

Service Date: April 6, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF the Investigation of) REGULATORY DIVISION
the Montana Public Service Commission)
into whether Mountain Water Company's) DOCKET NO. D2016.2.15
rates are Just and Reasonable)

NOTICE OF STAFF ACTION

1. On January 29, 2016, the Montana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) voted to initiate a proceeding to inquire into whether Mountain Water Company’s (“Mountain Water”) current rates for its Missoula, Montana customers are just and reasonable.

2. On January 11, 2016, the Commission received the *Joint Applicants’ Notice of Closing and Withdrawal of Joint Application* in Docket No. D2014.12.99. This *Notice* informed the Commission that on January 8, 2016, the sale and transfer of Western Water stock to Liberty WWH closed, with Liberty WWH merging into Western Water and Western Water continuing as the wholly-owned subsidiary of Liberty Utilities. The Commission never completed its review of the sale and transfer in Docket No. D2014.12.99.

3. On February 3, 2016, the Commission issued a *Notice of Investigation and Intervention Deadline*. On March 1, 2016, the City of Missoula and Clark Fork Coalition were granted limited intervention. On March 2, 2016, the Montana Consumer Counsel was granted intervention. On March 7, 2016, the Commission, through delegation of authority to staff, issued *Procedural Order No. 7475a*.

4. Paragraph 5 of *Procedural Order No. 7475a* is amended to the following:

- (c) April 15, 2016: Final day for testimony from parties regarding whether Mountain Water’s rates are just and reasonable and whether the Commission should order such changes to rates as may be just and reasonable.
- (d) April 20, 2016: Final day for data request to parties regarding testimony filed on April 15, 2016.

- (e) April 27, 2016: Final day for parties to respond to data requests filed on April 20, 2016.
- (f) April 29, 2016: Final day for pre-hearing memoranda
- (g) May 3-4, 2016: Hearing in Missoula, Montana.

See Order 7475a ¶ 5 (Mar. 7, 2016).

5. All other provisions of *Procedural Order No. 7475* remain “effective unless [again] modified by the Commission or staff.” *Id.*

DONE AND DATED this 6th day of April, 2016, by delegation to Commission staff as an Order of the Commission.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman
TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman
KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner
ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner
BOB LAKE, Commissioner