

March 31, 2023

Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: System Name: South Coast Water Company, LLC
Docket Number: UW 191
Topic: System Capacity Improvement Update

Dear PUC Staff,

Order No. 22-461, entered November 30, 2022, required that the South Coast Water Company (the Utility) “submit a report... detailing the status of its efforts to improve system capacity.” This process is well underway; its key components are outlined below.

1. Dyer Partnership Water Data Review

In early 2022, the Utility commissioned engineering firm the Dyer Partnership to produce a study of the water system’s capacity, in particular causes and recommended operational changes or capital investments to improve capacity at peak Summer irrigation times. A draft memorandum was issued June 6, 2022. Communication has continued between the parties regularly since then; a finalized memorandum will be produced after the influent line has been replaced and new flow data can be observed.

2. Woahink Lake Influent Line Replacement

During the Dyer Partnership study, it was discovered that in the course of emergency leak repairs years ago, prior to South Coast Water Company’s 2018 acquisition of the system, a plumbing subcontractor had improperly replaced the first 290’ of polyline behind the influent pump in Woahink Lake with 1.5” diameter line, when the rest of the influent line is 2” in diameter. This necking down meant that the Gould’s 40GS50 influent pump was not able to achieve the ~32 GPM flow to which it is specified; instead, flow of ~28 GPM was observed, which was a sufficient difference to require irrigation use limits on customers during Summer peaks.

Licensed plumbers West Lane Plumbing have been contracted to dig out the 1.5” polyline segment and replace it with 2” polyline, diving into Woahink Lake to attach to the existing influent pump. Dyer Partnership and the Utility devised the scope of work. As of this writing, the 290’ section of 1.5” line has been exposed, a correctly deep 30” trench has been dug, the 2” replacement line has been placed in the trench, and the dive to attach the new line will be performed in early April. The anticipated cost is \$7,200.00.

3. Observation

Once the new section of line is installed, the Utility will observe for the expected performance improvement. If ~32 GPM flow is achieved, it is unlikely that additional capital improvements will be required in 2023.

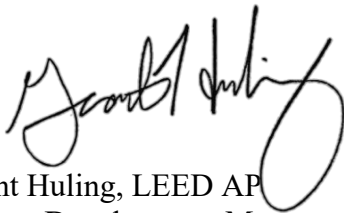
4. Further Measures to Improve Influent Flow

The Dyer Partnership memo has recommended additional capital improvements to assure uninterrupted water service during peak hours:

- a) Upsize the Gould’s 40GS50 pump from a 50 HP to a 75 HP model. This will have somewhat diminished benefits due to head loss from the (still relatively narrow) 2” diameter line and may require electrical upgrades.
- b) Install an additional 10,000 gallon storage tank. The anticipated cost, including foundation and installation, is \$24,061.12.

Should you need additional information or have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,
South Coast Water Company, LLC



Grant Huling, LEED AP
Project Development Manager