ORDER NO. 16 053

ENTERED FEB 0 9 2016

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1631

In the Matter of

STORLIE WATER COMPANY, INC.,

ORDER

Request for Waiver of OAR 860-036-0235, Multilingual Notice Requirement.

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its public meeting on February 9, 2016, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.



A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Circuit Court for Marion County in compliance with ORS 183.484.

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ITEM NO. CA5

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 Seg

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Bryan Conway, and Bruce Hellebuyck χ

SUBJECT: <u>STORLIE WATER COMPANY</u>: (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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