

Agenda Date: July 30, 2009
Item Number: A2

Docket: UW-091050
Company Name: Burton Water Company, Inc.

Staff: Jim Ward, Regulatory Analyst
Dennis Shutler, Consumer Protection Staff

Recommendation

Issue a Complaint and Order Suspending the Tariff Revisions filed by Burton Water Company, Inc., on June 30, 2009.

Discussion

On June 30, 2009, Burton Water Company, Inc., (Burton or company), filed tariff revisions to its currently effective tariff. The company states the reason for the tariff revisions is to update rules and charges for several ancillary services. The filing proposes to increase the Reconnection, Account Set-up, NSF Check, and Water Availability Letter charges; adds new charges for Cross Connection Site Visit, Cross Connection Inspection, and Unauthorized Meter Lock Removal; clarifies rules related to irrigation; and, adds language on Limitation of Liability, Unauthorized Use of Service and Cross Connection Control. The company serves about 415 customers on Vashon Island in King County. The proposed effective date is August 1, 2009. The company's last rate increase was in March 2008.

Customer Comments

The company notified customers of the proposed increase by mail on June 30, 2009. The commission has received no customer comments on this filing.

Rate Comparison

Ancillary Charge	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Reconnection	\$20.00	\$50.00
Account Set-Up	\$10.00	\$20.00
NSF Check	\$5.00	\$40.00
Water Availability Letter	\$8.00	\$25.00
Cross Connection Site Visit	NA	\$50.00
Cross Connection Premise Inspection	NA	\$25.00 per hour
Unauthorized Meter Lock Removal	NA	\$150.00*

*Cost of the meter lock and damages to service connection may also apply.

The company has not calculated the increased amount of revenue on an annual basis. Staff has not completed its review of Burton's books, records and supporting documents for the rate

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increase. The company has not demonstrated the proposed rates are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.

Conclusion

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