

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	DOCKET UW-011381
Complainant,)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
vs.)	SUSPENDING LINE
)	EXTENSION CONTRACT
)	
South Bainbridge Water System, Inc.)	
)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On October 8, 2001, South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., (South Bainbridge Water or Company) filed for a line extension contract and requested a waiver of WAC 480-110-445 (1) and (5). The Company serves approximately 1,000 customers on the south end of Bainbridge Island.

- 2 This line extension contract is to allow the customer to locate the meter off the customer's property and would establish areas of responsibility. This project includes the construction of approximately five hundred (500) feet of six (6) inch ductile iron pipe and the installation of two service meters.

- 3 South Bainbridge Water and the customer are asking for a waiver of WAC 480-110-445 which determines where service meters should be located and establishes areas of responsibility. By this line extension agreement the meter would be located approximately two hundred eighty (280) feet from the customer's property. The customer would be required to obtain an easement and install a service line (280 feet) from the meter to their property.

- 4 The filing would increase charges and rates for service rendered by respondent. Because these increases might injuriously affect thereby, it is the decision of the Commission to suspend the operation of the above line extension contract and enter upon public hearing or hearings concerning such changes and the reasonableness and justness thereof as may be necessary.

FINDINGS

- 5 (1) South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., is an investor-owned water company and a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (2) The line extension contract filed by South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., on October 8, 2001, with a proposed effective date of November 7, 2001, would increase charges and rates for service provided and might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public.
- 7 (3) South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., has not demonstrated that the line extension contract would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 8 (4) South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., has not demonstrated that the waiver of WAC 480-110-445 (1) and (5) is appropriate.
- 9 (5) As required by RCW 80.04.130, South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed line extension contract is fair, just, and reasonable.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10 (1) The line extension contract filed on October 8, 2001, is suspended.
- 11 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 12 (3) South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., must not change or alter the line extension contract filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 13 (4) South Bainbridge Water System, Inc., may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of chapter 80.20. RCW.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 31st day of October, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner