

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA**

In re Big Mountain Water Company's Application to Establish Reserve Account	Docket 2024.12.113 February 20, 2025
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Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline

1. On December 4, 2024, Big Mountain Water Company (“BMWC”) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission (“Commission”) requesting the establishment of a reserve account for plant capital improvements pursuant to Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.2531. BMWC subsequently amended its application on January 30, 2025 (“Amended Application”).

2. BMWC is a water utility operating in Whitefish, Montana. Its service area is primarily the area encompassing the Whitefish Mountain Resort and development subdivisions located approximately eight miles north of Whitefish.

3. In its Amended Application, BMWC proposes to establish a reserve account to ensure it has funding for an estimated \$1,462,000 in capital improvements to its water utility plant. BMWC proposes to fund the reserve account through collections from its customers over a 6-year period in proportion to its customers’ consumption/usage. BMWC proposes to collect, on an annual basis, \$202,550 from its residential customers, \$28,022 from its commercial customers, and \$13,094 from its irrigation customers. BMWC states that its proposal will result in monthly increases for its customers as follows: residential customers - \$48.50/month; commercial customers - \$145.95/month; and irrigation customers - \$90.93/month.

4. A copy of BMWC’s Amended Application is publicly available at the Commission’s business office, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, MT 59601, and online

at the Commission’s website (psc.mt.gov) under Docket No. 2024.12.113. A copy of the Amended Application may also be available at the office of the Montana Consumer Counsel (“MCC”), which represents consumer interests before the Commission, 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 444-2771. Interested parties can register on the Commission’s website to receive notice of filings in this docket. Instructions for subscribing to notices of filings are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help.

5. The Commission invites any interested party affected by BMWC’s Amended Application to intervene in this docket. To intervene, a party must file a petition to intervene with the Commission no later than **March 10, 2025**. A party seeking intervention must file an electronic petition on the Commission’s website at reddi.mt.gov. All filings must be made in REDDI and hard copies are not required. A party seeking intervention must also mail a copy of the petition to MCC at P.O. Box 201703, Helena, MT 59620, and to BMWC’s attorney, Lori B. Miller, Lori B. Miller, P.C., P.O. Box 4955, Whitefish, MT 59937.

6. The Commission invites members of the public who do not wish to formally intervene to submit written public comments on the matter to the Commission at 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620, or by email to pschelp@mt.gov. Public comment may also be submitted in REDDI. Instructions for submitting public comments in REDDI are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help (select “Submit a Public Comment”). All comments received will be public records. Personal or private information should not be included in comments.

7. The Commission’s jurisdiction over this matter is provided in Title 69 and Title 2, Chapter 4 of the Montana Code Annotated; Title 38, Chapters 2 and 5 of the Montana Administrative Rules; and any prior orders of the Commission relevant to the issues presented.

DONE and DATED February, 20, 2025, by the Montana Public Service Commission through delegation to staff.

BRAD MOLNAR, President
JENNIFER FIELDER, Vice President
RANDALL PINOCCI, Commissioner
DR. ANNIE BUKACEK, Commissioner
JEFF WELBORN, Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on February 20, 2025, a true and accurate copy of the foregoing document was served by email to the following:

BIG MOUNTAIN WATER COMPANY
lori@lorimillerlaw.com
For Big Mountain Water

MONTANA CONSUMER COUNSEL
jbrown4@mt.gov
ssnow@mt.gov
For Montana Consumer Counsel

EMAIL LIST(S):

For the purpose of Public Notice, this document has been sent to the following media outlet(s):

Whitefish Pilot - skirby@dailyinterlake.com

By: /s/ Tarin Slayton
Tarin Slayton
Montana Public Service Commission