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Commission approves sale of east Idaho water company to Oregon-based corporation

BOISE (July 13, 2018) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved the sale of Falls Water Company to NW Natural Water Company, LLC.

Falls Water serves approximately 5,500 customers in Bonneville County.

NW Natural Water is a subsidiary of Northwest Natural Gas Company, an Oregon-based corporation that provides natural gas service to more than 730,000 customers in western Oregon and Washington.

The move will not cause a change to customer rates, Falls Water's corporate structure, employees, customer base or service area. The Commission will continue to regulate the utility under new ownership.

In the application requesting Commission approval of the sale, filed in late February, NW Natural said that Falls Water's owner would remain as the president and manager of the company during a transitional period of at least one year.

In approving the sale, the Commission said it found that it is consistent with the public interest.

"NW Natural Water has demonstrated it can operate the system, and has taken steps to maintain or improve operations through and beyond the transitional period," the Commission said. "We expect that NW Natural will continue to employ persons with sufficient expertise to safely and reliably operate the system."

The Commission's order and other documents filed in the case are available here. Or go to the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Under the "Water" heading, click on "Open Cases" and scroll down to case number FLS-W-18-01.