

4 Accordingly, Washington Water Service requests an extension of time to file the general rates case for 90 days and agrees to make such a filing on or before September 1, 2021.

5 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommends granting Washington Water Service's request for an extension of time to file the required general rate case to blend rates.

DISCUSSION

6 Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-07-880 governs compliance filings such as the tariff revision Washington Water is required by Order 01 to make in this Docket. Specifically, WAC 480-07-880(2) provides that the Commission will state in its final order authorizing or requiring a compliance filing the date by which the party must make the compliance filing and the effective date that should appear on any tariff sheets that are required as part of a compliance filing.

7 WAC 480-07-110 allows the Commission to waive the application of any of its rules if doing so is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes. Here, granting Washington Water's request for an extension will ultimately allow the Company to minimize the impact of any rate increase on ratepayers, which is in the public interest and consistent with the purposes underlying regulation. Accordingly, the Commission finds good cause to waive the application of WAC 480-07-880 for the purpose of extending deadline established by Order 01, and therefore grants Washington Water's request to extend the deadline for filing a general rate case.

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, securities, transfers of property, and affiliated interests of public service companies, including water companies.

9 (2) Washington Water Service is engaged in the business of providing water services within the State of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

- 10 (3) Under WAC 480-07-110, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any of its rules if doing so is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.
- 11 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 3, 2021.
- 12 (5) After review of the petition filed in Docket UW-200091 by Washington Water Service on May 12, 2021, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the requested extension of time to file a general rate case is in the public interest and is consistent with purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Washington Water Service Company is granted a 90-day extension of time to file a general rate case.
- 14 (2) Washington Water Service Company will file a general rate case on or before September 1, 2021.
- 15 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Washington Water Service Company 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 June 3, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON,
Executive Director and Secretary