

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 24-0969-TF

Tariff filing of Woodstock Aqueduct Company for a change in rates, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 225, effective for service rendered on or after May 16, 2024	
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Order entered: 06/26/2025

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO WITHDRAW TARIFF FILING AND CLOSING CASE

I. INTRODUCTION

This case concerns a tariff filing made by Woodstock Aqueduct Company (“Woodstock Aqueduct”) with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) requesting a 109.82% increase in Woodstock Aqueduct’s overall revenue.

In today’s order, the Commission grants the motion to withdraw the tariff pursuant to Commission Rule 2.220(B) and closes this case.

II. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On April 2, 2024, Woodstock Aqueduct filed revised tariffs and rate schedules reflecting a proposed 109.82% increase effective with service rendered on or after May 16, 2024. The tariff filing was accompanied by the testimony and exhibits of Jireh Billings.

On May 14, 2024, the Commission issued an order opening an investigation into the tariff filing, suspended the proposed tariff revisions until completion of the investigation, and appointed a hearing officer to conduct proceedings.

On July 9, 2024, the hearing officer granted the motion to intervene filed by the Village of Woodstock and Town of Woodstock (the “Town”).

On August 7, 2024, the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) filed the testimony and exhibits of Sean Foley and Carol Flint. The Department recommended that Woodstock Aqueducts proposed rate increase be reduced to 41.5%.

On September 4, 2024, Woodstock Aqueduct filed the rebuttal testimony of Jireh Billings.

On October 2, 2024, the Department filed the surrebuttal testimony of Sean Foley.

On October 8, 2024, the hearing officer conducted an evidentiary hearing.

On November 12, 2024, the Department filed the supplemental testimony of Sean Foley.

On November 22, 2024, Woodstock Aqueduct filed the supplemental testimony of Jireh Billings.

On January 3, 2025, the hearing officer granted a motion to stay this proceeding until March 31, 2025, to allow Woodstock Aqueduct and the Town to focus on finalizing an asset purchase agreement under which the Town would acquire Woodstock Aqueduct's water utility assets.¹

On March 18, 2025, in Case No. 25-0514-PET, Woodstock Aqueduct filed a petition requesting the Commission's consent to sell its water utility assets to the Town.

On April 3, 2025, the hearing officer issued an order extending the stay in this proceeding until May 15, 2025.²

On April 23, 2025, the Commission issued an order in Case No. 25-0514-PET approving Woodstock Aqueduct's petition to sell its water utility assets to the Town.³

On May 8, 2025, Woodstock Aqueduct filed a stipulated motion to withdraw its tariff filing in this case pursuant to Commission Rule 2.220.

On May 20, 2025, the Commission issued an order in Case No. 25-0514-PET revoking Woodstock Aqueduct's certificate of public good and relieving Woodstock Aqueduct of its service obligations.⁴

III. LEGAL STANDARD

A petition, application, or registration filed with the Commission may be withdrawn without order of the Commission by: (1) a petitioner filing a notice of dismissal before any adverse party has filed substantive comments; or (2) the filing of a stipulation of dismissal signed

¹ Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 227(a), if the Commission suspends a rate change, the Commission must make its determination within seven months from the date that it orders the investigation unless the company consents to waive the seven-month requirement. Woodstock Aqueduct agreed to waive the deadline to April 30, 2025.

² Woodstock Aqueduct agreed to further waive the statutory deadline for a Commission decision in this case pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 227(a) from April 30, 2025, to May 15, 2025.

³ See *Petition of Woodstock Aqueduct Company, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 109 for Commission approval to sell water utility assets to the Town of Woodstock*, Case No. 25-0514-PET, Order of 4/23/25.

⁴ *Id.*, Order of 5/20/25.

by all parties who have appeared in the action. In all other cases, no action will be dismissed except by order of the Commission on such terms and conditions as the Commission deems proper. Finally, unless otherwise specified in a voluntary notice of dismissal, a stipulation, or a Commission order, a dismissal under Commission Rule 2.220 is without prejudice.


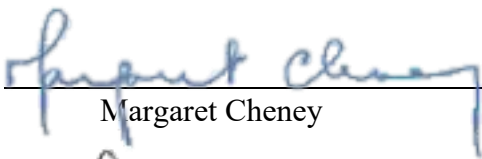
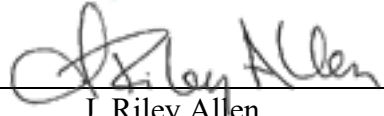
IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In its motion to withdraw the tariff filing, Woodstock Aqueduct states that it filed written confirmation of the closing of the sale of its water utility assets to the Town with the Commission in Case No. 25-0514-PET. Woodstock Aqueduct states that as a municipality, the Town is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission with respect to the sale and distribution of water. Woodstock Aqueduct states that the rate increase request in this case is no longer necessary as the water system is now owned and operated by the Town. The Department and the Town and Village of Woodstock have stipulated to the withdrawal of the tariff filing.

Woodstock Aqueduct has filed a stipulated agreement of all parties in this case for withdrawal of its tariff filing. Accordingly, Woodstock Aqueduct has met the requirements of Commission Rule 2.220 for voluntary withdrawal of its tariff filing without order of the Commission. Additionally, the Commission issued an order relieving Woodstock Aqueduct of its service obligations and revoking its certificate of public good. Given that Woodstock Aqueduct has met the requirements of Commission Rule 2.220 and is no longer subject to the Commission's jurisdiction, the motion to withdraw the tariff filing is granted and this case is closed.

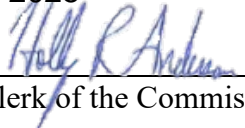
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26th day of June, 2025.

 _____)) PUBLIC UTILITY)) COMMISSION) OF VERMONT
Edward McNamara)	
_____)	
 _____)) COMMISSION) OF VERMONT
Margaret Cheney)	
_____)	
 _____)) OF VERMONT
J. Riley Allen)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 26, 2025

Attest: 

Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 30 days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further order by this Commission or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 28 days of the date of this decision and Order.