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**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH  
PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

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**SAM SUTHERLAND**  
PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTOR-WATER

TO: Bob Mollette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilman

FROM: Sam Sutherland, Public Utilities Director- Water

SUBJECT: Response to July 13, 2006 Correspondence

COPIES: File, City Council, Jo Ann Aeh, Mayor Kalb

DATE: July 21, 2006

In response to your letter dated July 13, 2006 I wish to offer the following response. The waterlines mentioned in your letter were well over 100 years old. For this reason the City invested approximately \$230,000.00 to replace two lines along with all service connections and fire hydrants on and around Scioto Trail. Now that this is complete we will maintain this and all other parts of the system as we have done in the past. To say we are not maintaining our system is simply not true. In addition to replacing waterline in areas of concern on a yearly basis we are very active in replacing broken valves that can contribute to the problems mentioned in your letter. A thorough flushing program is also critical to this.

Please also be informed that any waterline that age is subject to these encrustations. That is why we strive to replace waterlines and valves of that age with the resources we have. Although you may be unaware, in the past ten years we have invested at least ten million dollars in improvements to the distribution system. The same attention now needs to be directed towards the Filtration plant and the MIEX System is part of this.

In response to the health effects of the aforementioned problem be informed our system is sampled in at least forty different locations monthly to make sure we are providing safe drinking water to our customers.

Sincerely,

Sam Sutherland, Public Utilities Director- Water