

STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • www.utc.wa.gov September 26, 2018

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO PETITION (By Wednesday, October 17, 2018)

RE: *Richardson Water Company, LLC v. Washington Utilities & Transportation. Commission, Docket UW-171068* 

## TO ALL PARTIES:

On October 17, 2017, Richardson Water Company, LLC (Richardson Water) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an initial tariff for the provision of water service in Yakima, Washington.

On December 7, 2017, Richardson Water filed a petition requesting an exemption from Commission jurisdiction under WAC 480-110-255 because it serves only two customers. On December 8, 2017, Richardson Water filed a letter withdrawing its initial tariff.

On July 26, 2018, the Commission heard Richardson Water's petition for exemption from Commission regulation at its regularly scheduled open meeting. Commission staff (Staff) recommended the Commission deny the Company's Petition and order the Company to file an initial tariff. Following presentations by both Staff and the Company, the parties agreed to continue their discussions and attempt to reach a mutually agreeable resolution.

On September 21, 2018, Staff filed a motion requesting an order from the Commission removing Richardson Water from regulation.<sup>1</sup> We construe Staff's motion as a Petition because it seeks specific relief from the Commission outside the context of an adjudicative

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although Staff styled its motion as a request to remove Richardson Water from regulation, the issue of whether the Commission has jurisdiction over Richardson Water remains unresolved. To date, the Commission has neither acted on the Company's petition for exemption nor otherwise decided this matter.

## DOCKET UW-171068

proceeding.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, we construe Staff's motion as a Petition requesting the Commission forbear from regulating Richardson Water.<sup>3</sup>

Pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-07-370(4), responses to a petition must be filed within twenty days after the petition is filed. Interested parties may respond to Staff's Petition by filing a response with the Commission in this docket no later than October 11, 2018.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That any interested party may file a response to Staff's Petition by filing a written response with the Commission in this docket no later than October 11, 2018.

MARK JOHNSON Executive Director and Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuant to WAC 480-07-375, motions may only be filed in the context of an adjudicative proceeding. This matter has not been set for adjudication.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Commission liberally construes filings to effect just results. WAC 480-07-395(4).