

Filed Session of February 10, 1999
Case 98-W-1863 et al.
Approved as Recommended
and So Ordered
By the Commission

DEBRA RENNER
Acting Secretary
Issued & Effective February 11, 1999
STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

January 22, 1999

TO: THE COMMISSION

FROM: THE OFFICE OF GAS & WATER - WATER RATES SECTION

SUBJECT: New tariff schedules to convert to an Electronic Filing
System filed by the following companies:

Case 98-W-1863 Rainbow Water Company, Inc.

Case 98-W-1864 Red Mills Water Company, Inc.

Case 98-W-1866 Peek 'N Peak Water Services, Inc.

SUMMARY OF
RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends adoption of all of the
proposed tariff amendments.

* * *

Background

Pursuant to the Public Service Law, the Commission regulates private water system suppliers across the state. Although most of these systems are very small, with under 100 customers, each must have its own tariff covering all its terms of service. In order to help these systems file acceptable tariffs with the Commission, staff created a simplified standard tariff schedule, which sets forth the responsibilities and rights of both the supplier and customer in an easily understood fashion.

Over time the standard tariff has been updated and currently further revisions, primarily concerning complaint handling procedures and rules for termination of service, are needed. The Water Rates Section, with the help of the Consumer Services Division and Counsel's Office, has created a new updated standard electronic tariff, which we are distributing to the

water systems for their review. Once a water system agrees to the revised tariff and any specific changes, Commission approval is needed before the tariff can become effective. This item reviews the adoption of the standard electronic tariff for the above mentioned companies.

The Tariff Changes

A separate appendix contains the details of the filings for each company and information on the proposed changes in the tariffs for specific services such as restoration of service, returned checks and the definition of when a bill is considered to be delinquent.

Discussion

The above mentioned companies propose to convert their water tariffs into an electronic format. The new system will allow public access to tariffs via the Commission's Web Page within 24 hours from the date of the filing.

Each customer of each company was notified by letter of the filings of the revised tariffs and of any changes in the definition of when a bill is considered delinquent and charges for services such as returned checks and restoration of service. No comments were received from the customers. The companies request waivers from the requirement of newspaper publication of the filings since all of the customers were notified by mail. The companies also request a waiver from the applicable sections of 16 NYCRR 530 regarding the tariff filing format to allow the new electronic tariffs to become effective. Staff believes that these are reasonable requests and should be granted.

Conclusion

The Commission should approve all of the filings and grant waivers of newspaper publication to all.

This memorandum has been reviewed by Nancy Tourville of the Office of Consumer Affairs and David Van Ort of Counsel's Office.

It is recommended that:

1. the amendments for Rainbow Water Company, Inc., Red Mills Water Company, Inc. and Peek 'N Peak Water Services listed in the appendix be allowed to become effective; and
2. the requirements of 16 NYCRR 530 regarding the format of tariff filings be waived; and
3. the requirements of Section 89-c(10) of the Public Service Law and 16 NYCRR 530.70 in regard to newspaper publication of the proposed schedules be waived.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl T. Etter
Associate Valuation Engineer
Water Rates Section - NYC
The Office of Gas & Water

APPROVED BY:

Arthur Gordon
Chief
Water Rates Section
The Office of Gas & Water

Case 98-W-1863

Filing by: RAINBOW WATER COMPANY, INC.

New Tariff Schedule PSC No. 3 - Water

Original Leaves 1 through 12
Statement No. 1

Issued: December 2, 1998 Effective: February 15, 1999

S.A.P.A. 98-W-1863SA1 State Register: December 23, 1998

Newspaper Publication: Waived

Number of Customers: 88

Territory Served: Town of Carmel, Putnam County

Tariff Charge Changes:

Restoration of Service Charge

Unchanged at \$60 during normal working hours and \$100 at all other times.

Returned Check Charge

The new tariff will allow the company to charge the customer the fee from the bank plus \$5.00, not to exceed \$20.00. Previously there was no charge.

Late Payment charge

The new tariff continues the late payment charge of 1-1/2% per month and establishes that this charge can be applied to all bills not paid within 23 days of mailing, which agrees with current policy.

Case 98-W-1864

Filing by: RED MILLS WATER COMPANY, INC.

New Tariff Schedule PSC No. 2 - Water

Original Leaves 1 through 12

Issued: December 2, 1998 Effective: February 15, 1999

S.A.P.A. 98-W-1864SA1 State Register: December 23, 1998

Newspaper Publication: Waived

Number of Customers: 135

Territory Served: Towns of Carmel & Mahopac, Putnam County

Tariff Charge Changes:

Restoration of Service Charge

Unchanged at \$10 at all times.

Returned Check Charge

The new tariff will allow the company to charge the customer the fee from the bank plus \$5.00, not to exceed \$20.00. Previously there was no charge.

Late Payment charge

The new tariff continues the late payment charge of 1-1/2% per month and establishes that this charge can be applied to all bills not paid within 23 days of mailing, which agrees with current policy.

Case 98-W-1866

Filing by: PEEK 'N PEAK WATER SERVICES, INC.

New Tariff Schedule PSC No. 2 - Water

Original Leaves 1 through 14

Issued: December 2, 1998 Effective: February 15, 1999

S.A.P.A. 98-W-1866SA1 State Register: December 23, 1998

Newspaper Publication: Waived

Number of Customers: 133

Territory Served: Town of French Creek, Chautauqua County

Tariff Charge Changes:

Restoration of Service Charge

Unchanged at \$25 at all times.

Returned Check Charge

The new tariff will allow the company to charge the customer the fee from the bank plus \$5.00, not to exceed \$20.00. Previously there was no charge.

Late Payment charge

The new tariff establishes a late payment charge of 1-1/2% per month, which can be applied to all bills not paid within 23 days of mailing, which agrees with current policy.

Art/Bruce/Vicki,

I have reviewed this document and checked for spelling and format.

Valerie Grant-Henriques
12/5/99