

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET UW-081259
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	ORDER 03
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT
FIRCROFT, INC.,	)	AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF
	)	REVISIONS; ALLOWING TARIFF
Respondent.	)	REVISIONS
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On July 7, 2008, Fircroft, Inc., (Fircroft or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-1, designated as First Revision of Sheet No. 16 and Canceling Original Sheet No. 16, First Revision of Sheet No. 17 and Canceling Original Sheet No. 17, First Revision of Sheet No. 19 and Canceling Original Sheet No. 19, and First Revision of Sheet No. 23 and Canceling Original Sheet No. 23. The stated effective date is October 1, 2008.
- 2     The Company proposed an increase that would generate \$4,788 (21 percent) in additional revenue per year. The Company serves 14 residential customers and two master meter customers near East Sound on Orcas Island, located in San Juan County. The Commission does not regulate the two master meter customers or the service they provide to their 52 customers. The proposed rates are prompted by cost increases in supplies, electrical power, labor, and increased maintenance and repairs for aging plant. All customers receive metered service. The Company’s last general rate increase became effective in 2000, prior to Commission regulation.
- 3     On August 14, 2008, the Commission entered a Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions pending an investigation to determine whether the revisions are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 4     Staff completed its review of the Company’s books, records, and supporting information, and the Company agreed to a lower revenue requirement of \$2,400 (8 percent) additional revenue per year. On August 29, 2008, the Company filed a revised rate design at the Staff recommended level.

- 5 On September 11, 2008, the Commission allowed the revised rates to go into effect on September 15, 2008, on a temporary basis, 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.
- 6 Commission Staff sent to those 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.
- 7 Staff believes the Company's financial information supports the revised revenue requirement and the revised rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 8 (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.*
- 9 (2) Fircroft is a water company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 10 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 13, 2008.
- 11 (4) The tariff revisions presently under suspension are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because the Company's books, records and supporting documents demonstrate that the Company has a revenue deficiency of \$2,400 (8 percent).
- 12 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Fircroft filed in Docket UW-081259 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-081259, dated August 14, 2008, and allow the tariff revisions to Tariff WN U-1 filed on August 29, 2008, to become effective on November 15, 2008, on a permanent basis.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 13* (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket UW-081259, entered on August 14, 2008, is dismissed.
- 14* (2) The revised tariff revisions Fircroft, Inc., filed in this docket on August 29, 2008, shall become effective on November 15, 2008, on a permanent basis.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective November 13, 2008.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner