

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

In the Matter of the Petition of)	DOCKET NO.UW-021571
)	
SOUTH BAINBRIDGE WATER)	
SYSTEM, INC.,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
)	
Seeking Exemption from the)	ORDER GRANTING
Provisions of WAC 480-110-445 (1))	EXEMPTION FROM WAC 480-
& (5) Relating to Service)	110-445 (1) & (5), SERVICE
Connections and Customer Service)	CONNECTIONS AND
Lines.)	CUSTOMER SERVICE LINES.
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BACKGROUND

- 1 On November 26, 2002, South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., (South Bainbridge Water or Company) filed with the Commission a line extension contract and a petition requesting waiver of WAC 480-110-445 (1) & (5), Service Connections and Customer Service Lines.

- 2 WAC 480-110-445 establishes requirements for water companies regarding where service meters should be located and establishes areas of responsibility.

- 3 The Company requested this line extension contract to allow the location of the meter off the customer’s property and to establish areas of responsibility. This project includes the construction of a service line across private property at the customer’s sole cost. The Company will install a service connection and meter at the street address on Campbell Street and not at the customer’s property line. All construction cost will be paid by the customer and accounted for as Contributions In Aid of Construction (CIAC) on the company’s books and records.

4 The contract between South Bainbridge Water and the customer is asking for a waiver of WAC 480-110-445 (1) & (5) which determines where service meters should be located and establishes areas of responsibility. By this line extension agreement the meter would be located approximately one hundred fifty (150) feet from the customer's property. The customer will be required to obtain an easement and install and maintain a service line (150 feet) from the meter to the customer's property.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including water companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*
- 6 (2) South Bainbridge Water is engaged in the business of providing water services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of Chapter 80.04 RCW.
- 7 (3) South Bainbridge Water is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-110-445 (1) & (5), Service Connections and Customer Service Lines, that establishes requirements for water companies regarding where service meters should be located and establishes areas of responsibility.
- 8 (4) WAC 480-110-215 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-110 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.

- 9 (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket UW-021571 and recommended the limited exemption requested by South Bainbridge Water be granted.
- 10 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 11, 2002.
- 11 (7) After review of the petition filed in Docket UW-021571 by South Bainbridge Water on December 11, 2002, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is reasonable and should be granted.

O R D E R

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) After the effective date of this Order, South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., is granted an exemption from WAC 480-110-445 (1) & (5), Service Connections and Customer Service Lines for purposes of the subject contract.
- 13 The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 11th day of December, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary