

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: February 9, 2016

REGULAR _____ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE February 10, 2016

DATE: January 28, 2016

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Stephanie Yamada *SY*

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Bryan Conway, and Bruce Hellebuyck *JF* *BC* *BH*

SUBJECT: STORLIE WATER COMPANY: (Docket No. UM 1631)
Requests a waiver of the multilingual disconnection notice requirement in OAR 860-036-0235.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission grant Storlie Water Company, Inc. (Storlie)'s request for waiver of the multilingual disconnection notice requirement in OAR 860-036-0235(1).

ISSUE:

Should the Commission grant Storlie's request for waiver of the multilingual disconnection notice requirement in OAR 860-036-0235(1)?

RULE:

OAR 860-036-0235(1) requires that disconnection notices from water utilities contain the disconnection notice language specified in OAR 860-036-0235(1) translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, and Russian. However, pursuant to OAR 860-036-0235(2)(a), the Commission may grant a waiver of the multilingual notice requirement for a water utility serving fewer than 50,000 customers if the utility shows that less than 5 percent of its Oregon customers would benefit from the notice. A waiver of the multilingual notice requirement is limited to two calendar years.

ANALYSIS:

Storlie currently serves 17 residential customers. The company asserts, and Staff believes, that all of Storlie's customers are fluent in English; therefore, no customers would benefit from a multilingual disconnection notice.

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CONCLUSION:

Given that less than 5 percent of Storlie's Oregon customers would benefit from a multilingual notice, waiver of OAR 860-036-0235(2)(a) is appropriate.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Storlie's request for waiver of the multilingual disconnection notice requirement in OAR 860-036-0235(1) be granted for a period not to exceed two calendar years.

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