

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Case No. EAG-W-04-2, Order No. 29650

April 9, 2004

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Water companies seek to serve Eagle area

Boise – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will conduct a prehearing conference to outline issues regarding which water companies will serve growing housing and commercial developments in the Eagle area.

In late May, Eagle Water Company applied to the commission to expand its territory to serve five parcels just east of Old Highway 55/Horseshoe Bend Road and south of the Farmers Union Canal. Because of Eagle Water's apparent problems providing adequate pressure in the vicinity, IPUC staff commented that United Water, which also borders the area, might be able to better serve the area. Staff also proposed that Eagle Water and United Water negotiate further apportionment of the unassigned areas surrounding Eagle. Not optimistic that negotiations will settle the issue, United Water is asking that the scope of this case be expanded beyond the five parcels in question and that the commission designate the provider of all remaining unassigned areas.

Eagle Water maintains that past problems leading up to a temporary reduction of water pressure were not of the company's making and noted its commitment to getting a booster line back in service as soon as possible. Eagle Water does not believe the scope of the proceeding should include any areas beyond the five parcels at issue.

The prehearing conference on Sept. 22 will include oral arguments regarding territory assignment, the ability of both parties to provide the quality of service expected by customers and an appropriate schedule to proceed. The conference begins at 9:30 a.m. in the commission hearing room at 472 W. Washington St. in Boise.

Interested parties desiring to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses must file a petition to intervene by no later than Friday, Sept. 3.

Documents related to this case can be accessed on the commission's Web site at www.puc.state.id.us. Click on "File Room," then on "Water Cases," and scroll down to EAG-W-04-2.