

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	DOCKET NO. UW-010961
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE
)	(October 15, 2001)
AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES, INC.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

- 1 On July 3, 2001, American Water Resources, Inc. (AWR) filed with the Commission certain tariff revisions designed to effect a general rate increase in its rates for water services in this state. It is indicated that the total effect of such tariff revisions is an increase of approximately \$227,647 (27.5%) annually. As part of the general rate increase request, AWR requested temporary rates, subject to refund, of an additional \$184,296 (22.3%) annually. The annual per customer revenue impact of this filing will be approximately \$124.44 (\$10.37 per month) for general rates and \$103.08 (\$8.59 per month) for temporary rates. The operation of such tariff revisions has been suspended by order of the Commission pending hearing or hearings concerning such changes and the justness and reasonableness thereof.
- 2 Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to adjudicative proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, RCW 34.05.452, and RCW 80.04.130. Statutes involved, in addition to those previously cited, include those within chapter 80.04.RCW and chapter 80.28 RCW relating to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.250, RCW 80.28.010, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.030, RCW 80.28.040, and RCW 80.28.100. Rules involved include those within chapter 480-09 WAC and chapter 480-110 WAC. The ultimate issues involved are whether the tariff revisions to increase the amount collected is just and reasonable, whether existing rates are fair, just, and reasonable, and whether the purity, volume, and pressure of water supplied is sufficient, pure, or adequate. The issue as to the justness and reasonableness of the rates includes consideration of alternative rate design or structure. Included within the consideration of alternative rate design is the validity and continuity of any water service provided under contract. In accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.04.130 the burden of proof to show that the increase is just and reasonable will be upon the respondent.
- 3 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That in accordance with WAC 480-09-700(1)(a), the Commission has determined that good cause exists for this matter to be heard upon shortened notice.

- 4 **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN That a prehearing conference will be held on Monday, October 15, 2001, at 1:30 p.m., in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**
- 5 Those present at the prehearing conference will be required to consider formulating any other issues in the proceeding and to determine other matters to aid in its disposition, as specified in WAC 480-09-460. Petitions to intervene should be made in writing prior to the prehearing conference or made orally at that time. Appearances will be taken. The time and place for any additional hearing will be set at the prehearing conference or by later written notice.
- 6 If any party or witness needs an interpreter or other assistance, please fill out the form attached to this notice and return it to the Commission.
- 7 **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT ANY PARTY WHO FAILS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING SET BY THIS NOTICE, OR ANY OTHER STAGE OF THIS PROCEEDING, MAY BE HELD IN DEFAULT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RCW 34.05.440. THE PARTIES ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE SANCTION PROVISIONS OF WAC 480-09-700(4) ARE SPECIFICALLY INVOKED.**
- 8 The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant: Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

Representative: Mary M. Tennyson
Senior Assistant Attorney General
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P. O. Box 40128
Olympia, WA 98504-0128
(360) 664-1220

Respondent: American Water Resources, Inc.
921-B Middle Fork Road
Onalaska, WA 98570
(360) 978-61789

Representative: Richard Finnigan
Attorney at Law
2405 Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Suite B-3
Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 956-7001

- 9 An Administrative Law Judge from the Utilities and Transportation Commission's Administrative Law Division, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 and will be designated to preside at the prehearing conference.
- 10 Notice of any other procedural phase will be given in writing or on the record as the Commission may deem appropriate during the course of this proceeding.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary

October , 2001

Inquires may be addressed to:

Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Chandler Plaza Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

NOTICE

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the hearing facilities are accessible to interested people with disabilities; that smoking is prohibited; and that if limited English-speaking or hearing impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

The information needed to provide an appropriate interpreter or other assistance should be designated below and returned to:

Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250.

(SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket No.: **UW-010961**

Case Name: **Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
v. American Water Resources, Inc.**

Hearing Date: _____ Hearing Location: _____

Primary Language: _____

Hearing Impaired (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter: (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Visual _____ Tactile _____

Other type of assistance needed: _____

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: (____) _____