

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET NO. UW-030850
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
Harbor Springs Water Co., Inc.)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 3, 2003, Harbor Springs Water Co., Inc. (Harbor Springs Water or Company) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-1, designated as Original Sheet No. 22. The stated effective date is July 1, 2003.
- 2 This filing is to implement a metered rate for water service. Harbor Springs water system serves approximately 126 active customers, with 40 customers currently metered and is located south of Gig Harbor in Pierce County.
- 3 The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Harbor Springs Water. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Harbor Springs Water has not demonstrated that the increases would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including water companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW; and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*
- 5 (2) Harbor Springs Water is a water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 27, 2003.
- 7 (4) The tariff revisions filed by Harbor Springs Water on June 3, 2003, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Harbor Springs Water, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 8 (5) Harbor Springs Water has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 9 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate Harbor Springs Water's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Harbor Springs Water's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Harbor Springs Water's operations.
- 10 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (2), Harbor Springs Water bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.

- 11 (8) Harbor Springs Water may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 80.20 RCW.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The tariff revisions filed on June 3, 2003, are suspended.
- 13 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 14 (3) Harbor Springs Water Co., Inc., must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 15 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Harbor Springs Water Co., Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 16 (5) Harbor Springs Water Co., Inc., shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 80.20 RCW.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th day of June, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner