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PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Chairman Goss  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, Ky. 40602-0615

Chairman Goss,

Enclosed copy of my letter to editor summarises my opinion, in part, about water supply. The other part is that huge water conservation, as well as greatly reduced risk of sewage pollution are possible through use of dry-trench disposal of septic waste. My opinion, and some sixty-eight pages of documentation, are filed under case no. 2007-00134, and I urge you to look at them. (On PSC website.)

I attended hearing before your commission a couple of weeks ago. Comments you made cause me to think you hope to resolve water supply controversy by reducing all arguments to dollar quantities, and then ruling for the least expensive option. Data I filed indicate that currently ignored and wasted roof-water--some 90 per-cent of volume of pipeline water currently consumed by average home in central Kentucky--is not only the least expensive option, by far, but is safe, and backed up by current pipeline capacity, adequate. We need neither of the proposed new pipelines!

But to "grasp" what I am saying you will have to leave your accountant's desk next time it rains, take a bucket outside to your roof's drainpipe, capture a few gallons of water, bring it inside and use it. I would probably drink some. And rather than primarily flush away your next deposit of "nightsoil", you'll have to somehow get it into a dry trench, some 2' deep, backfill over it, sow garden seeds there, and enjoy a fine harvest from it. In other words, to "grasp" these concepts of water capture and water conservation, you'll have to get up, get out, and, unlike most accountants, use your hands rather than just your head, to learn new motion, actions, and habits.

Had I been allowed to address said hearing, I would have drank from a mason jar of my own roofwater, and shown you a mason jar full of turnipgreens I grew on my septic trench. Sincerely, Steve Price

Georgetown  
News-Graphic

6-19-07

roofs  
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## Other options for finding water

### To the Editor:

I see the proposed Scott County water reservoir as folly. As a horticulturist striving for a self-sufficient homestead, I rely as little as possible on cash flow and tax-based government services. Thus, I am more or less outside the consumerism that wants to buy everything, including water.

According to data from the Scott County PVA office, GMWSS and the National Weather Service, the roof of the averages home in Scott County sheds 70-90 percent of water volume consumed in the house below it. The local Toyota factory is capturing, storing, treating and consuming a large volume of water from its acres of roof surface. I have easi-

ly captured water for drinking and for all other household and horticultural uses for many years.

Why won't Judge-Executive George Lusby and his crowd admit that rain falling from rooves, if captured, would render the proposed reservoir largely redundant, and probably an unnecessary, but very expensive public project? Because they are habituated to managing public money and government services, rather than free-for-the-taking rainwater from rooftops of their too-humble abodes.

So, with public bludgeon of eminent domain, they have driven some two dozen farmers and homesteaders from their property to make a reservoir site.

On March 14, the Lexington Herald-Leader published a scientific report on the toxicity of plastic water vessels. Wouldn't the same toxicity pertain to PVC plastic water pipes that I have seen installed by plumbers and by GMWSS?

I'll gratefully get my water from the roof and carry it in buckets, preferably oaken. Will developers leave any oak tress for

making buckets?

All those who fear water shortages and cry to governments and water merchants for assurance — pipelines, dams, reservoirs, etc. — would be relieved and pleasantly surprised by the abundance of water they can easily capture from their rooftops.

Roof water capture further avoids the nightmare of frozen and burst pipes in the winter and permits fuel-saving reduction of winter home heating, which often is largely done to prevent pipe freeze.

Home and community horticulture for all, including public officials, was Thomas Jefferson's vision for an agrarian U.S., and offers today simple, immediate means for improving our supply of staples, including water. Home, neighborhood and small-scale commercial horticulture, along with home water supply, offer hope that such grand public projects as the proposed reservoir would be inconceivable to a population of homesteaders and citizen horticulturists.

Steve Price,  
Georgetown