

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET UW-060167
TRANSPORTATION	)	
COMMISSION,	)	ORDER 01
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
Burton Water Company, Inc.,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.	)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISION
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

1 On January 24, 2006, Burton Water Company, Inc., (Burton Water or Company) filed with the Commission revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, designated as:

Second Revised Sheet No. 22 canceling First Revised Sheet No. 22.  
The stated effective date is March 1, 2006.

2 The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Burton Water. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Burton Water has not demonstrated that the increase 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**

3 (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, Chapter 80.28 RCW, Chapter 80.08 RCW and Chapter 80.12 RCW.*

4 (2) Burton Water is a water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

- 5 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 22, 2006.
- 6 (4) The tariff revision filed by Burton Water on January 24, 2006, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Burton Water, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 7 (5) Burton Water has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revision would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 8 (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 Burton Water's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Burton Water's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Burton Water's operations.
- 9 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (2), Burton Water bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 10 (8) Burton 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:**

- 11 (1) The tariff revision filed on January 24, 2006, is suspended.
- 12 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 13 (3) Burton Water Company, Inc., must not change or alter the tariff filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 14 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Burton Water Company, Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property, and operations as described above.

- 15 (5) Burton Water Company, 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 February 22, 2006.

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman**

**PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner**

**PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner**