

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

In the Matter of the Request of	)	DOCKET NO. UW-030002
	)	
MEADOWS WATER SYSTEM,	)	ORDER NO. 01
LLC,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
For Less Than Statutory Notice in	)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
Connection with Tariff Revisions.	)	STATUTORY NOTICE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On January 3, 2003, Meadows Water System, LLC, (Meadows Water or the Company) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-1, designated as Third Revised Sheet No. 2 Canceling Second Revised Sheet No. 2, First Revised Sheet No. 34 Canceling Substitute Original Sheet No. 34, Original Sheet No. 34.1 Canceling Substitute Original Sheet No. 35, Original Sheet No. 34.2 Canceling Substitute Original Sheet No. 36, and Second Revised Sheet No. 35 Canceling Substitute Original Sheet No. 35. The company states the purpose of this filing is to correct tariff pages that inadvertently canceled their capital improvement surcharge under Docket UW-020618.
- 2     RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require a thirty-day notice prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheets bear an inserted effective date of February 2, 2003. This date recognizes statutory notice as required. The Company requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted in WAC 480-80-122, and that the revisions become effective January 30, 2003. Meadows Water stated the reason for less than statutory notice is to coincide with the company’s billing cycle.
- 3     WAC 480-110-425 requires customers must receive notice thirty days prior to the requested effective date when a water company proposes to change its tariff.

Granting the Company's less than statutory notice request also requires an exemption from WAC 480-110-425. For the same reason listed in seeking less than statutory notice, the Company seeks such an exemption from customer notice requirements. The Company proposes not to notify customers since this rate has previously existed in an approved tariff.

- 4 Since the proposed tariff revisions appear to be fair, just, and reasonable, and less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant Meadows Water's request with an effective date of January 30, 2003.

#### 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, 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) Meadows Water is a water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 7 (3) Meadows Water is subject to the provisions of RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 requiring water companies to file changes in any rate or charge with thirty days' notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring thirty days' notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. *WAC 480-80-122.*

- 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-030002 and recommended the less than statutory notice request of Meadows Water be granted. Staff further recommended the Commission grant an exemption to WAC 480-110-425 and not require the Company to notify its customers since this filing replaces a charge that was inadvertently deleted in a prior filing.
- 10 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 29, 2003.
- 11 (7) After examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by Meadows Water on January 3, 2003, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective January 30, 2003.
- 12 (8) The Commission also finds the Company should be granted an exemption to the customer notice requirements.

## ORDER

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) The request sought by Meadows Water System, LLC for less than statutory notice is granted.

- 14 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Meadows Water System, LLC is granted an exemption from WAC 480-110-425, Water company customer notice requirements. Meadows Water System, LLC shall not notice its customers.
- 15 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 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary