

January 4, 2010

**NOTICE OF BENCH REQUESTS
(Due by Friday, January 15, 2010)**

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Burton Water Company, Inc.*,
Docket UW-091050 (*Consolidated*);
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Burton Water Company, Inc.,
Docket UW-091051 (*Consolidated*)

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) seeks information in the form of the following bench requests from Burton Water Company, Inc. (Burton Water or Company) and Commission Staff relating to the Settlement Stipulation (Settlement) the parties filed in this proceeding on December 23, 2009:

BENCH REQUEST NO. 1: (To Burton Water and Commission Staff)

Paragraph 9 of the December 23, 2009, Settlement provides an effective date of “the first day of the month after the Commission approves the stipulation” applicable to “the agreed rate changes identified herein.”

- (a) Does the effective date stated in Paragraph 9 apply only to the rates relating to the general rate increase in Docket UW-091051, or does the effective date apply to the rates stipulated to in both dockets?
- (b) If the effective date in Paragraph 9 applies only to the stipulated rates in Docket UW-091051, please describe the parties’ proposal for an effective date for the rate changes stipulated in Docket UW-091050.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 2: (To Commission Staff)

In Commission Staff’s memorandum in Docket UW-091051 for the July 30, 2009, open meeting, Staff calculated the average monthly bill for a customer with an average monthly usage of 689 cubic feet in the table set forth below. Using the same table format, please calculate the average monthly bill using the Settlement rates for $\frac{3}{4}$ inch water service customers. If the average monthly usage is different from the 689 cubic feet stated in Staff’s memorandum, please identify the new average monthly usage.

Average Bill Comparison

Average Monthly Usage 689 cubic feet	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Base Rate (3/4 inch meter)	\$18.33	\$27.88
Usage - 689 cubic feet	\$10.68	\$10.68
Average Monthly Bill	\$29.01	\$38.56
Increase From Current Rates		32.9 %

BENCH REQUEST NO. 3:

- (a) **To Commission Staff:** Since Commission Staff's memorandum in Docket UW-091051 for the July 30, 2009, open meeting, has the Commission received any additional customer comments related to Burton Water's request for a general rate increase? If so, please identify the number of commenters and a summary of the comments received.
- (b) **To Burton Water and Commission Staff:** Has the Company or Commission Staff communicated the terms of the Settlement Stipulation to Burton Water customers? If so, please explain how and when the terms have been communicated.

Please respond to these Bench Requests no later than Friday, **January 15, 2010**, with an original and **five (5)** copies. If you have any questions concerning these requests, please contact Administrative Law Judge Ann Rendahl at 360-664-1144, or via e-mail at arendahl@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

ANN E. RENDAHL
Administrative Law Judge

cc: All Parties