

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UW-080926
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER 02
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT
AQUARIUS UTILITIES, LLC,)	AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS; ALLOWING TARIFF
Respondent.)	REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On May 23, 2008, Aquarius Utilities, LLC, (Aquarius or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-01, designated as Second Revision Sheet No. 1 canceling First Revision Sheet No. 1; First Revision Sheet No. 2 canceling Original Sheet No. 2; Second Revision Sheet No. 14 canceling First Revision Sheet No. 14; Second Revision Sheet No. 20 canceling First Revision Sheet No. 20; Third Revision Sheet No. 21 canceling Second Revision Sheet No. 21; Fourth Revision Sheet No. 22 canceling Third Revision Sheet No. 22; Second Revision Sheet No. 23 canceling First Revision Sheet No. 23; and Second Revision Sheet No. 40 canceling First Revision Sheet No. 40. The stated effective date was July 14, 2008.
- 2 The Company proposed an increase in its general rates for \$106,055 (24.7 percent) of additional revenue per year. The Company serves 880 customers located in Clallam, Kitsap and Mason counties. The Company’s proposed increase in rates is prompted by higher costs for labor, benefits, insurance and new plant (pumps and pipes). The Company’s last general rate increase became effective on March 14, 2002.
- 3 Staff reviewed the Company’s books, records and supporting documents and concluded the Company has a revenue deficiency of \$31,584 (7.3 percent). The Company agreed to a lower revenue requirement and Staff’s recommended revised rate design. On July 1, 2008, the Company filed revised rates at the Staff’s recommended levels. Staff believes the proposed revised rates are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, based on the Company’s supporting documentation.

4 On July 10, 2008, the Commission entered a Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions and allowed temporary revised rates to go into effect on July 14, 2008, on less than statutory notice, subject to refund, to allow customers the opportunity to comment on the revised rate design before determining whether the proposed changes are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

5 Commission Staff sent all customers who previously commented on the company's filing a letter advising them of the Staff's recommended revised rates. No customers have commented on the revised rates and rate design.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

6 (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.*

7 (2) Aquarius is a water company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

8 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 14, 2008.

9 (4) The tariff revisions presently under suspension are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because books, records and supporting documents demonstrate that Aquarius has a revenue deficiency of \$31,584 (7.3 percent).

10 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Aquarius filed in Docket UW-080926 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket UW-080926, dated July 10, 2008, and allow the tariff revisions to Tariff WN U-01 to become effective on August 15, 2008.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11* (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket UW-080926, entered on July 10, 2008, is dismissed.
- 12* (2) The tariff revisions Aquarius Utilities, LLC, filed in this docket on May 23, 2008, shall become effective on August 15, 2008.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective August 14, 2008.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner