



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of the Inspector General

GREGORY W. SULLIVAN  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

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January 30, 2004

Bradley Plante  
Town Administrator  
Town of Rockland  
242 Union Street  
Rockland, MA 02370

Robert Corvi, Sr.  
Chairman  
Rockland Sewer Commission  
Town of Rockland  
587 Rear Summer Street  
Rockland, MA 02370

Dear Gentlemen:

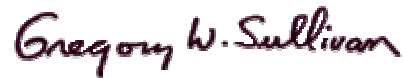
Last November this Office advised you of our concerns regarding Rockland's contract with USFilter for the operation of the town's sewer treatment plant. It was suggested at that time that, in light of all available information, it may be appropriate, after consultation with your counsel, to terminate the current contract and rebid for the services through a new procurement process.

Subsequent information provided by your counsel to this Office suggests you have grounds on which a determination could be made that the vendor is in breach of its contract. This determination, coupled with evidence and inferences of impropriety in the awarding of the contract, would appear to justify issuance of a notice of termination. It is sound public policy and fiscally prudent to exercise your legal rights to abandon a contract that you have determined is tainted by scandalous activity, poorly serves the financial interest of your community, and has given rise to an appearance of misfeasance in the use of public funds.

It is the expectation and recommendation of this Office that, consistent with the opinion of your counsel and the advice of your forensic auditor, you will now act to establish a new contract for sewer operation services that is properly procured, consistent with the best interests of your citizens, and untainted by its association with allegations of criminal wrong-doing that have engulfed the relationship between Rockland and USFilter. Your counsel will, of course, advise you as to any claims that the terminated vendor might have in this instance and the merits of the defenses you would have against such claims.

If you have any further questions regarding this correspondence or if this Office can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory W. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Gregory W. Sullivan  
Inspector General

cc: Richard Bowen, Esq.