

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	DOCKET NO. UW-050538
	)	
AMERICAN WATER	)	ORDER NO. 01
RESOURCES, INC.,	)	
	)	ORDER REMOVING COMPANY
	)	FROM REGULATION AND
Requesting Removal from	)	CANCELLING TARIFF (TRANSFER
Commission Regulation	)	TO PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT)
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On April 1, 2005, Thurston Public Utility District of Thurston County purchased the assets and took over operation and ownership of American Water Resources, Inc. The company office is located in Onalaska and serves approximately 1,526 customers in Lewis, Thurston, Mason, Kitsap, Pierce, and Grays Harbor counties.
- 2     After Commission investigation, American Water Resources, Inc., is determined to no longer provide regulated water service. The Commission can remove a water company from regulation under the provisions of RCW 80.04.010. A water company cannot be removed from regulation except with the approval of the Commission. Removing American Water Resources, Inc., from regulation will be consistent with the public interest, because the water system is now operated and owned by Thurston Public Utility District, which is not regulated by the Commission.

**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 rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including water companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*

- 4 (2) American Water Resources, Inc., is an investor-owned water company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 5 (3) Thurston Public Utility District Thurston Public Utility District is exempt from Commission regulation under RCW 80.12.020 and RCW 36.96.010 and is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (4) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 27, 2005.
- 7 (5) From all indications, it appears to be in the public interest to grant the request of removal from regulation and cancel the corresponding tariff.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 8 (1) American Water Resources, Inc., is hereby determined not to be jurisdictional pursuant to the Commission Staff investigation and documents filed with the Commission.
- 9 (2) American Water Resources, Inc., is removed from regulation by this Commission and its current tariff WN U-1 is cancelled 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.

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DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary