

From: [Michele Spaulding](#)
To: [Ann LaRue](#)
Cc: [Kirk Rathbun](#); [Michele Spaulding](#)
Subject: Fwd: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:36:55 AM

Ann,

Received late yesterday.

We would like your input.

The agreement that Mike stated does not address his checking with Greg Hammond or if that has happened and what the findings were.

Again the numbers are not updated with the items previously brought to their attention.

Kirk suggested we might let them know that we have engaged your services and time will be needed for you to get up to speed with our work.

Your thoughts?

Michele

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 5:11 PM
Subject: RE: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555
To: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpky@gmail.com>, Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>
Cc: Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>, Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>, Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>, Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>

Hi Michele and Kirk,

We haven't heard back from you on the spreadsheets I provided to you. Mike told me that the agreement at the last meeting was that Mike and I would update numbers and provide the spreadsheets to you so you can review. If staff came back with that the company was still not due a rate increase, the company would withdrawal this filing and come back later with a new filing for possibly domestic only rate increase request filing.

Did you have questions about the spreadsheets?

Thank you

Rachel

From: Stark, Rachel (UTC)
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 12:32 PM
To: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpky@gmail.com>; Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>
Cc: Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>; Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>; Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555
Importance: High

Good afternoon Michele and Kirk,

Mike and I ran the numbers again and corrected or updated numbers like with the interest and some truck depreciation. We are still coming up that the company is over-earning about \$23,000. This means the company does not need a rate increase at this time. We again showed the company included CIAC in the depreciation schedule which would then show a rate increase needed. However, once CIAC is removed, there is no rate increase needed.

I'm attaching our workbook and a comparison workbook sheet for your reference. I meant to send this to you last week, however, I wanted to triple check the information in my workbook. Also, I was sick with a sinus infection so I was out most of the week.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Rachel Stark

Regulatory Analyst

(360) 664-1272

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

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From: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpky@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 12:04 PM
To: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Cc: Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>; Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>; Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555

External Email

Rachel,

SVWW has filed an extension of UW-230555 with the UTC to extend our rate case to an effective date of March 1, 2024.

The extension request was loaded to the UTC portal this morning.

Michele

On Mon, Jan 15, 2024 at 9:51 AM Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpky@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Morning Rachel,

Please find the SVWW Contractual Obligations attached. I don't see that I had sent those to you.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Michele

On Fri, Jan 12, 2024 at 3:27 PM Work <michele103wiserpkwy@gmail.com> wrote:

Rachel,

I will check on Monday.

Michele

On Jan 12, 2024, at 1:54 PM, Stark, Rachel (UTC)
<rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Hi Michele,

I don't think I received the information for the Contractual Operations? Did you send to me and I miss it? I apologize if I did. I just can't find it in my email.

Thank you

Rachel

From: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpkwy@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 2:23 PM
To: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Cc: Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>; Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>; Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555

External Email

Rachel,

I did receive and review your request the week before last. Thank you for checking.

Following is our response to your questions.

Irrigation water supplied by SVWW does not flow through the customer's domestic water service meter. Domestic service lines and irrigation service lines operate independently; each service line is brought to the service address with an isolated service connection.

Annual Irrigation Assessments are billed based on the base rate and per acre charge for each lot. There is no consumption tracked nor billed for irrigation.

I will verify the contractual obligations and forward that to you.

Summit View Water Works purchases power from Benton PUD; this is the only source of power used to operate SVWW.

SVWW purchases irrigation water from Badger Mountain Irrigation District (BMID) to meet demand during the irrigation season.

The newest loans for infrastructure total over \$1.1 Million. This far exceeds the available bank balance. It has been the approved practice to depreciate infrastructure costs over time through amortization.

In addition, we keep in mind the seasonality of irrigation revenue and the unknown expenses that may arise for either the domestic or irrigation systems. An annual repair or equipment replacement can easily exceed \$50K in a season.

Please let me know if questions remain.

Regards,

Michele

On Thu, Jan 4, 2024 at 8:02 AM Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Michele,

I didn't know if you saw my email from last week so I wanted to provide it again.

Thank you

Rachel

From: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2023 8:36 AM
To: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpky@gmail.com>
Cc: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555

Good morning Michele,

I need to have the water usage for each of your irrigation customers. Can you please provide that to me? I know you bill them based on the amount of acreage they have and there is no meter, however, I don't seem to have usage for them. Can you confirm the water for irrigation does not flow through any of the domestic meters? We saw some very high usage for some of your domestic customers and we just want to confirm that usage is for domestic only.

Can you please provide me an invoice for your contractual operations?

For the purchased power/water. Does the company purchase power and/or water from another company?

Can you tell me why the company has \$521,173 in cash and needs a loan?

Thank you

Rachel

From: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpkwy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 2:07 PM
To: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Cc: Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>; Rick Finnigan <rickfinn@localaccess.com>; Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>; Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>; Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Van Meter, Tiffany (UTC) <tiffany.vanmeter@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555

External Email

Rachel,

The attached extension request has been uploaded to the UTC portal.

Best,

Michele

On Mon, Dec 11, 2023 at 1:54 PM Michele Spaulding
<michele103wiserpky@gmail.com> wrote:

Rachel,

In preparation of requesting the rate change to our effective dates to February 1, 2024 of our pending filing, we want to make the UTC aware of the effect this has on our billing and in turn our customers and the onerous position this creates.

The domestic change effective date will happen as it becomes scheduled without an occurrence. Domestic services are billed monthly.

However, SVWW bills Irrigation services as an annual assessment. As indicated in our tariff, we bill in March and June with payment due dates in April and July respectively. (We follow suit with other irrigation agencies/districts across the Western United States, in accordance with RCW 87.03. This timing was determined by the Company and Commission staff (Jim Ward), while establishing the Companies first Tarif (2005 - 2010).)

When SVWW originally filed the rate case earlier in 2023, we sought completion prior to the end of the 2023 year. We took into account the time needed to supply data requests and answer questions, based on our prior filing, in addition to the processing time of sixty days we offered to the UTC.

With the latest extension of an effective date of February 1, 2024, we bring to the UTC's attention that any date beyond that puts the billing of our Annual Assessments in a difficult position.

We will already be working through prorating two different rates for any homes closing in January. We will potentially record losses for those property closing, since the buyer and seller will be negotiating two different rates in their closing process.

We would ask the UTC's support in reaching clarity and completion so that our irrigation billing process may resume in 2024 with no additional obstacles.

We also ask for the UTC's consideration of maintaining the two separate workbooks. These were initially set up with Jim Ward's guidance when our tariff began and maintained through our last rate case. The two different services each have their own nuances; many of these are addressed in our communications. There was concern that the original irrigation workbook had been broken due to a formula error. The same is true of the newer workbook version. There are specifics that apply to only one service or the other; it does not appear that the new workbook version can stand alone without editing. To support the work as originally designed, we believe the use of the individual workbooks serves the needs of our customers best.

The Company believes it and the customers are best served via separate workbooks, as future rate cases may only be needed for either Domestic, or Irrigation, and not always both services will need adjustment.

Best Regards,

Michele

On Mon, Dec 11, 2023 at 8:49 AM Stark, Rachel (UTC)
<rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Thank you Michele,

Have a good day.

Rachel

From: Michele Spaulding <michele103wiserpkwy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 8:39 AM
To: Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov>
Cc: Kirk Rathbun <k2rathbun@gmail.com>; Rick Finnigan <rickfinn@localaccess.com>; Sydney Anderson <sa.eaglebutte@gmail.com>; Sean Mallonee <seanski24@gmail.com>; Young, Mike (UTC) <mike.young@utc.wa.gov>; Van Meter, Tiffany (UTC) <tiffany.vanmeter@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Summit View Water Works Docket UW-230555

External Email

Rachel,

I will prepare the extension notice and upload it through the portal today.

Thank you,

Michele

On Mon, Dec 11, 2023 at 7:17 AM Stark, Rachel (UTC) <rachel.stark@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Kirk and Michele,

Thank you for meeting with us last week. We still need some additional time to complete the review of your filing. If you would please send the request to extend your company's effective date letter through the portal today we can complete the review and continue to work with you to come up with the rates.

I will set up another meeting to go over your filing again.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Rachel Stark

Regulatory Analyst

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