

**From:** Benzie, Richard (DEQ)  
**To:** ["Crooks, Jennifer"](#)  
**Subject:** RE: question  
**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2015 6:07:00 PM

---

Still going on – even some council members talking about going back to Detroit at least until the KWA pipeline is available sometime in 2016. I don't know that the newspapers or media are advocating for one side or the other in this issue, but covering those individuals who are keeps the flames flickering.

I can't say the city wouldn't be better off to not have switched to the River, but I believe Flint was sure that DWSD was going to raise water rates significantly after the contract expired (by decree of DWSD) in order to recoup lost bonding costs or something similar. Flint did not want to be subjected to rates without any contractual controls.

---

**From:** Crooks, Jennifer [mailto:[crooks.jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:crooks.jennifer@epa.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 12, 2015 4:57 PM  
**To:** Benzie, Richard (DEQ)  
**Subject:** question

Richard—Last week when we were on the call with Jason, Wendy, and Tom Poleck, you made a passing comment about the newspaper getting into the stories about Flint drinking water, maybe elevating the issue in the public to fire them up? Perhaps talk of going back to Detroit water?  
Jen