



July 24, 2020

Dear Station Manager:

I was appalled to see an advertisement your station ran this morning about Pioneer Technical Services, the company that I have served as CEO since 2004. The ad implies that Pioneer has received contracts from the state of Montana because one of our founders, William “Bill” Bullock, is the brother of Governor Steve Bullock. Nothing could be further from the truth, and to run an advertisement that implies this type of corruption and nepotism is insulting.

Pioneer Technical Services is a 100% employee-owned engineering and environmental services firm. Our corporate office is located in Butte, Montana, with branch offices in Anaconda, Bozeman, Billings, and Helena. Pioneer employs over 150 Montanans and has been recognized nationally for engineering excellence. These jobs would have gone to out-of-state firms had Pioneer not been established, and many Montana college graduates would have missed the opportunity to remain in Montana to pursue their careers.

To imply any sort of nepotism at play is not only offensive but downright false. Pioneer was founded by Bill Bullock and two others in 1991 and received its first State of Montana contract in 1992, long before Governor Bullock held public office. Bill resigned as CEO of Pioneer in 2004 and sold his interest to the employees of Pioneer in 2009, years before Steve Bullock was elected Governor.

This advertisement is defamatory to Pioneer and our Montana employee owners. We urge you to take down the ad immediately.

Sincerely,

Brad Archibald, P.E.
President/CEO