## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
Mohawk Utilities, Inc. for Approval of a	)	Case No. 09-680-WW-PWA
Purchased Water Adjustment to its	)	
Rates Pursuant to Section 4909.171,	)	
Revised Code	)	

## FINDING AND ORDER

## The Commission finds:

- (1) The Applicant, Mohawk Utilities, Inc. (Mohawk), is a public utility and a waterworks company as defined in Sections 4905.02 and 4905.03(A)(8), Revised Code, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- (2) Section 4909.171, Revised Code, permits a waterworks company whose water supply is provided by a local government to request an increase or decrease in rates to reflect changes in the cost of water imposed by a local government without proceeding under Sections 4909.18 and 4909.19, Revised Code. The change in rate or charge must be based solely on a change in the cost to the company of the water. The statute requires that the request for a rate change be accompanied by evidence of the new rates imposed by the local government and appropriate tariff revisions, without change to the existing division of revenue responsibility.
- (3) On August 4, 2009, Mohawk filed an application pursuant to Section 4909.171, Revised Code. This filing included a copy of Ordinance No. 2008-10 of the Village of Malvern, passed June 2, 2008, and effective immediately, authorizing the sale of surplus water to Mohawk, a revised tariff incorporating a purchased water rate reflecting the current cost of water to Mohawk, and a proposed customer notice.
- (4) The Commission has reviewed the tariff and finds that the Applicant's proposed tariff is reasonable and that the purchased water rate component contained therein would not generate revenues in excess of the cost of water purchased from the Village

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of Malvern pursuant to Ordinance No. 2008-10. The Applicant's tariff should be approved.

- (5) The Commission has reviewed the proposed customer notice and finds it reasonable. Applicant's proposed customer notice should be approved.
- (6) By accepting this tariff for filing, the Commission is in no way foreclosed from investigating the justness and reasonableness of the Applicant's rates in a future proceeding.
- (7) Given the installation of residential water meters within Mohawk's system, the Staff analyzed the possibility of the purchased water surcharge being based on metered usage. To bill purchased water on metered usage, Mohawk would have to find the percentage of water used each month by each customer and then apply that percentage to the amount of water purchased and then apply that figure to the purchased water rate. Staff concluded that the cost to change the computer billing program does not warrant this change.
- (8) An increase authorized pursuant to Section 4909.171, Revised Code, is not effective until forty-five days after the date the company has provided affected customers with notification of the increase.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Applicant is authorized to file, in final form, four complete, printed copies of tariff sheets consistent with this Finding and Order. Applicant shall file one copy in its TRF docket number 89-7022-WW-TRF (or may make such filing electronically as directed in Case No. 06-900-AU-WVR), and one copy in this case docket. The remaining two copies shall be designated for distribution to the Rates and Tariffs, Energy and Water Division of the Commission's Utilities Department. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariff shall be the date upon which four complete, printed copies of the approved tariff are filed with the Commission or forty-five days after the special mailing of the customer notice, whichever is later. The new tariff shall be applicable to bills rendered on or after the effective date. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the purchased water surcharge be billed on a residential customer count basis. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the proposed form of customer notice be approved. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Applicant immediately commence mailing of the customer notice to its residential customers by special mailing. The Applicant shall notify the Commission in writing upon completion of the mailing. It is, further,

ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be deemed to be binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC LITILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

Paul A. Centolella

Valerie A. Lemmie

Ronda Hartman Fergus

Chervl L. Roberto

VSD:sm

Entered in the Journal

AUG 26 2009

Reneé J. Jenkins

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