**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON**

**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,  Complainant,  v.  GOLD BEACH WATER COMPANY, INC.,  Respondent.  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )  ) | DOCKET UW-140549  ORDER 02  ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISION; ALLOWING REVISED RATES TO BECOME EFFECTIVE |

## **BACKGROUND**

1. On April 2, 2014, Gold Beach Water Company, Inc. (Gold Beach or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2. The tariff revisions would generate $14,112 (20.7 percent) additional annual revenue. The Company provides water service to 196 residential customers on Vashon Island in King County. Gold Beach’s last rate change was effective July 1, 2006.
2. On April 24, 2014, the Commission entered Order 01, Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revision pending an investigation to determine whether the revision is fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
3. After review, Staff found the proposed rates would generate excessive revenues. Staff determined that the Company’s books and records supported a lower revenue requirement of $8,882 (13 percent) additional annual revenue. Staff and the Company have agreed to a revised rate design that would generate the additional $8,882 revenue. Staff agrees that, in this rate case: (1) all of the additional revenue will be applied to only the base charge, (2) the base charge allowance will remain at 500 cubic feet, and (3) the current usage rates and blocks will not change. Gold Beach provided usage information that shows the average per customer water usage has declined and conservation efforts are working.
4. On June 19, 2014, the Company filed revised rates at staff-recommended levels.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation 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. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.
2. (2) Gold Beach is a water company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
3. (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 26, 2014.
4. (4) The tariff revision presently under consideration is fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient because the Company has demonstrated the need for additional annual revenue and for revision of the Company’s rate structure.
5. (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Gold Beach filed in Docket UW-140549 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revision in Docket UW-140549, dated April 24, 2014, and allow the tariff revisions to Tariff WN U-2, filed on June 19, 2014, to become effective on July 1, 2014.

## **O R D E R**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. (1) Order 01, the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions, in Docket UW-140549, entered on April 24, 2014, is dismissed.
2. (2) The tariff revisions Gold Beach Water Company, Inc., filed in this docket on June 19, 2014, shall become effective on July 1, 2014.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 26, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Commissioner