

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET NO. UW-041270
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	DOCKET NO. UW-041384
)	
Complainant,)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
v.)	
)	
RAINIER VIEW WATER)	
COMPANY, INC.,)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On July 14, 2004, Rainier View Water Company, Inc., (Rainier View or Company) filed with the Commission a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, designated as Original Sheet No. 49 (Docket UW-041270). The revised effective date is August 30, 2004. The tariff revision institutes an irrigation service tariff for water service used primarily for irrigation purposes.
- 2 Further, on July 30, 2004, Rainier View filed with the Commission a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, designated as Substitute Ninth Revised Sheet No. 21 (Docket UW-041384). The stated effective date is August 30, 2004. The tariff revision institutes a water conservation tier for all water usage over 3,000 cubic feet per month from May through September.
- 3 The filings would substantially affect the provision of water service to a class of customers and increase charges and rates for service provided by Rainier View. Because those changes in the provision of water service and increases in charges and rates might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Rainier View has not demonstrated that the changes in the provision of service

and increases would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable, the Commission suspends the tariff filings and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed changes in the provision of service and increases in rates and charges 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) Rainier View 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 August 25, 2004.
- 7 (4) The tariff revision filed by Rainier View on July 14, 2004, in Docket UW-041270, would change the provision of services provided by Rainier View to a class of customers, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 8 (5) The tariff revisions filed by Rainier View on July 30, 2004, in Docket UW-041384, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Rainier View, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.

- 9 (6) Rainier View has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable.
- 10 (7) 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 Rainier View's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Rainier View's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Rainier View's operations.
- 11 (8) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (4), Rainier View bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.
- 12 (9) Rainier View 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:

- 13 (1) The tariff revision filed on July 14, 2004, is suspended.
- 14 (2) The tariff revision filed on July 30, 2004, is suspended.
- 15 (3) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.

- 16 (4) Rainier View Water Company, Inc., must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 17 (5) The Commission will institute an investigation of Rainier View Water Company, Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 18 (6) Rainier View 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 this 25th day of August, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner