

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

WASHINGTON WATER SERVICE
COMPANY,

Petitioner,

Seeking Exemption from the Provisions
of WAC 480-80-121 Relating to Tariff
Changes with Statutory Notice

DOCKET UW-170016

ORDER 01

ORDER GRANTING
EXEMPTION FROM RULE

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 5, 2017, Washington Water Service Company (Washington Water Service) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition requesting an exemption from WAC 480-80-121 (Petition).
- 2 WAC 480-80-121 requires that the Commission receive proposed tariff changes not less than thirty days in advance of requested effective date.
- 3 In its Petition, Washington Water Service states that it received notice on December 21, 2016, that the City of Bainbridge Island will begin charging a six percent utility tax on all utilities beginning January 1, 2017.
- 4 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommends the Commission grant Washington Water Service's request for exemption.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including water companies.
- 6 (2) Washington Water Service is engaged in the business of providing water services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

- 7 (3) Washington Water Service is subject to WAC 480-80-121, which provides that the Commission must receive tariff changes not less than thirty days in advance of requested effective date.
- 8 (4) Under WAC 480-110-215, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-110, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. See also WAC 480-07-110.
- 9 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 12, 2017.
- 10 (6) After review of the petition filed in Docket UW-170016 by Washington Water Service on January 5, 2017, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest and is consistent with purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Washington Water Service Company is granted an exemption from WAC 480-80-121, Relating to Tariff Changes with Statutory Notice.
- 12 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Washington Water Service Company to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective January 12, 2017.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary