# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Removal from Commission Regulation of

**DOCKET UW-180246** 

ORDER 01

LAKE ALYSON WATER, INC.

ORDER REMOVING COMPANY FROM REGULATION AND CANCELING TARIFF

#### **BACKGROUND**

- On March 24, 2018, Consolidated Utilities Inc., formerly Lake Alyson Water, Inc. (Lake Alyson Water or Company), filed a Petition for De-regulation (Petition). In 2017, the Company transferred all three (3) of its regulated water systems and customers to a currently regulated company and no longer provides water service to any customers. The Company served about 165 customers on three water system near Mount Vernon, in Snohomish and Skagit County.
- Lake Alyson Water became regulated on April 1, 2001, in Docket UW-010221. At that time Lake Alyson Water listed three (3) water systems in its service area: Lake Alyson (DOH #50691R), Bacus Hill Water System (DOH #64327Y) and Tjetland Water System (DOH #17475C). The Company's last rate change was effective April 30, 2007, and resulted in an increase of \$19,321 (42 percent). The average customer bill increased by \$10.68 (40 percent) per month for water service.
- On January 26, 2017, Lake Alyson Water transferred the Lake Alyson and Tjetland water systems with 143 customers, in Docket UW-170066, to Northwest Water Services, LLC.
- On May 31, 2017, Lake Alyson Water transferred the Bacus Hill water system with 22 customers, in Docket UW-170637, to Northwest Water Services, LLC.
- Lake Alyson Water no longer serves any water customers and is in the process of dissolving the water company known as Consolidated Utilities Inc. formally Lake Alyson Water, Inc.

Commission staff (Staff) has reviewed the Company's filing and finds that removing the Company from regulation is in the Company's and the public's best interests.

Accordingly, Staff recommends the Commission grant Lake Alyson Water's Petition.

### **DISCUSSION**

RCW 80.04.010(30)(e) provides that a water company cannot be removed from regulation except with Commission approval. We agree with Staff's recommendation and find that removing Lake Alyson Water from regulation is consistent with the public interest because Lake Alyson no longer operates as a water company or serves any customers. Accordingly, we grant Lake Alyson Water's Petition to be removed from regulation.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8 (1) The 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.
- 9 (2) Lake Alyson Water is a water company and a public service company subject to Commission regulation.
- On March 24, 2018, Lake Alyson Water filed with the Commission a Petition requesting to be removed from Commission regulation.
- 11 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 26, 2018.
- 12 (5) After reviewing the information gathered in the investigation, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it in the public interest to remove Lake Alyson Water from regulation and to cancel its tariff.

## **ORDER**

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Lake Alyson Water, Inc. is no longer subject to Commission jurisdiction under RCW 80.04.110.
- Lake Alyson Water, Inc. is removed from Commission regulation, and its current tariff WN U-1 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 April 26, 2018.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary