

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by)	
Hans J. Butters, Complainant)	Report of Hearing Officer
)	
against)	Docket #FIC77-242
)	
State of Connecticut; and the)	March 3, 1978
Public Utilities Control)	
Authority of the State of)	
Connecticut; and the Executive)	
Secretary of the Public)	
Utilities Control Authority of)	
the State of Connecticut,)	
Respondents)	

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on January 5, 1978 at which time the complainant and the respondent appeared and stipulated to certain facts and reached agreement as to the manner in which certain records would be provided to the complainant.

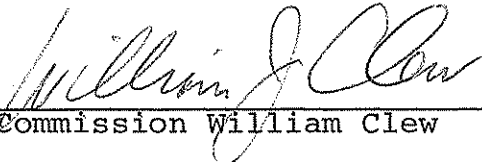
After consideration of the entire record the following facts are found:

1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-18a(a), G.S.
2. By letter dated September 27, 1977 the complainant requested that he be allowed to sit in on the respondent authority's deliberations on the Rural Water Company hearing of September 26, 1977 and that he receive copies of water usage reports and all documents from the Rural Water Company to the respondent authority, or from the respondent authority to the Rural Water Company.
3. By letter dated November 21, 1977 the respondent authority sent certain water usage reports to the complainant and invited the complainant to inspect its files in Hartford.
4. By letter filed with this Commission on December 19, 1977 the complainant appealed the failure of the respondent to notify him of the deliberations and its failure to send all of the records requested.
5. The respondent authority admitted that it had failed to provide the complainant with notice of its deliberations on the Rural Water Company.
6. It is found that failure to provide practical notice of the respondent authority's deliberations on the Rural Water Company after the complainant filed a written request for such notice, violates §1-21c, G.S.

The following order of the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

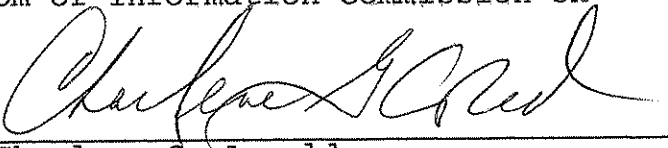
1. Henceforth the respondent authority shall comply with the requirements of §1-21c.

2. The commission notes that the failures to comply with the law which caused the complainant to file his appeal were not a product of any bad faith on the part of the respondent authority, and it commends the special effort made by the authority to conciliate the matter at the time of the hearing.


Commission William Clew

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on
March 22, 1978.


Charlene G. Arnold
Clerk of the Commission