

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of  
Roche Harbor Water System,

Petitioner,

Seeking Exemption from the Provisions  
of WAC 480-110-445 Relating to  
Location of Service Connection

DOCKET UW-190855

ORDER 01

GRANTING  
EXEMPTION FROM RULE

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On October 10, 2019, Roche Harbor Water System, (Roche Harbor Water) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition requesting an exemption from WAC 480-110-445 (Petition).
- 2 WAC 480-110-445 requires water companies to install a service connection to the property line, property corner, or to a location on the property mutually agreed upon.
- 3 In its Petition, Roche Harbor Water explained that four customers' service connection meters will be installed at the connection point to the Company's water distribution system and not at the property line or on those customers' property due to the distance of those properties from the Company's water distribution system. The Company has obtained an agreement signed by each of the four property owners that clearly delineates responsibilities.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the request and recommends the Commission grant Roche Harbor Water's Petition, subject to the condition that the Company disclose to potential customers service line locations, conditions, and responsibilities.

**DISCUSSION**

- 5 We grant Roche Harbor Water's Petition. Pursuant to WAC 480-110-215, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-110 if doing so is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes. Here, the Company has obtained consent from each of four customers to locate their service connection elsewhere than on their properties. The customers agree to this arrangement, and maintenance responsibilities are clearly defined for both the Company and its customers. In light of these factors, we find that granting the exemption

subject to the condition that Staff recommends is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6 (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, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including water companies.
- 7 (2) Roche Harbor Water is engaged in the business of providing water services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) Roche Harbor Water is subject to WAC 480-110-445, which requires water companies to install the service connection to the property line, property corner, or to a location on the property mutually agreed upon.
- 9 (4) Under WAC 480-110-215, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-110 if doing so is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes. See also WAC 480-07-110.
- 10 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 7, 2019.
- 11 (6) After reviewing the Petition filed in Docket UW-190855 by Roche Harbor Water on October 11, 2019, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest; that it is consistent with purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes; and that it should be granted subject to the condition that .

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 12 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Roche Harbor Water System is granted an exemption from WAC 480-110-445 subject to the condition that Roche Harbor

Water System discloses to potential customer's service line locations, conditions, and responsibilities.

- 13 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Roche Harbor Water System to effectuate the provisions 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 Lacey, Washington, and effective November 8, 2019.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON  
Executive Director and Secretary