

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Removal from)	DOCKET UW-151477
Commission Regulation of)	
)	ORDER 01
SOUTH BAINBRIDGE WATER)	
SYSTEMS, INC.,)	
)	ORDER REMOVING COMPANY
)	FROM REGULATION; CANCELING
)	TARIFF AFTER TRANSFER TO
Requesting Removal from)	WATER DISTRICT
Commission Regulation)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On August 13, 2015, Kitsap Public Utility District of Kitsap County purchased the assets and took over operation and ownership of South Bainbridge Water Systems, Inc. (South Bainbridge Water). On July 17, 2015, South Bainbridge Water filed notice for the transfer of ownership of the water system assets owned by South Bainbridge Water to Kitsap Public Utility District. South Bainbridge Water seeks to remove itself from regulation and to cancel its tariff. The water company provides water service to about 1,220 customers, on the south end of Bainbridge Island in Kitsap County.

- 2 As a result of a staff investigation, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) finds that South Bainbridge Water no longer provides regulated water service. The Commission may remove a water company from regulation under RCW 80.04.010. A water company cannot be removed from regulation without the Commission’s approval. Removing South Bainbridge Water, from regulation will be consistent with the public interest, because the water system is now operated and owned by Kitsap Public Utility District, which is not subject to Commission jurisdiction.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 3 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, and securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including water companies. [RCW 80.01.040](#), [RCW 80.04](#), [RCW 80.08](#), [RCW 80.12](#), [RCW 80.16](#) and [RCW 80.28](#).

- 4 (2) South Bainbridge Water is an investor-owned water company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 5 (3) The transfer of assets of South Bainbridge Water to Kitsap Public Utility District is exempt from Commission regulation under [RCW 80.12.020](#) and [RCW 36.96.010](#) and is not subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 6 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 13, 2015.
- 7 (5) After reviewing the information gathered in the investigation, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it in the public interest to grant South Bainbridge Water's request for removal from regulation and to cancel the corresponding tariff.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 8 (1) South Bainbridge Water Systems, Inc., is no longer subject to Commission jurisdiction under [RCW 80.04.110](#).
- 9 (2) South Bainbridge Water Systems, Inc., is removed from regulation by this Commission and its current tariff WN U-2 is canceled 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 August 13, 2015.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary