PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY & COMPLIANCE DIVISION Water Utilities Branch

RESCRIPTION NO. W-3709 November 23, 1992

RESOLUTION

(RES. W-3709), TAHOE CEDARS WATER COMPANY (TONC). ORDER AUTHORIZING A ONE-TIME SURCHARGE PRODUCING ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REVENUE OF \$2,200 OR 1.4% FOR 1992.

BY ADVICE LETTER NO. 27. FILED OCTOBER 7. 1992.

BACKGROUND

TCWC requested authority under Section VI of General Order 96-A and Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code to impose a one-time charge of \$2.40 per customer to recover the Department of Health Services (DHS) fee for fiscal year July 1, 1991 through June 30, 1992. TCWC presently serves 903 flat rate and 15 metered rate customers near Tahoma, El Dorado and Placer Counties.

The present rates became effective on September 14, 1988, pursuant to Resolution No. W-3408 which authorized a \$20,250 or 15.1% increase.

DISCUSSION

Resolution W-3641, dated May 8, 1992, authorized each water utility regulated by the Commission and subject to the provisions of Health and Safety Code Sections 4020 and 4020.5 to establish a memorandum account in which to record payment of Department of Health Services Office of Drinking Water fees resulting from those code sections. Subject utilities were also authorized to request recovery of the account balance by advice letter filing in accordance with General Order No. 96-A.

The surcharge requested herein would allow TCWC to recover the memorandum account balance established on the basis of receipt of the DHS bill for fiscal year July 1, 1991 through June 30, 1992. The DHS fee would be paid from the funds collected from TCWC's customers as provided in W-3641.

The Water Utilities Branch (Branch) recommends that TCWC be authorized to assess a one-time surcharge of \$2.40 to each single-family residential unit to recover the \$2,200 balance in the memorandum account accruing the billed DHS fee. Revenue received from such surcharge should be limited to the initial amount billed to TCWC by DHS. The Branch further recommends that TCWC be authorized to hold open such memorandum account until TCWC's next general rate proceeding.

Service is satisfactory. There are no Commission orders requiring system improvement, nor are there service problems requiring corrective action.

PROTESTS

TOWC published a notice of this increase request in a local paper on September 24, 1992. No protests have been received.

FINDINGS

THE COMMISSION FINDS, after investigation by the Branch, that recovery of the memorandum account balance authorized herein is justified, and the resulting one-time charge of \$2.40 is just and reasonable.

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Tahoe Cedars Water Company is authorized, five days after the effective date herein, to make effective revised Schedule No. 1A, Annual General Metered Service, and Schedule No. 2SR, Seasonal Residential Flat Rate Service, attached to this resolution as Appendix A, and to cancel the presently effective Tariff Sheet Nos. 235-W and 236-W of Schedules No. 1A and 2SR, respectively.
- 2. The memorandum account as authorized above may remain open until Tahoe Cedars Water Company's next general rate proceeding.
- 3. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on November 23, 1992. The following Commissioners approved it:

NEAL J SHULMAN Executive Director

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners

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TAHOE CEDARS WATER COMPANY

Schedule No. 1A (continued)

ANNUAL GENERAL METERED SERVICE

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 1. The annual service charge applies to service during the 12-month period commencing July 1, and is due in advance. If a permanent resident of the area has been a customer of the utility for at least 12 months, he may elect, at the beginning of the fiscal year, to pay prorated service charges in advance at intervals of less than one year (monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly) in accordance with the utility's established billing periods. Meters will be read and quantity charges billed monthly, bimonthly, and quarterly in accordance with the utility's established billing periods except that meters may be read and quantity charges billed during the winter season at intervals greater than three months.
- 2. The opening bill for metered service, except upon conversion from flat rate service, shall be the established annual service charge for the service. Where initial service is established after the first day of the fiscal year, the portion of such service charge applicable to the current year shall be determined by multiplying the annual charge by one three-hundred-sixty-fifth (1/365) of the number of days remaining in the fiscal year. The balance of the payment of the initial annual charge shall be credited against the charges for the succeeding annual period. If service is not continued for at least one year after the date of initial service, no refund of the initial annual charges shall be due the customer.
- 3. In the event that a customer terminates service under this schedule and reinstates service at the same location within 12 months, there will be a reconnection charge equal to the minimum charge which would have been billed had the customer not terminated service.
- 4. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, all bills are subject to a one-time surcharge of \$2.40. This charge offsets the Department of Health Services fee as billed to Tahoe Cedars Company for fiscal year July 1, 1991 to June 30, 1992.

(N)

5. All bills are subject to the reimbursement fee set forth in Schedule No. UF.

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TAHOE CEDARS WATER COMPANY

Schedule No. 2SR (continued)

SEASONAL RESIDENITAL FLAT RATE SERVICE

- 4. All service not covered by the above classifications shall be furnished only on a metered basis.
- 5. For service covered by the above classifications, if the utility elects, a meter shall be installed and service provided under Schedule No. 1A, Annual General Metered Service, effective as of the fifteenth day of the following calendar month. Where the flat rate charge for a period has been paid in advance, refund of the prorated difference between such flat rate payment and the metered service charge for the same period shall be made on or before that day.
- 6. Upon initially establishing service, the customer shall select either the seasonal rate or the annual rate and shall pay the full charge therefor. When service is established after the beginning of the season or year, the charge for that season or year will be the pro rata charge determined by the number of days remaining in the season or year compared to the total number of days in the season or year. Any unused portion of the initial charge will be credited to the following seasonal or annual service period, at the customer's option, provided, however, that if service is not continued or resumed the following season or year, no refund of the initial charge shall be due the customer.
- 7. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, all bills are subject to a one-time surcharge of \$2.40. This charge offsets the Department of Health Services fee as billed to Tahoe Cedars Company for fiscal year July 1, 1991 to June 30, 1992.
- 8. All bills are subject to the reimbursement fee set forth in (L) Schedule No. UF. (L)

(N)

(END OF APPENDIX A)