# BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)	
OF TROY HOFFMAN WATER	) (	CASE NO. TRH-W-13-01
CORPORATION FOR AUTHORITY TO	)	
INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR	) ]	NOTICE OF
WATER SERVICE IN THE STATE OF	) ]	MODIFIED PROCEDURE
IDAHO	)	
	) ]	NOTICE OF
;	<b>)</b> ]	PUBLIC WORKSHOP
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	) (	ORDER NO. 32881
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On July 5, 2013, Troy Hoffman Water Corporation applied to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission for authority to increase its rates and charges for water service. On July 26, 2013, the Company filed corrected Application pages that reduce the amount of the proposed increase from 72% to 34%. The Company asks that the Commission process its Application by Modified Procedure, and that the new rates take effect on January 1, 2014. On July 31, 2013, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and indicated that it would set comment deadlines, a public workshop, and a customer hearing at a later date. *See* Order No. 32863.

With this Order, the Commission solicits written comments from interested persons and schedules an October 1, 2013 public workshop in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

## **BACKGROUND**

Troy Hoffman Water Corporation provides water service to 146 residential customers and 1 commercial customer in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. With this Application, the Company has applied for a 34% increase in water rates as follows:

	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
Residential	\$11.80 per month plus \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons for all consumption exceeding 5,000 gallons per month	\$15.76 per month plus \$1.47 per 1,000 gallons for all consumption exceeding 5,000 gallons per month
Commercial	\$15.50 per month plus \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons for all consumption exceeding 5,000 gallons per month	\$20.70 per month plus \$1.47 per 1,000 gallons for all consumption exceeding 5,000 gallons per month

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The Company notes that it did not seek a rate increase between 1996 and 2011 even though its operating expenses increased during that period. The Company then increased its rates in January 2011. See Order No. 32152. The Company says the January 2011 increase partially bridged the gap between its operating expense and income, but the Company needs another increase because operating expenses continue to exceed income. See Application.

The Application and supporting workpapers, testimonies and exhibits have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Application and testimonies are also available on the Commission's web site at <a href="www.puc.idaho.gov">www.puc.idaho.gov</a>. Click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Open Water Cases" and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

#### NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that anyone desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission. Commission Staff and any party to the case must file its comment by November 14, 2013. If the Company wishes to file reply comments, it must do so by November 25, 2013. Customers and other interested members of the public who are not parties to the case may file a comment through the date of the customer hearing. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Applicant at the addresses reflected below:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Commission will hold the customer hearing during the week of December 9, 2013. The Commission will issue a Notice of Public Hearing that specifies the hearing's precise date, time, and location.

Commission Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074 Ron Stadley, President
Troy Hoffman Water Corporation
710 W. Dalton Avenue, Suite J
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815
E-mail: ron@allservron.com

Street Address for Express Mail:

472 W. Washington Street Boise, ID 83702-5918

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at <a href="www.puc.idaho.gov">www.puc.idaho.gov</a>. Click the "Utility Case Comment or Question Form" under the "Consumers" tab, and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to the Company at the e-mail address listed above.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically *Idaho Code* § 61-502 and 61-622. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq*.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission Staff will hold a public workshop for Idaho Power customers on <u>TUESDAY</u>, OCTOBER 1, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M. IN <u>THE EDMINSTER STUDENT UNION BUILIDING AT NORTH IDAHO COLLEGE</u>, 1000 W. GARDEN AVENUE, COEUR D' ALENE, IDAHO. At this meeting customers will have an opportunity to hear from Commission Staff regarding the Company's Application in the above-referenced cases and ask questions of Staff and representatives of the Company.

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all workshops and hearings in these matters will be held in facilities meeting the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance in order to participate in or to understand testimony and argument at a public hearing may ask the Commission to provide a sign language interpreter or other assistance at the hearing. The request for assistance must be received at least five (5) working days before the hearing by contacting the Commission Secretary at:

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION PO BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074
(208) 334-0338 (Telephone)
(208) 334-3762 (FAX)

E-Mail: secretary@puc.idaho.gov

### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed by Modified Procedure. Staff and parties to the case must file comments, if any, by **November 14, 2013**; customers and other interested persons shall have until the date of the (to be scheduled) customer hearing to file comments. The Company must file reply comments, if any, by **November 25, 2013**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Commission Staff will hold a public workshop on **October 1, 2013**, at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene as specified above.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 20<sup>+1</sup> day of August 2013.

PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER

MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Commission Secretary

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