# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of	) DOCKET UW-060125
Meadows Water System, LLC,	) ) ORDER 01
Requesting Removal from Commission Regulation	) ) ORDER REMOVING COMPANY ) FROM REGULATION AND ) CANCELING TARIFF

### **BACKGROUND**

- On December 2, 2004, H & R Waterworks, Inc., purchased the assets and took over operation and ownership of Meadows Water System, LLC. On February 9, 2005, the Commission approved the sale and transfer of assets to H & R Waterworks, Inc. H & R Waterworks, Inc.'s office is located in Tumwater and serves approximately 2,888 customers on 115 water systems in Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Kitsap, and Pierce counties.
- On January 20, 2006, the company filed an application to be removed from regulation and to cancel its current tariff. After Commission investigation, Meadows Water System, LLC, is determined to no longer provide regulated water service. The Commission can remove a water company from regulation under the provisions of RCW 80.04.010. A water company cannot be removed from regulation except with the approval of the Commission. Removing Meadows Water System, LLC, from regulation will be consistent with the public interest, because the water systems are now operated and owned by H & R Waterworks, Inc., which is also regulated by the Commission.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including water companies. RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW; Chapter 80.28 RCW; Chapter 80.08 RCW and Chapter 80.12 RCW.
- 4 (2) Meadows Water System, LLC, is an investor-owned water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

- 5 (3) H & R Waterworks, Inc., is an investor-owned water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (4) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 22, 2006.
- 7 (5) From all indications, it appears to be in the public interest to grant the request of removal from regulation and canceling the corresponding tariff.

#### **ORDER**

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 8 (1) Meadows Water System, LLC, is hereby determined not to be jurisdictional pursuant to the Commission Staff investigation and documents filed with the Commission.
- 9 (2) Meadows Water System, LLC, is removed from regulation by this Commission and its current Tariff WN U-1 is cancelled as of the effective date of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 22, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary