BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

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AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES, INC.,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO. UW-031284 DOCKET NO. UW-010961 DOCKET NO. UW-031596 (consolidated)

STAFF RESPONSE TO TARIFF FILING

American Water Resources, Inc., (AWR) filed the Sixth Revision of Sheet 17.1 of its tariff on November 12, 2004, pursuant to the Commission's Notice of Extension of Compliance Filing Deadline.¹ Commission Staff provides this response to AWR's compliance filing pursuant to the Commission's Order No. 08 in the above captioned docket, which requires Staff to examine the filing and provide its analysis of whether the filing meets the requirements of the Commission's Order No. 08 no later than five business days after the Company's filing is made with the Commission.²

¹ WUTC v. American Water Resources, Inc., Notice of Extension of Compliance Filing Deadline (November 5, 2004).

² WUTC v. American Water Resources, Inc., Order No. 08, Final Order Dismissing Complaint Against Rates in part, Ordering Refund of "Docket Account" Set-Aside, and Denying Application for Mitigation of Penalties at ¶ 163 (November 1, 2004).

Staff's review of AWR's November 12, 2004 filing raised several concerns. Staff worked with AWR to address those concerns. On November 19, 2004, AWR filed substitute Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 2, Sixth Revision of Sheet No. 17.1, and Fourth Revision of Sheet No. 18.1. These sheets are scheduled to become effective December 1, 2004. The sheets do not contain an automatic expiration provision.

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AWR will refund \$34.00 to each customer for the November billing period. That one-time refund will deplete most of the cash currently in the Docket 010961 Account. The balance of the cash and non-cash amounts, plus interest, will be refunded at the rate of \$4.40 per customer per month starting in December 1, 2004. The monthly refund of \$4.40 per customer per month will continue until the full amount of the Docket 010961 Account is refunded. The full amount of the refund obligation is \$125,113.

Based upon Staff's review, Staff concludes that the substitute tariff filing made on November 19, 2004, meets the requirements of the Commission's in Order No. 08.

DATED this 19th day of November 2004.

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE Attorney General

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