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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONERS

- MARC SPITZER, Chairman
- WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
- JEFF HATCH-MILLER
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2005 SEP -8 P 4: 18

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCUMENT CONTROL

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
VALLE VERDE WATER COMPANY FOR A
RATE INCREASE

DOCKET NO. W-01431A-05-0351

PROCEDURAL ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 16, 2005, Valle Verde Water Company ("Company") filed the above-captioned rate application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission").

On June 16, 2005, the Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") filed a letter indicating the Company's rate application was sufficient, and classifying the Company as a Class C utility.

By Procedural Order dated July 6, 2005, the matter was set for hearing to commence on December 8, 2005.

On August 19, 2005 Staff filed a Request to Suspend the Time Clock for an indefinite time. Staff indicated that the Company has not been able to reply to Staff's data requests in a timely fashion, and Staff cannot predict how much of an extension will be necessary to complete its review. Staff indicated that it will assist the Company as much as it can to obtain the necessary information for proceeding with this rate application.

On August 25, 2005, the Company filed a Response to Staff's Request to Suspend the Time Clock. The Company asserts that Staff is exaggerating the time that data responses are overdue and that some of the delay in this matter is due to Staff. The Company requests that any suspension be for a reasonable and determinate amount of time to insure that Staff processes the application as soon as possible.

The Company admits that its records are not computerized and that responding to Staff's request requires a substantial amount of its staff's time. Given the difficulties in obtaining the

1 information Staff requires to process this rate application, an extension of the time clock is warranted.
2 However, an indefinite extension may not be in the public interest at this time. The time between
3 Staff's sufficiency determination and the date of its Request to Suspend is approximately 60 days.
4 Staff has scheduled a site visit, which will assist Staff further evaluate when it will be able obtain the
5 necessary information. The current circumstances justify a 60 day suspension of the time clock.
6 The suspension requires a suspension of the procedural schedule and the rescheduling of the hearing
7 date. Thus, we will schedule a Procedural Conference in approximately 60 days to determine when
8 we can reschedule the hearing in this matter or whether Staff will require additional time and an
9 additional suspension of the time clock is warranted.

10 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the time clock in this matter is suspended for a
11 minimum of 60 days, which suspension may be extended for good cause.

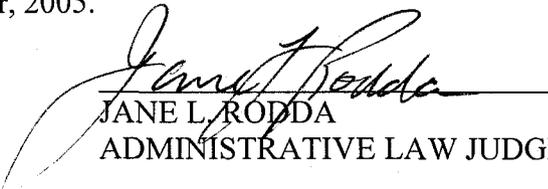
12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the procedural schedule established in the July 6, 2005
13 Procedural Order, including the December 8, 2005 hearing date, is suspended pending further Order.

14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a **Procedural Conference** for the purpose of determining
15 when the matter can be set for hearing, and evaluating the time clock suspension shall commence on
16 **November 10, 2005**, at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's Tucson offices, Room 218, 400 West
17 Congress Street, Tucson, Arizona.¹

18 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113 - Unauthorized
19 Communications) continues to apply to this proceeding and shall remain in effect until the
20 Commission's Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable.

21 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive
22 any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing.

23
24 DATED this 7th day of September, 2005.

25
26 
JANE L. RODDA
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

27
28 ¹ The parties may appear telephonically by notifying the Administrative Law Judge no later than the day before the conference.

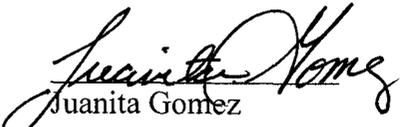
1 Copies of the foregoing mailed
2 this 7th day of September, 2005 to:

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22 By: 
23 Juanita Gomez
24 Secretary to Jane L. Rodda
25
26
27
28