

 Michael Newton <micknewton@centurylink.net>

From: Michael Newton [mailto:micknewton@centurylink.net]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 6:21 PM
To: 'Gene Hester'
Subject: RE: From Gene Hester Tide Creek Road

Mike Russel, Director of Public Works.
Hayden Richardson, Columbia County Planning Department.

My name is Michael Newton. My wife and I built our home at 33660 Tide Creek road back in 1999. When we were building our home John Peterson stopped by multiple times and tried to get us to stop. He told me and the building contractors that we couldn't build our home here because the whole hillside would slide down to the highway. He also tried to stop the crew that drilled our well. He told them they would never get water. We had no problems with ground movement on our property for over 20 years, and our well has always had plenty of water. During that time the only slide I ever saw near my property was down below my property, nearer the highway, where a piece of the hill next to the huge gravel pit that was being dug into the hillside slid onto the road. The county road crew was there loading the dirt into dump trucks and hauling it to Peterson's property. It was shortly after they dug the huge hole in the hillside that we experienced ground movement on our property. The water line from the well head to the house broke and the whole section of concrete sidewalk on the south side of our garage broke loose and dropped a couple inches. We had to pay a crew to reconnect the water line. The PVC pipe had broken right where it connected to the well head. I still have not been able to repair the sidewalk. A month or so later the ground moved again and the water line broke a second time. This time we couldn't find where the pipe had broken so we were forced to pay another crew to dig up the entire pipe to locate the break. I had to pay another crew to break up and remove a section of the concrete sidewalk to get to the break. I then had to pay another crew to replace the entire water line.

In the 23 years that I have live here on Tide Creek road I have seen the condition of the road deteriorate considerably. I believe it is caused by very poor, or nonexistent, drainage control undermining the roadway, and the large amount of vehicle traffic, especially extra heavy vehicle traffic like large fully loaded dump trucks, log trucks, etc..

I am enclosing a few photos of the broken water line and sidewalk.

Sincerely,
Michael Newton

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5.7MB



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