



PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONER OF OREGON

LABOR & INDUSTRIES BUILDING, SALEM OREGON 97310 PHONE (503)

October 31, 1983

The Honorable Victor Atiyeh
G-overnor
Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97310

I am asking you to accept my resignation as Public Utility Commissioner effective December 31, 1983.

It is difficult for me to leave your administration. You are a superb leader, always supportive and encouraging. It is even more difficult because you have my deepest respect as "my Governor." I have never seen you duck a tough issue or compromise a principle. More than anything I will miss the close working relationship I have with a warm, sensitive, humane gentleman -- and a good friend.

The last six years have clearly been the apex of my 31 years in state government. Yet no time in my career will be better than now to try my hand outside of government. I have a concern that completing a second term will place me in an age bracket where the transition to other pursuits may then not be realistic.

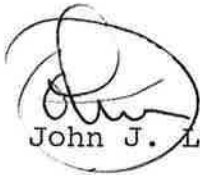
A sense of personal obligation and gratitude has made this a very emotional decision. As you know, I would have preferred not to have started a second term, but I felt there were too many loose strings that needed to be tied up. Some remain, but they are manageable.

I would appreciate having my resignation held in confidence until you have selected and are ready to announce my successor. A number of proceedings will not be wrapped up until near the end of the year, and some could be affected by an early announcement that I am leaving.

Part of what will make the transition to a new commissioner successful, regardless of whom is appointed, is the PUC staff, a most dedicated group. I now have an outstanding group of new assistant commissioners who will provide any appointee with sound and complete alternatives.

I have given some thought to a possible replacement. My last recommendation was a dissapointment to me. Nevertheless, I will stick my neck out again and suggest to you that Gene Maudlin, my deputy commissioner, deserves a long look. I have watched him grow in administrative and creative talent,

Thank you for the opportunities you have provided, and for your support, encouragement and friendship. Mary and I are grateful, and we continue to be among your many enthusiastic supporters and friends.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Lobdell", enclosed within a circular scribble.

John J. Lobdell