

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6324

Tariff filing of Forrestbrook Water Corporation)
requesting an increase in its rates in the amount)
of 142%, to take effect January 1, 2000)

Order entered: 3/2/2000

PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

BACKGROUND

I convened a prehearing conference in this matter on February 16, 2000, at the Brandon Fire Station conference room in Brandon, Vermont. Forrestbrook Water Corporation ("Forrestbrook" or "Company") was represented by William Brooks, President of the Company. Susan Martin represented the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department").¹ Several customers of the Company also attended the prehearing conference.

This memorandum summarizes procedural issues discussed at the prehearing conference, and establishes a schedule for this investigation.

SCHEDULING

A schedule for resolution of this investigation was discussed at the prehearing conference, with the Company and Department in general agreement on a schedule that would follow one of two tracks, depending on whether other persons seek to intervene and whether the Department and Company can settle issues relating to the rate increase petition. Under either track, a public hearing will be held on March 22, 2000. Requests to intervene shall be filed by March 10, 2000;² responses to requests to intervene are due by March 17, 2000.

the same location. Under this schedule, a Proposal for Decision (upon which the parties could comment) or a Final Order (establishing a new rate level) should issue by May 1, 2000.

Alternatively, if any requests to intervene are filed or if the parties are unable to reach a settlement, the technical hearing will be postponed, and a schedule will be established by further procedural order that includes rolling discovery, prefiled testimony, a technical hearing in late April, briefs two weeks thereafter, and a Proposal for Decision or Board order by early June. Specific dates for these milestones will be established by a further procedural order, if necessary.

The Department and Company are requested to inform the Clerk of the Board, separately or jointly, by March 13, 2000, whether a request for postponement is likely.

SO ORDERED.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 2nd day of March, 2000.

s/Lawrence F. Lackey
Lawrence F. Lackey
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: March 2, 2000

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board