

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

STAFF REPORT




PUBLIC MEETING DATE: December 18, 2018

REGULAR CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE January 1, 2019

DATE: December 3, 2018

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Joan Grindeland 

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer , Bryan Conway , and Bruce Hellebuyck 

SUBJECT: TIERRA DEL MAR WATER COMPANY: (Docket No. ADV 885/Advice No. 18-1) Revises Tariffs, to align with recent changes to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 860-036.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) should approve Tierra Del Mar Water Company's (Tierra Del Mar or Company) Advice No. 18-1, to become effective with service rendered on and after January 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve Tierra Del Mar's Advice No. 18-1, which updates its tariff to be consistent with adopted changes in the Commission's Division 36 rules applicable to water utilities.

Applicable Law

ORS 757.205 requires each public utility to file with the Commission schedules showing all rates, tolls, charges, rules, and regulations that pertain to service performed by the public utility. Tariff revisions or corrections may be made by filing revised sheets with the information required under the Commission's administrative rules, including OAR 860-036-2000 and OAR 860-036-2010. Filings that make any change in rates, tolls, charges, rules, or regulations must be filed with the Commission at least 30 days prior to the effective date of changes; however, the Commission has the discretion to approve tariff filings on less than statutory notice.

Analysis

On January 1, 2017, existing Division 36 administrative rules were repealed and new rules were adopted in Order No. 17-017 in Docket AR 595. This rulemaking was initiated with the goal of improving the organization and clarity of the rules.

Due to that change in administrative rules, Staff requested that rate-regulated water utilities file updated tariff sheets that reflect the changes in the Commission's administrative rules. In response, Tierra Del Mar filed Advice No. 18-1 on November 26, 2018, with the Commission to align its tariff with the changes adopted in Order No. 17-017. Staff notes that although the Company filed all new tariff sheets with a rate-effective date of January 1, 2019, there is no requested change to the rates, tolls, or charges approved by the Commission in Tierra Del Mar's most recent general rate case. The Company's requested rate-effective date of January 1, 2019, is more than 30 days' notice for schedule changes.

Staff has reviewed Tierra Del Mar's Advice No. 18-1 to ensure that all rates, tolls, and charges remain unchanged and to determine whether the requested changes are consistent with the Division 36 administrative rules.

Conclusion

Based on its review of Tierra Del Mar's Advice No. 18-1, Staff concludes that the tariff sheets do not request a change to currently approved rates, tolls, and charges and are consistent with the Division 36 administrative rules.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve Tierra Del Mar's Advice No. 18-1 to update its tariff, effective with service rendered on and after January 1, 2019.