

[Service Date November 14, 2011]

November 14, 2011

**NOTICE GRANTING REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
(Commission Staff's Direct Testimony and Exhibits are now due December 1, 2011)**

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Complainant, v. Lowper, Incorporated, Respondent, Docket UW-110892*

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On May 13, 2011, Lowper, Incorporated (Lowper or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an initial tariff and supporting information in Docket UW-110871. Commission Staff (Staff) conducted an initial review of Company's financial information and determined that the rates in the Company's tariff generate more revenue than the Company requires to pay reasonable operating expenses and earn a reasonable return. On June 14, 2011, the Commission issued Order 01 – Complaint Against Rates in Docket UW-110892. The Commission convened a prehearing conference on September 7, 2011, at which the parties agreed on a procedural schedule that the Commission adopted in Order 02. Order 02 provides that Commission Staff's direct testimony and exhibits is due on November 17, 2011.

On November 10, 2011, Staff filed a request on behalf of both parties to extend the filing deadline for Staff's direct testimony and exhibits to December 1, 2011. Staff notes that Staff and Lowper have agreed on a proposed resolution to this proceeding and expect to present their proposed resolution to the Commission within the next week. Accordingly, the parties request that the Commission extend the filing deadline for Staff's direct testimony.

According to WAC 480-07-385(2), the Commission will grant a continuance to which all parties expressly agree unless it is inconsistent with the public interest or the Commission's administrative needs. The parties have jointly requested this extension to allow them sufficient time to present a negotiated resolution of the disputed issues, and

granting that request is not inconsistent with the public interest or the Commission's administrative needs.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the request for extension of time filed by Commission Staff is granted and that the deadline for the Commission's direct testimony and exhibits is extended from November 17, 2011, to December 1, 2011.

Sincerely,

MARTIN LOVINGER
Administrative Law Judge