

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UW-060761
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	ORDER 01
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
WASHINGTON WATER SERVICE)	
COMPANY,)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 On May 10, 2006, Washington Water Service Company, (Washington Water) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-1, designated as:

- Sixth Revision of Sheet No. 20 Canceling Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 20
- Third Revision of Sheet No. 20.1 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 20.1
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 20.2 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 20.2
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 20.3 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 20.3
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 20.4 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 20.4
- Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 20.5 Canceling Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 20.5
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 20.6 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 20.6
- First Revision of Sheet No. 20.7 Canceling Original Sheet No. 20.7
- Third Revision of Sheet No. 21 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 21
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 21.1 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 21.1
- Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 21.2 Canceling Forth Revision of Sheet No. 21.2
- Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 21.3 Canceling Forth Revision of Sheet No. 21.3
- Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 21.4 Canceling Forth Revision of Sheet No. 21.4
- Third Revision of Sheet No. 22 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 22
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 22.1 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 22.1
- Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 22.2 Canceling Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 22.2
- Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 22.3 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 22.3
- Third Revision of Sheet No. 23.1 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 23.1
- Third Revision of Sheet No. 24.2 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 24.2.

Including revisions to its adopted Gamble Bay Water, Inc. Tariff WN U-2 designated as:

First Revision of Sheet No. 21 Canceling Original Sheet No. 21

Third Revision of Sheet No. 21.1 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 21.1

Second Revision of Sheet No. 23 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 23

First Revision of Sheet No. 24 Canceling Original Sheet No. 24.

With revisions to its adopted Raft Island Water Company Tariff WN U-3 designated as:

Eighth Revision of Sheet No. 21 Canceling Seventh Revision of Sheet No. 21.

Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 22 Canceling Third Revision of Sheet No. 22

Second Revision of Sheet No. 23 Canceling Second Revision of Sheet No. 23.

The stated effective date is June 15, 2006.

- 2 The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Washington Water. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Washington Water as 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

- 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) Washington 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 June 14, 2006.

- 6 (4) The tariff revisions filed by Washington Water on May 10, 2006, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Washington Water, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 7 (5) Washington Water has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions 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 Washington Water's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Washington Water's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Washington Water's operations.
- 9 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (4), Washington Water bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.
- 10 (8) Washington 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 revisions filed on May 10, 2006, are suspended.
- 12 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 13 (3) Washington Water Service Company must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 14 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Washington Water Service Company's books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 15 (5) Washington Water Service Company 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 June 14, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner