

Agenda Date: May 11, 2017
Item Number: A3

Docket: UW-170213
Company Name: Silver Lake Water Company, Inc.

Staff: Jim Ward, Regulatory Analyst
Rachel Stark, Regulatory Analyst, Consumer Protection

Recommendation

Take no action, thereby allowing the tariff sheets filed by Silver Lake Water Company, Inc. in Docket UW-170213 to become effective May 15, 2017, by operation of law.

Discussion

On March 29, 2017, Silver Lake Water Company, Inc. (Silver Lake Water or company), filed with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) tariff revisions that would increase monthly water rates and revenues by approximately \$27,713 annually (30.8 percent). The filing would move customers from a flat, or un-metered rate, to a base rate plus a three-block rate design for water usage. The company serves 204 customers near Oak Harbor in Island County. The proposed effective date is May 15, 2017. The company's last rate change was effective June 1, 1993.

The company has stated that it is requesting this filing to (1) rewrite outdated tariff rates and rules since their last filing in 1993, (2) to start reading meters and add metered rates as required by Department of Health and (3) to start promoting water conservation to protect their drinking water. Additionally, the company has revised several ancillary charges.

On April 7, 2017, the company extended the effective date of the tariff filing to May 15, 2017.

Rate Comparison

Monthly Rate	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
5/8 inch Meter	\$36.10	\$35.00
0 – 6,000 Gallons	NA	\$1.00 *
6,001 – 12,000 Gallons	NA	\$2.00 *
Over 12,000 Gallons	NA	\$2.50 *
Unmetered	\$36.10	\$48.79

* Usage per 1,000 gallons or portion thereof.

6,000 gallons equals 802 cubic feet
12,000 gallons equals 1,604 cubic feet

Additionally, the company is updating its ancillary charges to reflect current cost and to charge the appropriate customer for services provided.

Ancillary Charge	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Disconnect Visit	NA	\$25.00
Service Visit	NA	\$45.00
Late Payment	NA	2% or \$1.00
Account Set-up	NA	\$17.50
NSF (each check)	NA	\$21.00
Water Availability Letter	NA	\$17.50
Damage/Repair (per hour)	NA	\$45.00
Seasonal Turn On or Off	NA	\$25.00

Customer Comments

On April 7, 2017, the company notified its customers by mail of the proposed tariff revision. Customers were notified that they may access relevant documents about this tariff revision on the commission's website, and that they may contact Rachel Stark at 1-888-333-9882 or rstark@utc.wa.gov with questions or concerns. Staff have not received any consumer comments of the proposed rate increase.

Conclusion

Commission staff has completed its review of the company's supporting financial documents, books, and records. Staff finds the costs, expenses, and charges are supported and appropriate.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the commission take no action, thereby allowing the tariff sheets filed by Silver Lake Water Company, Inc. in Docket UW-170213 to become effective May 15, 2017, by operation of law.