

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: PRUDENCE ISLAND UTILITIES :  
CORPORATION TARIFF FILING TO : DOCKET NO. 3654  
CHANGE TERMS AND CONDITIONS :

ORDER

WHEREAS, On December 16, 2004, Prudence Island Utilities Corporation (“PIUC”) made a filing with the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) under Commission Rule of Practice and Procedure 1.9 to change its Terms and Conditions to make changes to Billing and Collection and Shutoff and to add a new Fines section; and

WHEREAS, On January 12, 2005, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) submitted a Memorandum indicating that the changes to the Billing and Collection and Shutoff sections of PIUC’s Terms and Conditions are in compliance with the Division’s Rules and Regulations Prescribed Standards for Water Utilities and the Commission’s Rules and Regulations Governing the Termination of Residential Electric, Gas and Water Utility Service; and

WHEREAS, The Division’s Memorandum raised questions for clarification regarding the new Fines section, specifically with regard to the new “Water Dumping” definition and application;<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS, On February 4, 2005, PIUC responded to Commission data requests resulting from the Division’s Memorandum, adequately addressing each of the Division’s and Commission’s concerns; and

---

<sup>1</sup> Water Dumping is defined as unattended water leaks on the customer’s premises requiring the Company to shut off the customer’s water to prevent excessive water losses. PIUC indicated in data responses that Water Dumping can be avoided in the winter if a seasonal customer turns off his or her water in the house prior to leaving for the winter.

WHEREAS, At open meetings held on January 14, 2005 and February 18, 2005, the Commission granted PIUC's changes and additions to its Terms and Conditions.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(18164) ORDERED:

1. Prudence Island Utilities Corporation's proposed reduction in Shut-Off Noticing and Shut-Off Time periods from sixty (60) days to forty-five (45) days is approved. The effective date is January 22, 2005.
2. Prudence Island Utilities Corporation's proposed increase in the service charge for reconnection after shut-off from thirty five dollars (\$35.00) to fifty dollars (\$50.00) is approved. The effective date is January 22, 2005.
3. Prudence Island Utilities Corporation's proposed twenty dollar (\$20.00) fee for returned checks is approved. The effective date is January 22, 2005.
4. Prudence Island Utilities Corporation's proposed fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine for "Water Dumping" is approved because it will not apply to any situation where the leak is not the fault of the customer. The effective date is February 18, 2005.
5. Once annually, commencing in 2005, Prudence Island Utilities Corporation shall conduct an outreach program to notify its seasonal customers in advance of their winter departure of the Water Dumping provision, the associated fine, and a reminder to shut off the water in the dwelling to avoid risking frozen pipes and associated Water Dumping fines.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO OPEN  
MEETING DECISIONS ON JANUARY 14, 2005 AND FEBRUARY 18, 2005.  
WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MARCH 1, 2005.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

---

Elia Germani, Chairman

---

Robert B. Holbrook, Commissioner