

March 16, 2020

Suncadia WUTC Advice No. 20-1

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Mark L. Johnson, Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

Re: Rule 11 – Bills/Late Payment Charge

Suncadia Water Company, LLC (Suncadia or Company), files herewith the following revisions to its Washington Tariff.

For the reasons below, Suncadia respectfully requests that the Commission approve this tariff change to become effective on March 27, 2020, with less than statutory notice (LSN). The information required by WAC 480-80-122(1) is included below. In accordance with WAC 480-80-122(2), the proposed tariff sheet attached herein is stated to become effective with service on and after April 15, 2020.

First Revision of Sheet No. 6	Water Service Rules and Regulations	Rule 11 – Bills / Late Payment Charge
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Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to provide minor modifications to the tariff sheet listed above that would allow the Company discretion in charging Late Payment Charges. The Company seeks this flexibility in order to be immediately responsive to the rapidly changing economic conditions facing customers in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and respectfully requests an effective date of March 27, 2020, with less than statutory notice.

Background

The Company is actively monitoring and evaluating the latest news and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In anticipation of potential impacts to our customers that may be affected by COVID-19, the Company wants to maintain flexibility by not requiring the charging of Late Payment Charges.

Proposed Changes

The Company proposes to make a minor change to Rule 11 to indicate that Late Payment Charges **may** be assessed but the Company is not required to assess them as circumstances may warrant.

LSN Information Required by WAC 480-80-122

a) Utility Information:

Suncadia Water Company LLC
531 Rope Rider Drive
Cle Elum, Washington 98922

Darian Osiadacz
Telephone: 509-649-6370 Fax: 509-649-6251
Email: dosiadacz@suncadia.com

b) Tariff Identification Information:

Water Service Rules and Regulations – Rule 11 Bills/Late Payment Charge
Sheet No. 6

c) Concise description of the changes proposed:

The Company proposes a minor change that would allow the Company to not charge Late Payment Charges by changing operative language in the tariff from “shall” to “may.”

d) Reason for requesting LSN handling:

The Company seeks to be immediately responsive to the rapidly changing economic conditions facing customers in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

e) Effective Date Requested:

March 27, 2020

f) Tariff Authority:

In accordance with WAC 480-80-122(1)(f) see signature on tariff sheet.

Conclusion

The Company respectfully requests that the Commission approve this tariff change to become effective on March 27, 2020, with less than statutory notice

Copies of this letter and the attached filing are available in the Company’s main office in Cle Elum, Washington, and on the website at www.nwnaturalwater.com.

As requested by WAC 480-80-103(4)(a), I certify that I have authority to issue tariff revisions on behalf of Suncadia.

Please address correspondence on this matter to me with copies to the following:

eFiling
NW Natural Rates & Regulatory Affairs
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Fax: (503) 220-2579
Telephone: (503) 610-7330
eFiling@nwnatural.com

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Natasha Siores

Natasha Siores
Manager, Regulatory Compliance
NW Natural
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
503-610-7074
natasha.siores@nwnatural.com

Attachment:
NEW-Suncadia-WUTC-Advice-20-1-Trf-Rule-11-03-16-2020

**WATER SERVICE
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

billing cycles as a result of conditions for which the customer was responsible, and the utility employee or agent is dispatched to access the meter and continues to not have access to the meter.

During the winter months when snow and ice prevent access to the meter boxes, the lack of access shall not be considered the responsibility of the customer. For the purposes of this tariff, the "winter no-read period" is defined as the months during which meters cannot be read due to snow and ice. During the winter no-read period, the utility will bill the customer only the applicable monthly charges. Consumption charges will continue to accrue during the winter no-read period, but they will not be payable until they can be measured. Following a winter no-read period, the consumption charge for that period will be calculated using the rates shown in **Schedule 2**, and the customer will have the option of paying that consumption charge in equal payments over the same number of months as the winter no-read period.

Rule 10 - Interruption to Service

The utility will make a diligent effort to render uninterrupted service and supply of water. In cases where shut-off is necessary for repair, reconstruction, damage prevention or similar cause, the utility will give advance notice to its customers of such scheduled shut-off. However, the utility will not be responsible for any damage that may result from any cessation of services such as above outlined, nor for failure to give notice of shut-off when circumstances are such that it is impossible to give notice.

Rule 11 – Bills / Late Payment Charge

All bills for active services shall be paid monthly in arrears. Bills will be deemed received upon personal delivery to customer or three (3) days following the deposit of the bill in the United States mail to the customer's last known address. Where the meter has not been read due to conditions unique to a particular property, a minimum bill will be rendered and adjusted when the next succeeding meter reading is available. Estimating shall not be done for more than two consecutive months.

Ready-To-Serve bills will be sent out quarterly (every three months) and shall be paid in arrears. Bills will be deemed received upon personal delivery to customer or three (3) days following the deposit of the bill in the United States mail to the customer's last known address.

Bills are due and payable upon receipt. Bills are considered delinquent if unpaid twenty (20) days after the bill mailing date. A Late Payment Charge, as specified in **Schedule X**, may be added to each account for each month the bill is delinquent. The late payment charge will not be applied to any disputed amount unless such amount remains unpaid for twenty (20) days

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Issued: **March 16, 2020**
Issued by: **Suncadia Water Company, LLC.**
By: **Tim Smith**

Effective: **April 15, 2020**
Title: **General Manager**