

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
2 **OF OREGON**

3 UW 120

4 In the Matter of

5 CROOKED RIVER RANCH WATER  
6 COMPANY

7 Request for Rate increase resulting in total  
8 annual revenues of \$868,453.

STAFF'S OPPOSITION TO CRRWC'S  
REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION

9 After the hearing on October 26, 2007, and in order to have a decision by the end of the  
10 suspension period, the Administrative Law Judge offered November 5<sup>th</sup> and November 12,  
11 2007,<sup>1</sup> as dates for opening and reply briefs. On October 29, 2007, the Crooked River Ranch  
12 Water Company (CRRWC) filed a motion for extension. CRRWC requests briefing dates of  
13 November 12<sup>th</sup> for opening briefs and November 19<sup>th</sup> for reply briefs. Staff opposes the  
14 requested extension to the extent that it requires further extension of the suspension period.

15 The testimony of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff (Staff) recommends  
16 rates that are substantially lower than existing rates. Furthermore, the existing rates are not  
17 interim rates subject to refund. As a result, it is Staff's view that an extension of time further  
18 harms members in allowing an unjust and unreasonable rate to continue past the initial  
19 suspension period.

20 In Order No. 06-642, entered November 11, 2006, the Public Utility Commission of  
21 Oregon (Commission) ordered CRRWC to file tariffs. Because of applications for extensions  
22 that were granted to file tariffs, there will be a 12-month period from the time tariffs were  
23 ordered to be filed until the time rates are set to go into effect December 1, 2007. Because an  
24 extension of the suspension period would result in the continuation of rates that Staff has found

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26 <sup>1</sup> Staff notes that November 12<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day, a state holiday. Staff requests that the due date either be set for  
November 9<sup>th</sup> or November 13<sup>th</sup> to account for the closing of state offices.

1 unjust and unreasonable, Staff respectfully requests that the effective date of rates not be  
2 extended.

3 If the Commission were able to issue an order before the effective date with the briefing  
4 schedule requested by CRRWC, Staff does not object to CRRWC's briefing schedule. However,  
5 Staff does not support a further suspension of CRRWC existing rates.

6 Staff supports November 5<sup>th</sup> for opening briefs and November 13<sup>th</sup> for reply briefs. As an  
7 alternative, Staff requests that there be one round of simultaneous briefs due November 9<sup>th</sup> or  
8 November 13th. This alternative would allow CRRWC its requested time to review the  
9 transcript and also allow the Commission to issue a decision without a further suspension of  
10 CRRWC's existing rates.

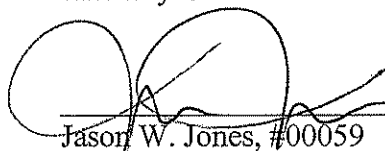
11 CONCLUSION

12 For the foregoing reasons, Staff respectfully urges the Commission to deny CRRWC's  
13 motion to further suspend CRRWC's existing rates.

14 DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 2007.

15 Respectfully submitted,

16 HARDY MYERS  
17 Attorney General

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19 Jason W. Jones, #00059

20 Assistant Attorney General  
21 Of Attorneys for Public Utility Commission of  
22 Oregon Staff  
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1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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3 I certify that on October 29, 2007, I served the foregoing upon all parties of record in this  
4 proceeding by delivering a copy by electronic mail and by mailing a true and exact copy by  
5 postage prepaid first class mail or by hand delivery/shuttle mail.

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