

Agenda Date: September 11, 2014  
Item Number: A3

**Docket:** UW-143181  
Company Name: Newaukum Water System

Staff: Jim Ward, Regulatory Analyst  
John Cupp, Consumer Protection Staff

### **Recommendation**

Issue a Complaint against Rates to determine whether the company's current rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient, to determine whether to require the company file different rates, and to determine whether to require the company to make refunds to customers.

### **Discussion**

On March 18, 2014, Newaukum Water System (Newaukum or company) filed with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) its initial tariff filing in response to staff's investigation on jurisdiction under Docket UW-132281. The company serves 23 customers near Auburn, located in King County. The initial tariff became effective March 20, 2014.

Staff's initial review of company's financial information in Docket UW-140445 showed that the company's current \$55 flat rate may generate more revenue than the company requires to pay reasonable operating expenses and earn a reasonable return. Thus, Newaukum's rates may be unjust and unreasonable.

Staff has discussed a new tariff filing regarding general rates with Newaukum's president and the company's consultant – Northwest Water Systems. The company's consultant agreed to file a general rate case prior to June 10, 2014. No filing has been received from the company.

### **Conclusion**

Issue a Complaint against Rates to determine whether the company's current rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient, to determine whether to require the company file different rates, and to determine whether to require the company to make refunds to customers.