

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF VP INC.’S</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. VPI-W-24-01</b>
<b>APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF</b>	)	
<b>PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY</b>	)	<b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION</b>
<b>AND TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND</b>	)	
<b>CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE IN THE</b>	)	<b>NOTICE OF INTERVENTION</b>
<b>STATE OF IDAHO</b>	)	<b>DEADLINE</b>
	)	
	)	<b>ORDER NO. 36117</b>
	)	

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On January 11, 2024, VP Inc. (“Company”) applied for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) to provide water service near Sandpoint, Idaho.<sup>1</sup> On February 20, 2024, the Company amended its Application to also include a request to increase its rates and charges for water service (“Application”).<sup>2</sup>

With this Order, the Commission provides notice of the Company’s Application and sets a deadline for interested parties to intervene.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company serves 74 residential customers near Sandpoint in Bonner County, Idaho. It currently operates as an unregulated water corporation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company currently charges customers \$35, \$40, or \$45 a month for service depending upon when the customer’s initial connection date. The Company proposes a rate increase for all its customers to \$55 a month.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company asserts the increase is necessary to cover ongoing expenses for routine operation and allow a 12 percent rate of return.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company filed with the Application a copy of the customer notice it plans to mail to customers. It also included a legal description and map of its service area and information about its water rights.

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission directed the Company to file the Application after finding it was a water corporation subject to regulation as a public utility in Case No. GNR-W-17-01.

<sup>2</sup> Although the proposed tariff the Company included with its amended Application listed an effective date of January 1, 2024 in the footer of the document, Staff does not interpret this as a proposed effective date as the date appears nowhere else in the body of the amended application.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application and supporting documentation have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. These documents are also available on the Commission's website at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on the "Water" icon, select "Open Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that **the Commission has designated this case as a general rate case**. As such, the Company's intrastate revenue requirement, and every component of it, both rate base and expense, are at issue. The Commission may grant, deny, or modify the revenue requirement requested and may find a revenue requirement different from that proposed by any party is just, fair, and reasonable. IDAPA 31.01.01.124.01.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all of the Company's retail rates and charges, both recurring and non-recurring, are at issue, and every component of every existing and proposed rate and charge is at issue. The Commission may approve, reject, or modify the rates and charges proposed and may find that rates and charges different from those proposed by any party are just, fair, and reasonable. IDAPA 31.01.01.124.02.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission may approve, reject, or modify existing or proposed relationships between and among rates and charges within, between, or among customer classes or rate groupings and may approve, reject, or modify existing or proposed relationships among and between customer classes or rate groupings. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission may abolish, reduce, or create rate blocks or categories of rates and charges; abolish, create, or reduce components of rates and charges; abolish, reduce, or create customer classes or rate groupings; and abolish, reduce, or create absolute or relative differences among and between existing classes or rate groupings of customers. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the tariffs, practices, rules and regulations, service, instrumentalities, equipment, facilities, classifications, and customer relations of the utility are at issue, and the Commission may address any of them in its order. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

**NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring to intervene in this matter to obtain parties' rights of participation must file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission pursuant to this Commission's Rules of Procedure 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.01.072 and -.073. **Persons who wish to intervene as a party must file a Petition to Intervene no later than 21 days after the date of service of this Order.** Such persons shall also provide the Commission Secretary with their email address to facilitate further communications.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that after the intervention deadline runs, the Commission Secretary shall issue a Notice of Parties identifying the parties and assigning exhibit numbers to each party. Once the Notice of Parties has issued, Commission Staff shall informally confer with the Company and any intervening parties about how to further process this case and shall then report back to the Commission on a proposed case schedule.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons who would like to present their views without parties' rights of participation and cross-examination do not have to intervene but may present their views by submitting written comments to the Commission.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the following people are designated as the Company's representatives in this matter:

Richard A. Vilelli  
VP Inc.  
P.O. Box 1785  
Sandpoint, ID 83864  
[dick@vilellipnw.com](mailto:dick@vilellipnw.com)

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that persons desiring to intervene in this matter must file a Petition to Intervene no later than 21 days from the service date of this Order. Once the deadline has passed, the Commission Secretary shall prepare and issue a Notice of Parties.

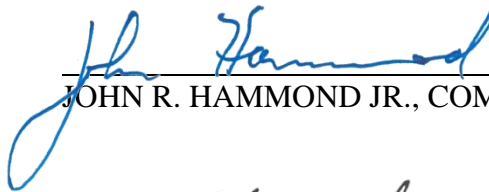
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, after the Notice of Parties has issued, Commission Staff shall confer with the parties regarding a procedural schedule for this matter including, if necessary, a hearing in this matter.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties comply with Order No. 35375, issued April 21, 2022. Generally, all pleadings should be filed with the Commission electronically and will be deemed timely filed when received by the Commission Secretary. *See* Rule 14.02. Service between parties should continue to be accomplished electronically when possible. However, voluminous discovery-related documents may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.



ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT




JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER



EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
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Monica Barrios-Sanchez  
Commission Secretary

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