HOLLAND & HART LLP David J. Crapo #5055 John T. Deeds #13513 222 S. Main St., Suite 2200 Salt Lake City, UT 84101 Telephone: 801-799-5800

Telephone: 801-799-5800 djcrapo@hollandhart.com jtdeeds@hollandhart.com

Attorneys for South Duchesne Culinary Water Inc.

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Formal Complaint of Shane Houskeeper against South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc. DOCKET NO. 17-2372-02

SOUTH DUCHESNE CULINARY WATER'S RESPONSE TO FORMAL COMPLAINT OF SHANE HOUSKEEPER

By and through its attorneys of record, South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc. ("SDCW"), hereby replies to the allegations raised by Mr. Houskeeper in his Formal Complaint.

#### **RESPONSE**

Mr. Houskeeper makes a number allegations in his complaint with which SDCW is without information to substantiate and therefore SDCW denies such allegations. It is SDCW's understanding that no proper request has ever been made to SDCW's business office to disconnect the water to Mr. Houskeeper's property and that water has never been disconnected at the meter by SDCW for such property.

SDCW's rates are matter of public record as stated in its tariff which is posted on the Division of Public Utilities' website (included hereto as Attachment A). According to such tariff, "where water service has been disconnected by the Company at the request of the

DOCKET NO. 17-2372-02

customer" then a standby service charge of \$15 per month applies. To the extent that Mr.

Houskeeper is able to show a proper request to disconnect water to his property, then SDCW will disconnect the water and adjust Mr. Houskeeper's account consistent with the rate schedule

Dated this 27th day of September, 2017.

posted on SDCW's tariff.

**HOLLAND & HART LLP** 

/s/ John T. Deeds

David J. Crapo

John T. Deeds

Attorneys for South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 27th day of September 2017, a true and correct copy of the foregoing SOUTH DUCHESNE CULINARY WATER'S RESPONSE TO FORMAL COMPLAINT OF SHANE HOUSKEEPER was served in the manner and upon the recipients named below:

U.S. Mail, postage prepaid Hand Delivery Via Electronic Court Filing E-Mail	Shane Houskeeper Shaneh708@hotmail.com 10770 South Escalante Drive Duchesne, Utah 84021
U.S. Mail, postage prepaid Hand Delivery Via Electronic Court Filing E-Mail	Patricia Schmid pschmid@agutah.gov Justin Jetter jjetter@agutah.gov Asst. Utah Attorneys General
U.S. Mail, postage prepaid Hand Delivery Via Electronic Court Filing E-Mail	Erika Tedder etedder@utah.gov Division of Public Utilities
U.S. Mail, postage prepaid Hand Delivery Via Electronic Court Filing E-Mail	Office of Consumer Services 160 East 300 South, 2nd Floor Salt Lake City, UT 84114

/s/ Trudi Rouse, Secretary

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# ATTACHMENT A

South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc. Duchesne, Utah

Original Sheet No. 1 P.S.C. Utah No. 1

SOUTH DUCHESNE CULINARY WATER, INC.

### RATE SCHEDULES AND RULES AND REGULATIONS

TARIFF NO. 1

Issued on one day notice to the Commission and to the public by authority of the Public Service Commission of Utah's Order in Case No. 01-2372-01

# South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc. Duchesne, Utah

Original Sheet No. 2 P.S.C. Utah No. 1

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Issued: August 14, 2003

Effective: August 15, 2003

Original Sheet No. 3 P.S.C. Utah No. 1

#### WATER SERVICE RATE SCHEDULE

#### **Applicability**

Applicable in entire service area to water service for culinary purpose at one point of delivery.

Rates as herein set forth shall apply to each consumer unit. A consumer unit is defined as a single dwelling or any store, service station, café, factory, shop, processing plant, or other establishment or concern that might apply for culinary water service for domestic purposes.

The following rate is for a period of one month:

Usage	Charges
First 10,000 gallons	\$40.00 minimum charge for each service connection
All other usage	\$ 2.00 per 1,000 gallons

Premises temporarily without a meter will be charged the minimum rate.

#### Service Connection Charges

3/4" service to Property Line
One-time charge for each service
requiring new meter installation \$3,500.00

Turn-on service where meter is already in place

\$ 100.00

## Standby Service Charge

Standby Service Charge\*

\$ 15.00 per month

<sup>\*</sup>Applies to lots where service mains are in place and where water service is available, but no water service has been connected and no water service is used; or where water service has been disconnected by the Company at the request of the customer; or involuntarily by the Company after proper notice to the customer.

South Duchesne Culinary Water, Inc. Duchesne, Utah

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. <u>Water Use per Customer:</u> Each user will be entitled to use up to 10,000 gallons of culinary water per month for a minimum monthly rate of \$40.00. Any usage over 10,000 gallons will be charged at \$2.00 per thousand gallons. The maximum monthly water usage per hook-up is 12,000 gallons of culinary water and restricts the use of this water for irrigation purposes.
- 2. <u>Connections:</u> No unauthorized person shall tap any water main or distribution pipe of the Company or insert therein any corporation cock, stop cock or any other fixture or appliance or alter or disturb any service pipe, corporation stop, curb stop, gate valve, hydrant, water meter or any other attachment, being part of the waterworks system and attached thereto. No person shall install any water service pipe or connect or disconnect any such service pipe with or from the mains or distribution pipes of said waterworks system, nor with or from any other service pipe now or hereafter connected with said system, nor make any repairs, additions to, or alterations of any such service pipe, tap, stop cock, or any other fixture or attachments connected with any such service pipe, without first obtaining a permit from the Company.
- 3. <u>Application for Permit:</u> Before any service connection shall be made to any part of the waterworks system, or any work performed upon old or new connections, a permit shall be obtained from the Company. Such permit shall be issued upon written application on forms obtainable from the Company. Applicants for water service shall furnish, lay and install at their own expense, all that portion of the service not provided the Company, subject however, to the supervision and inspection of the Company.
- 4. <u>Metering of Service:</u> All water delivered by the Company to its customers shall be metered through water meters. Meters may be checked, inspected, or adjusted at the discretion of the Company, and shall not be opened or adjusted except by authorized representatives of the Company. Only authorized representatives of the Company shall open meter boxes to turn on or off water except in case of emergency or when special permission is given by the Company.
- 5. <u>Meter Adjustments:</u> If the meter fails to register at any time, the water delivered during such a period shall be billed at the minimum rate. In the event a meter is found to be recording at less than 97 percent or more than 103 percent of actual, the Company may make such adjustments to the customer's previous bill as are just and fair under the circumstances.
- 6. <u>Service Connections:</u> Any person desiring to obtain a supply of water from the Company shall make application in writing. The service connection charges shown in this tariff include a meter, meter box, a cover, and a valved service line to the property line. The meter and meter box will be located as directed by the Company.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS (cont'd.)

All materials furnished by the Company shall remain its sole and exclusive property. Excavation and installation shall be made by the Company from the main line connection in the road to 3 feet beyond the meter.

- 7. <u>Service Line:</u> All service line materials and installation shall be provided by the applicant. Installation shall be inspected and approved by the Company before the service line trench is backfilled. A shut-off valve shall be provided by the applicant on each service line, in an accessible location separate from the water meter box.
- 8. <u>Water Use Restriction:</u> The owner or occupant of any building on premises entitled to the use of water from the Company shall not supply water to any other building or premise without written permission of the Company.
- 9. <u>Service Turn-on and Turn-off:</u> Only authorized representatives of the Company shall turn on or off water at the meter box except in case of an emergency or when special permission is granted by the Company. Service may be turned off by the Company when so requested by the applicant or when the applicant fails to abide by these regulations. Whenever the water is turned off at any premises, it shall not be turned on again until the customer pays all delinquent balances owing, late charges, and reconnection charges as shown in the rate schedule.
- 10. <u>Disruption Liability:</u> The Company shall use reasonable diligence to provide continuous water service to its customers, and shall make a reasonable effort to furnish them with clean, pure supply of water, but the Company shall not be held liable for damages to any water user by reason of any stoppage or interruption of his water supply caused by scarcity of water, accidents to works, water main alterations, additions or repairs, acts of God or other unavoidable causes.
- 11. <u>Damage to Facilities:</u> Costs of any damage resulting from the failure of the owner, agent or tenant to properly protect the water meter or other facilities of the Company installed upon premises supplied with water, shall be assessed against such owner, agent or tenant. Water consumers shall not tamper with or remove the meter, or interfere with the reading thereof.
- 12. <u>Reading of Meters:</u> All meters shall be read by the Company monthly and charges shall be based upon meter readings except as provided for in paragraph 4 above.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS (cont'd.)

- 13. <u>Billings and Payments:</u> Bills covering the charges will be rendered monthly and shall be due twenty (20) days after being rendered. After thirty (30) days a late charge of 1.5% of the past due balance will be assessed. Late charges will be assessed at 18% per annum on all past due amounts until the account is brought current. If any customer neglects or refuses to pay a water service bill or any other obligation due to the Company within thirty (30) days from the date of said bill, the Company's employees shall have the right to go upon the premises and do such work as may be necessary to disconnect the water service. Before the service is renewed the delinquent bill or bills shall be paid in full, or payment arrangements satisfactory to the Company shall be made, and the established tariff charge for reconnection shall be paid.
- 14. <u>Discontinuance of Service:</u> Any customer wishing to discontinue service shall notify the Company so that the meter can be read for a final billing. Such final bill shall be due and payable upon receipt.
- 15. Regulated Usage: Whenever the Company shall determine that the amount of water available to its distribution system has diminished to such a volume that, unless restricted, the public health, safety and general welfare is likely to be endangered, it may prescribe rules and regulations to conserve the water supply during such emergency. Such rules and regulations may include, but shall not be limited to, the restriction to certain hours (or total prohibition) of the use of water for outdoor watering.
- 16. <u>Changes and Amendments:</u> The right is reserved to amend or add to these Rules and Regulations as experience may show it to be necessary and as such amendments or additions are approved by the Public Service Commission of Utah.
- 17. <u>Credit Deposit:</u> The Company may at its option, and in lieu of established credit, require a deposit from the customer to assure payment of bills; such deposits shall be a minimum of 60 days' estimated bill or \$100.00. This deposit may be refunded when credit has been established. Deposits held over 4 months shall earn interest from the Company at the rate of 3% per annum, beginning with the first day of deposit. Interest will be credited to the customer's account.

#### **FACILITY EXTENSION POLICY**

- 1. <u>Definition:</u> An extension is any continuation of or branch from, the nearest available existing line of the Company, including any increase of capacity of an existing line to meet the Customers' requirements.
- 2. <u>Costs:</u> The total cost of extensions including engineering, labor, and materials shall be paid by the applicants. If because of the extension and the additional water customers, additional water rights, pumps, storage, or other water plant must be acquired, the Company may require the applicants to pay these costs. Where more than one customer is involved in an extension the costs shall be pro-rated on the basis of the street frontage distances involved or upon such other basis as may be mutually agreed by the applicants. Sufficient valves and fire hydrants must be included with every installation.
- 3. <u>Construction Standards.</u> Minimum standards of the Company shall be met, which standards shall also comply with the standards of the Utah State Division of Drinking Water. Pipe sizes shall never be smaller than 4" (four inches) in diameter. The pipeline shall be installed only along dedicated streets and highways.
- 4. <u>Water Storage and Supply:</u> Except as provided for in paragraph 2 herein above, all costs for providing increased water supply and storage shall be paid by the Company. This cost shall include the installation and operation of pumps as required for proper pressure regulation of the system.
- 5. <u>Ownership:</u> Completed facilities and water rights shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the Company, including and through meters as detailed in the Tariff Rules and Regulations.
- 6. <u>Temporary Service</u>: The Customer will pay the total cost for the installation and removal of any extension for service to a venture of a temporary or speculative nature. Such costs will be estimated and paid before work is begun on the extension.

