From: Rick Skates [mailto:ricks@thehometownbank.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2009 12:14 PM

To: Comments

Subject: New fdic assessment

Our bank is a small community owned bank, which has been earmarked under an enforcement action due to local construction loans, which were failed to be taken out by the secondary market due to this calamity in the economy. We did not make the sub prime loans, but they turned to such after the markets were non existant. As a result we are paying high FDIC insurance premiums as a high risk bank. We feel we can work through our problems, but adding another 20 basis fee to our small bank will certainly affect our earnings and customer service and expense. We did not take any bail out money, nor did we pay any bonuses. Wages have been frozen.

It seems to me, that if you are short on FDIC insurance reserves, you should refund it through all the tarp money to bail out the big banks and not make all of us suffer for their problems. We are trying to make ends meet and I thought the new administration wanted to preserve the banking industry, hopefully including community independent banks. We are down but not out so please do not kick us again, when we are trying to recover from problems associated with the entire economy.

Rick E. Skates President

First Citizens Bank of Polson Polson, Montana