

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2 **COMMISSIONERS** KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman **GARY PIERCE** 4 PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY POCKETED BY **BOB STUMP** 6 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343

ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE CURRENT FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS 10 RATES AND CHARGES BASED THEREON FOR UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS ANTHEM WATER DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY WATER 11 DISTRICT.

DOCKET NO. SW-01303A-09-0343

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE CURRENT FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS RATES AND CHARGES BASED THEREON FOR 16 UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS ANTHEM/AGUA FRIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT, ITS SUN CITY WASTEWATER DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY WEST WASTEWATER DISTRICT.

RATE CASE PROCEDURAL ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 2, 2009, Arizona-American Water Company ("Arizona-American" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for rate increases for its Anthem Water District, Sun City Water District, Anthem/Agua Fria Wastewater District, Sun City Wastewater District and Sun City West Wastewater District.

On July 13, 2009, Arizona-American filed a supplement to its application.

On August 21, 2009, Arizona-American filed an additional supplement to its application.

On August 24, 2009, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") filed a Letter of Sufficiency indicating that Arizona-American has satisfied the requirements of Arizona Administrative Code R14-2-103 and classifying the Company as a Class A utility.

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On August 26, 2009, a procedural order was issued setting a procedural conference to provide an opportunity for discussion of a hearing schedule, public notice, and other procedural issues prior to the issuance of a rate case procedural order.

On August 27, 2009, the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") filed an Application to Intervene, which was granted at the procedural conference held on September 3, 2009.

A procedural conference commenced on September 2 2009, was recessed to allow the parties to discuss procedural issues prior to reconvening. The procedural conference reconvened and concluded on September 3, 2009. Counsel for Arizona-American, RUCO and Staff appeared through counsel and discussed the hearing schedule, public notice, and other procedural issues. RUCO and Staff were in general agreement with the Company's proposed hearing schedule, which does not include the pre-filing of rejoinder testimony by the Company. The Company agreed to prepare a form of public notice of the application in cooperation with RUCO and Staff, and to file it for consideration.

On September 14, 2009, Arizona-American filed a proposed form of notice as was discussed at the September 2 and 3, 2009 procedural conference.

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-101, the Commission now issues this procedural order to govern the preparation and conduct of this proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the **hearing** in the above-captioned matter is hereby scheduled to commence on **April 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.,** or as soon thereafter as is practicable, at the Commission's offices, 1200 West Washington Street, Hearing Room #1 Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a pre-hearing conference shall be held on April 16, 2010, commencing at 1:30 p.m., at the Commission's Phoenix offices, for the purpose of scheduling witnesses and the conduct of the hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the **Staff Report and/or any testimony** and associated exhibits to be presented at hearing on behalf of Staff on issues other than rate design shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before **February 22, 2010**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any testimony and associated exhibits to be presented at

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hearing on behalf of intervenors on issues other than rate design shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before February 22, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the **Staff Report and/or any testimony** and associated exhibits to be presented at hearing on behalf of Staff on rate design issues shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before **March 8, 2010**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any testimony and associated exhibits to be presented at hearing on behalf of intervenors on rate design issues shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before March 8, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any rebuttal testimony and associated exhibits to be presented at hearing by Arizona-American shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before March 22, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any surrebuttal testimony and associated exhibits to be presented by Staff or intervenors shall be reduced to writing and filed on or before April 12, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Company's witnesses may provide rejoinder testimony orally at the hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all filings shall be made by 4:00 p.m. on the date the filing is due, unless otherwise indicated above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any objections to testimony or exhibits that have been prefiled as of April 12, 2010, shall be made before or at the April 16, 2010, pre-hearing conference.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each party shall individually prepare, and bring to the pre-hearing conference, copies of an issues matrix setting forth all disputed issues in the case. Each party's matrix shall indicate the position of each party on each disputed issue and shall indicate whether the disputed issue remains in dispute or has been resolved, in prefiled testimony or otherwise.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all testimony filed shall include a table of contents which lists the issues discussed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any substantive corrections, revisions, or supplements to

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The date of receipt of discovery requests is not counted as a calendar day, and requests received after 4:00 p.m. MST will be considered as received the next business day.

prefiled testimony, with the exception of rejoinder testimony, shall be reduced to writing and filed no later than five calendar days before the witness is scheduled to testify. Substantive corrections, revisions, or supplements to prefiled rejoinder testimony shall be reduced to writing and presented on the first day of hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall prepare a brief, written summary of the prefiled testimony of each of their witnesses and shall file each summary at least two working days before the witness is scheduled to testify.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that copies of summaries shall be served upon the Administrative Law Judge, the Commissioners, and the Commissioners' aides as well as the parties of record.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that intervention shall be in accordance with A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that all motions to intervene must be filed on or before January 8, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that discovery shall be as permitted by law and the rules and regulations of the Commission, except that until **February 26, 2010**, any objection to discovery requests shall be made within 7 calendar days of receipt¹ and responses to discovery requests shall be made within 10 calendar days of receipt. Thereafter, objections to discovery requests shall be made within 5 calendar days and responses shall be made within 7 calendar days. The response time may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties involved if the request requires an extensive compilation effort.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for discovery requests, objections, and answers, if a receiving party requests service to be made electronically, and the sending party has the technical capability to provide service electronically, service to that party shall be made electronically.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in the alternative to filing a written motion to compel discovery, any party seeking resolution of a discovery dispute may telephonically contact the Commission's Hearing Division to request a date for a procedural hearing to resolve the discovery dispute; that upon such a request, a procedural hearing will be convened as soon as practicable; and

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that the party making such a request shall forthwith contact all other parties to advise them of the hearing date and shall at the hearing provide a statement confirming that the other parties were contacted.²

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any motions which are filed in this matter and which are not ruled upon by the Commission within 20 calendar days of the filing date of the motion shall be deemed denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any responses to motions shall be filed within five calendar days of the filing date of the motion.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any replies shall be filed within five calendar days of the filing date of the response.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Company shall provide public notice of the hearing in this matter, in the following form and style with the heading in no less than 18-point bold type and the body in no less than 10-point regular type:

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY FOR RATE INCREASES FOR UTILITY SERVICE IN ITS ANTHEM WATER DISTRICT, SUN CITY WATER DISTRICT, ANTHEM/AGUA FRIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT, SUN CITY WASTEWATER DISTRICT, AND SUN CITY WEST WASTEWATER DISTRICT. (DOCKET NOS. W-01303A-09-0343 AND SW-01303A-09-0343)

<u>Summary</u>

On July 2, 2009, Arizona-American Water Company, Inc. ("Arizona-American" or "Company") filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") for permanent revenue increases for its following Districts: Anthem Water District, Sun City Water District, Anthem/Agua Fria Wastewater District, Sun City Wastewater District and Sun City West Wastewater District.

[COMPANY INCLUDE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH(S) FROM THE FOLLOWING FIVE PARAGRAPHS:]

For its Anthem Water District, Arizona-American's application requests an increase of approximately \$7,268,177, or 100.4 percent over current revenues. For average consumption (9,616 gallons per month) $5/8 \times 3/4$ -inch meter residential customers of the Anthem Water District, Arizona-American's request would increase monthly rates by 100.4 percent or \$37.37. If you would like the Company to calculate the impact of its proposal on your account based on your consumption, please contact its local office at azrates@amwater.com.

The parties are encouraged to attempt to settle discovery disputes through informal, good-faith negotiations before seeking Commission resolution of the controversy.

For its Sun City Water District, Arizona-American's application requests an annual revenue increase of approximately \$2,531,127, or 27.7 percent over current revenues. For average consumption (7,954 gallons per month) 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter residential customers of the Sun City Water District, Arizona-American's request would increase monthly rates by 27.7 percent or by \$4.64. If you would like the Company to calculate the impact of its proposal on your account based on your consumption, please contact its local office at azrates@amwater.com.

For its Anthem/Agua Fria Wastewater District, Arizona-American's application requests an annual revenue increase of approximately \$7,060,837, or 81.8 percent over current revenues. For average usage (5,814 gallons per month) residential customers of the Anthem/Agua Fria Wastewater District, Arizona-American's request would increase monthly rates by 81.8 percent or by \$39.26. If you would like the Company to calculate the impact of its proposal on your account based on your usage, please contact its local office at azrates@amwater.com.

For its Sun City Wastewater District, Arizona-American's application requests an annual revenue increase of approximately \$2,156,882, or 40.8 percent over current revenues. For residential customers of the Sun City Wastewater District, Arizona-American's request would increase monthly rates by 40.8 percent or by \$5.58. If you would like the Company to calculate the impact of its proposal on your account based on your usage, please contact its local office at azrates@amwater.com.

For its Sun City West Wastewater District, Arizona-American's application requests an annual revenue increase of approximately \$1,480,756, or 26.2 percent over current revenues. For residential customers of the Sun City West Wastewater District, Arizona-American's request would increase monthly rates by 26.2 percent or by \$6.54. If you would like the Company to calculate the impact of its proposal on your account based on your usage, please contact its local office at azrates@amwater.com.

The Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") is in the process of auditing and analyzing the application, and has not yet made any recommendations regarding Arizona-American's proposed rate increase. The Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") is also a party to this proceeding and will also analyze the application and make recommendations to the Commission. The Commission is not bound by the parties' proposals, butt will determine the appropriate relief to be granted based on its consideration of all the evidence presented. The rates approved by the Commission may be higher or lower than the rates requested by Arizona-American.

How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Rate Proposal

Copies of the application and proposed rates are available from Arizona-American [COMPANY INSERT HOW AND WHERE AVAILABLE FOR EACH DISTRICT AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH MAILING/PUBLICATION] and at the Commission's Docket Control Center at 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona, for public inspection during regular business hours and on the Internet using the Commission's e-Docket function, which is located in the lower right hand corner on the Commission's website homepage, www.azcc.gov.

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information

The Commission will hold a hearing on this matter beginning April 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., at the Commission's offices, Hearing Room #1, 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Public comments will be taken on the first day of the hearing. Written public comments may be submitted by mailing a letter referencing Docket No. W-01303A-09-0343 et al. to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services

Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by e-mail. For a form to use and instructions on how to e-mail comments to the Commission, go to http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/forms/public_comment.pdf. If you require assistance, you may contact the Consumer Services Section at 1-800-222-7000.

If you do not intervene in this proceeding, you will receive no further notice of the proceedings in this docket. However, all documents filed in this docket are available online (usually within 24 hours after docketing) using the Commission's e-Docket function, which is located in the lower right hand corner of the Commission's website homepage, www.azcc.gov. RSS feeds are also available using the Commission's e-Docket function.

About Intervention

The law provides for an open public hearing at which, under appropriate circumstances, interested parties may intervene. Any person or entity entitled by law to intervene and having a direct and substantial interest in the matter will be permitted to intervene.

If you wish to intervene, you must file an original and 13 copies of a written motion to intervene with the Commission no later than **January 8, 2010**, and send a copy of the motion to Arizona-American or its counsel and to all parties of record. Your motion to intervene must contain the following:

- 1. Your name, address, and telephone number, and the name, address, and telephone number of any party upon whom service of documents is to be made, if not yourself;
- 2. A short statement of your interest in the proceeding (e.g., a customer of Arizona-American, a shareholder of Arizona-American, etc.); and
- 3. A statement certifying that you have mailed a copy of the motion to intervene to Arizona-American or its counsel and to all parties of record in the case.

The granting of motions to intervene shall be governed by A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that all motions to intervene must be filed on or before January 8, 2010. If representation by counsel is required by Rule 31 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court, intervention will be conditioned upon the intervenor obtaining counsel to represent the intervenor. For information about requesting intervention, go to http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/forms/interven.pdf. The granting of intervention, among other things, entitles a party to present sworn evidence at hearing and to cross-examine other witnesses. However, failure to intervene will not preclude any interested person or entity from appearing at the hearing and providing public comment on the application or from filing written comments in the record of the case.

ADA/Equal Access Information

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Shaylin Bernal, E-mail SABernal@azcc.gov, voice phone number 602/542-3931. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Arizona-American shall mail to each of its customers in each affected District a copy of the above notice that includes the appropriate paragraph(s) regarding the effect of Arizona-American's proposed rate increase for the District(s), as a bill insert beginning with the first billing cycle in **November**, 2009, and shall cause a copy of such notice to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the service territory of each of the affected Districts, with publication to be completed no later than **November 13**, 2009.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Arizona-American shall file certification of mailing/publication as soon as practicable after the mailing/publication has been completed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice shall be deemed complete upon mailing/publication of same, notwithstanding the failure of an individual customer to read or receive the notice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties must comply with Rules 31 and 38 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court and A.R.S. § 40-243 with respect to the practice of law and admission *pro hac vice*.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that withdrawal of representation must be made in compliance with A.A.C. R14-3-104(E) and Rule 1.16 of the Rules of Professional Conduct (under Rule 42 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court). Representation before the Commission includes appearances at all hearings and procedural conferences, as well as all Open Meetings for which the matter is scheduled for discussion, unless counsel has previously been granted permission to withdraw by the Administrative Law Judge or the Commission.

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the time periods specified herein shall not be extended pursuant to Rule 6(a) or (e) of the Rules of Civil Procedure.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Law Judge may rescind, alter, amend. 2 or waive any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at 3 hearing. DATED this ______day of September, 2009. 4 5 6 TEENA WOLFE 7 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE 8 Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered This day of September, 2009 to: 10 Thomas H. Campbell 11 Michael T. Hallam LEWIS AND ROCA LLP 12 40 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004 13 Attorneys for Arizona-American Water Co. 14 Daniel Pozefsky **RUCO** 15 1110 W. Washington St., Suite 220 Phoenix, AZ 85007 16 Janice Alward, Chief Counsel 17 Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 18 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 19 Steve Olea, Director 20 Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 21 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 22 ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC. 23 2200 North Central Avenue, Suite 502 Phoenix, AZ 85004 24 25 By: Debbi Person 26 Assistant to Teena Wolfe 27

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