

CAROL ROSE  
COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM 8A  
November 7, 2022

I will preface this with I have not decided for myself how I think this independence vs. combination should go. However, I do expect this Board to give it their due diligence before moving forward at each step. Anything less would be a disservice to the DPMWD ratepayers.

When the 2x2 meetings were suggested at the July 5<sup>th</sup> DPMWD Board meeting the discussions among Board members were to run these meetings parallel to the 218 process. The General Manager was in agreement; however, he indicated that it would be quite easy to speed up the combination process with SSWD, and he knew exactly how to do that.

I personally cautioned Directors Dolk and Saunders that it might be easy to have this process of looking into combination spiral out of control. Now I think that may be exactly what is happening.

Here is an item from the first 2x2 (August 8, 2022) minutes:

5. The Committee agreed to complete the Municipal Services Review (MSR) and condition assessment of DPMWD's water system **prior** to initiating discussions on reorganization opportunities.

You can see this committee is not actually following its own plans. That MSR does not appear to have been completed and has not been presented to the DPMWD Board for review.

This Board needs to ask why its GM, and even SSWD, seem so eager to move this process along toward combination. The GM has stated that he can fast-track this process. I would caution this is not the best way to make a weighty decision. There will be many consequences of this combination, not all to the advantage of DPMWD ratepayers. I'm asking you to move cautiously in this process.