From: Wufoo

To: Staff, CAO (PUC)

Subject: Submitted Public Comment Form

Date: Submitted Public Comment Form

Monday, September 19, 2022 3:18:42 PM

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Name *	Thomas Hals
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Provide the docket's number.	22-388

Leave a comment on the docket. *

In 2016, residents of North Branch voted to keep the Municipal Water and Light Utility as is, 60% for, 40% against. In the past 15 months, the City has taken over the water utility and has a pending agreement to sell the electric utility to East Central Electric. This decision has been made by a five member Water and Light Commission (at least two members of which are neither water nor light customers) and the Mayor and four member City Council. I feel a decision of this magnitude in a community of this size should be made by the people served by these utilities.

It has been explained to me that the residents will have an opportunity to vote on the issue of disbanding the Water and Light Commission after the sale is completed. Doesn't seem to be much to decide at that point. An attorney has given the opinion that what has been done is technically legal, but not really in the spirit of the law.

I understand the concept of representation in a democratic society. In this case a very few at City Hall are forcing their own wishes on the electorate.

If I can furnish any further information in this matter please contact me.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Hals