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1 BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

2 COMMISSION

3 THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)

4)

Complainant,)

5)

vs.) DOCKET NO. UW-010961

6) Volume I

AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES, INC.,) Pages 1 - 5

7)

Respondent.)

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10 A prehearing conference in the above matter

11 was held on October 15, 2001, at 1:32 p.m., at 1300

12 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest, Olympia,

13 Washington, before Administrative Law Judge ROBERT

14 WALLIS.

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16 The parties were present as follows:

17 THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

COMMISSION, by MARY M. TENNYSON, Senior Assistant

18 Attorney General, 1400 South Evergreen Park Drive

Southwest, Post Office Box 40128, Olympia, Washington

19 98504.

20 AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES, INC., by RICHARD A.

FINNIGAN, Attorney at Law, 2405 Evergreen Park Drive

21 Southwest, Suite B-3, Olympia, Washington 98502.

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24 Kathryn T. Wilson, CCR

25 Court Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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JUDGE WALLIS: The hearing will please come to order. This is a prehearing conference before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. My name is Robert Wallis, and I am, for purposes of today's session, the presiding officer. Although, I anticipate later sessions will be conducted by another administrative law judge in the Commission's employ.

This is a conference in the matter of Docket No. UW-010961, which is a filing of American Water Resources, Inc., requesting an increase in their rates for providing water service within the state. The conference is being held at Olympia, Washington on October 15, 2001, pursuant to notice to all interested persons. Let's ask for appearances at this time. Representing the Company?

MR. FINNIGAN: Thank you. This is Richard Finnigan on behalf of American Water Resources, Inc. My address is 2405 Evergreen Park Drive Southwest, Suite B-3, Olympia, Washington, 98502. My phone number is (360) 956-7001, and my fax is (360) 753-6862. E-mail is rickfinn@ywave.com.

JUDGE WALLIS: For Commission staff?

MS. TENNYSON: My name is Mary M. Tennyson,

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1 senior assistant attorney general, representing
2 Commission staff. My address is 1400 South Evergreen
3 Park Drive Southwest, Post Office Box 40128, Olympia,
4 Washington, 98504-0128. My telephone number is
5 (360) 664-1220. Fax number is (360) 586-5522. My
6 e-mail address is mtennyso@wutc.wa.gov.

7 JUDGE WALLIS: Let me ask for the record if
8 there is any person in the hearing room today or on the
9 bridge line who intends to participate in this
10 proceeding in a representative capacity to file a
11 petition for intervention or otherwise? Let the record
12 show there is no response. The first thing that I
13 would like to inquire into today is the status of a
14 request in the original filing for temporary rates.
15 Mr. Finnigan, are you prepared to tell us what's going
16 on in that regard?

17 MR. FINNIGAN: Yes. It's my understanding
18 that that will be before the Commission at their open
19 meeting on the 24th of this month.

20 JUDGE WALLIS: That's a process that's
21 acceptable to the Company?

22 MR. FINNIGAN: Yes, it is.

23 JUDGE WALLIS: Ms. Tennyson, do you have
24 anything to add?

25 MS. TENNYSON: No. It is my understanding as

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1 well that it will be on the agenda for that meeting.
2 It has been postponed several times by the Company.

3 JUDGE WALLIS: My purpose for making that
4 inquiry is whether to decide whether we need to make
5 any procedural arrangements with regard to that, and it
6 appears not, so let's move on and talk about procedural
7 issues and scheduling. For that purpose, if the
8 parties have no objection, I would like to go off the
9 record, and when we go back on, I will make a brief
10 statement of the summary of our discussions, and
11 parties will have the opportunity to supplement or
12 correct that issue, so let's be off the record.

13 (Discussion off the record.)

14 JUDGE WALLIS: In terms of scheduling, the
15 Company's direct evidence will be filed on November 15,
16 Commission staff answering testimony on December 17,
17 and Company rebuttal, if any, on January 18 of the year
18 2002. We will schedule a hearing for February 4 and
19 reserve February 5 in addition for a second day of the
20 hearing to be used, if necessary.

21 Parties will be working together along with
22 the public affairs staff of the Commission to schedule
23 a hearing or hearings for members of the public to
24 present their views. It's anticipated that that will
25 be February 5th or 6th or very closely following the

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1 hearing itself.

2 In addition, the Commission will be invoking
3 the discovery rule. Parties have requested and agreed
4 to the entry of a protective order in this docket, and
5 in addition, the parties have asked and we have agreed
6 to explore the participation of an administrative law
7 judge in settlement discussions along the lines of
8 alternative dispute resolution. We will explore that
9 with Staff and by letter from the secretary of the
10 Commission will be getting folks together in order to
11 set up a schedule for such discussions.

12 Do the parties have any corrections or
13 additions to the statements that I've made for the
14 record?

15 MS. TENNYSON: Staff does not.

16 MR. FINNIGAN: Company does not.

17 JUDGE WALLIS: Is there anything further to
18 come before the Commission at this time?

19 MS. TENNYSON: No.

20 MR. FINNIGAN: No.

21 JUDGE WALLIS: Thank you all very much. This
22 conference is adjourned.

23 (Prehearing conference adjourned at 1:53 p.m.)

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