

ITEM NO. CA23

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: December 23, 2008**

REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ CONSENT  X  EFFECTIVE DATE  January 1, 2009

**DATE:** December 8, 2008

**TO:** Public Utility Commission

**FROM:** Renee Sloan

**THROUGH:** Lee Sparling, Marc Hellman, and Michael Dougherty

**SUBJECT:** OLD SHEEP RANCH WATER ASSOCIATION: (Advice No. 08-41)  
Revises Rule 22, Billing Information/Late Payment Charge.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Pursuant to ORS 757.220, Staff recommends the Commission approve the proposed revisions to Old Sheep Ranch Water Association's (OSRWA) Rule 22.

**DISCUSSION:**

On October 27, 2008, the Commission issued Order No. 08-514 in docket UW 129 approving rates for OSRWA to become effective November 1, 2008. Subsequently, on October 29, 2008, the Commission issued Order No. 08-521 granting OSRWA's motion to make the new rates effective January 1, 2009.

Under OSRWA's current billing practice, 18 out of 33 members pay the base rate annually rather than monthly.<sup>1</sup> Because the current base rate includes 15,000 gallons of water, many customers never pay usage charges.

Under the rate design approved by the Commission in UW 129, customers will pay for all water used; therefore, those paying the base rate annually would still owe for any water used during the year.

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<sup>1</sup> At present, only 23 of OSRWA's members reside at Old Sheep Ranch year round.

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On November 12, 2008, OSRWA filed Advice No. 08-41 proposing to add language to Rule 22 to clarify that those customers who pay the base rate annually would be billed for their usage in an annual true-up billing at the end of the year.

Because the customers may choose to pay the usage charge on a monthly or annual basis, the proposed tariff is not expected to harm any customers. Staff recommends the Commission approve the proposed revisions to OSRWA's Rule 22.

**PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Pursuant to ORS 757.220, the proposed revisions to Old Sheep Ranch Water Association's Rule 22 be approved with an effective date of January 1, 2009.