



PRESS RELEASE

TETHYS ENTERPRISES ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT PLANS TO HALT ITS EFFORTS ON THE TETHYS PROJECT IN THE CITY OF ANACORTES.

For over a century, the City of Anacortes has maintained a regional water system for the benefit of the regional community, including in-stream flow protections, stability of rates and services, and jobs. The City's regional contracts support the communities of La Conner, the Swinomish Tribe, and Oak Harbor (including NAS Whidbey). Our long-term water contracts once included canneries and mills, and now include the refineries at March Point. The City Council approved a water use agreement with Tethys to create needed jobs and to further reduce rates throughout the system (more water sales mean reduced rates for all customers).

Mayor Maxwell said, "The Tethys project was an opportunity for our community to provide living wage jobs, advanced technology, and a continued commitment to environmental sensibility. While Tethys has decided to cease its efforts to locate a foodgrade beverage manufacturing facility in the City, the City will continue to look for other development and job creating opportunities. That being said the safeguards that we included in the water agreement worked as they were intended."

"The City will continue to look for opportunities for business development," said Ryan Larsen, the City's Director of Planning, Community, and Economic Development. He added, "Water is an important resource that, together with other advantages offered by the City of Anacortes, should provide opportunities for further economic development within the City."

Fred Buckenmeyer, the City's Public Works Director said, "The City's water utility, including its regional and industrial customers, are currently using approximately half of the capacity of the City's upgraded water treatment plant (42 million gallons of water per day (MGD)). The plant has expansion capabilities to 55 MGD, within the City's available water rights as recognized by the state and all of the regional tribes and local governments."

Mayor Maxwell recognizes, "The City's industrial and water resources are valuable assets to be managed for the enhancement and well being of both the community and the environment."

Dated this 10th day of September 2013.

H. Dean Maxwell, Mayor