

For Immediate Release

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SKYKOMISH, WASHINGTON – March 18 2011

ELECTED OFFICIALS FINED as ENVIRONMENTAL SETTLEMENT is OVERTURNED

ELECTED OFFICIALS Paid Not to Oppose Environmental Cleanup FINED
King County Superior Court # 08-2-28689-4 SEA

Superior Court Judge Mary Yu declared Former Skykomish Mayor [Charlotte Mackner](#) and two Council members [Henry Sladek](#) and [Darrell 'Josh' Joselyn](#) were paid to Not Oppose BNSF Railway's preferred cleanup plan.

Additionally, the Court found these Town officials were paid to lobby the Washington State Department of Ecology for a diminished groundwater quality standard in this, the largest environmental cleanup in Washington State's history.

Officials simultaneously voted the Town's future and for their own profit while keeping these lucrative agreements secret. The Court determined that these Town officials violated Municipal Officers Code of Ethics, RCW 42.23.

Sky voters gave Mayor Charlotte Mackner the boot after evidence surfaced according to [Rick Aydelotte](#) the Sky citizen and business owner who originally filed the lawsuit.

Judge Mary Yu Overturned Environmental Settlement in Case No. 08-2-28689-4.

Each of the Defendant officials, as part of their individual BNSF settlement agreements agreed to:

- 1) Support a 'conditional point of compliance' for groundwater (a lesser standard on the hierarchy of water quality) by sending a letter to Ecology stating such support;
- 2) Keep the individual settlement agreement confidential; and
- 3) Not oppose the Consent Decree. Between Washington state Ecology and BNSF Railway.

The settlement agreement of Darrell Joselyn specifically included a payment of \$5,000.00 thirty days after the consent decree was approved and entered.

This is a David and Goliath story about small town elected officials who were paid to sell out the rights of property owners. Negotiating points were removed from the table summarily by Town officials after signing agreements with BNSF Railway.

This small town of about 150 will now have an opportunity to negotiate a fair settlement, free of illegal conflicts of interest states Mr. Aydelotte who believes residents will feel emboldened to stand for democracy after decades of being railroaded by BNSF.

One small town is standing to fight, as Americans discover it's time to stop influence buying and peddling by powerful corporate interests.