affairs of the District in any way.
2. Maine Water does not develop wetlands.
3. Maine Water is in no way "affiliated" with KWD, other than we are a dues-paying member of the Southern Maine Regional Water Council, as is KWD.
4. No rational basis exists for the conspiracy theory that KWD may "adopt a billing system that dovetails directly into the systems" of SJW.

The petition, in its request to discuss withdrawal from the Southern Maine Regional Water Council, advances a profound distortion of the mission and work of the Southern Maine Regional Water Council. I am sure the Trustees are aware of the excellent work of the Council and the benefits that membership in the Council has brought to your water system and your customers.

I believe it is important for Maine Water to be present when the petition is discussed in order for you to have a complete record on which to make decisions and move the District forward. Further, I would be happy to highlight Maine Water's ongoing achievements in watershed and resource protection, energy conservation, climate change initiatives and sustainability. It's a sterling track record of which the petitioners are clearly unaware.



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For your benefit, I am attaching additional information related to the petition content. More is available at www.MaineWater.com and at www.smrwc.org. Thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on January 26th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Knowlton".

Rick Knowlton
President