



**BOULT ■ CUMMINGS<sup>®</sup>**  
**CONNERS ■ BERRY PLC**

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June 13, 2008

Richard Collier  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
460 James Robertson Pkwy  
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

filed electronically in docket office on 06/13/08

**Re: Docket No.: 08-00039**

Dear Mr. Collier:


Attached is a proposed "Highly Confidential protective order" agreed to by CMA and Tennessee American. CMA and Tennessee American request that you enter it as soon as possible. The purpose of the Order is to allow CMA to have access to certain information requested by CMA (interrogatory no 11).

CMA and Tennessee American recognize that there may well be certain portions of this Order to which the other intervenors cannot agree and we anticipate that there will be further negotiations concerning those provisions. The purpose of entering this Order now is to permit CMA's experts to obtain and study the requested information while those negotiations are being conducted. Should those negotiations result in another protective order which covers these same "highly confidential" materials, CMA and Tennessee American will propose that this Order be withdrawn as no longer needed and the other order used instead.

Very truly yours,

BOULT, CUMMINGS, CONNERS & BERRY, PLC

By:



Henry Walker

HW/cas  
Enclosure

cc: Michael A. McMahan (w/enc.)  
David C. Higney (w/enc.)  
Frederick L. Hitchcock (w/enc.)  
R. Dales Grimes (w/enc.)  
Robert E. Cooper, Jr. (w/enc.)

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6/13/2008

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**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**May 6, 2008**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF TENNESSEE AMERICAN )  
WATER COMPANY TO CHANGE AND )  
INCREASE CERTAIN RATES AND CHARGES )  
SO AS TO PERMIT IT TO EARN A FAIR AND )  
ADEQUATE RATE OF RETURN ON ITS )  
PROPERTY USED AND USEFUL IN )  
FURNISHING WATER SERVICE TO ITS )  
CUSTOMERS )**

**Docket No. 08-00039**

**SUPPLEMENTAL PROTECTIVE ORDER**

This Order specifically acknowledges the need for certain documentation and information, designated hereunder as Highly Confidential Information, to be afforded an enhanced level of protection.

Pursuant to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, to ensure that documents or information produced by Tennessee American Water Company ("Tennessee American" or "Producing Party") during the discovery process in this docket related to or dealing with an Initial Public Offering ("IPO"), including such documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and other filings with federal and state agencies, which are deemed to be highly sensitive proprietary and commercial information or trade secrets that the public release of which could result in harm to the Producing Party, including but not limited to information that is required by state or federal laws or regulations to be kept confidential<sup>1</sup> (hereafter collectively and

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<sup>1</sup> Expressly including, but not limited to, public disclosure of information by the Producing Party that may result in any publicity that may contribute to conditioning the public mind or arousing public interest in any offer or offering (as those terms are defined by federal law) by the Producing Party in violation of Section 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933.

individually referred to as “Highly Confidential Information”) is adequately protected, and to ensure that such protection is afforded only to material so entitled, the Hearing Officer, as appointed by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (“TRA”), hereby orders that information designated by the producing party as Highly Confidential Information shall receive all of the protections that apply to “Confidential Information” as set forth in the protective order entered this date (“Protective Order”), as well as the following additional protections set forth in this Supplemental Protective Order, as follows:

1. Should a party believe that information has been improperly designated as Highly Confidential Information, the party may petition the TRA Hearing Officer to remove the designation, explaining in the petition the basis for the party’s belief. Any such petition and any responses thereto shall be filed under seal and shall remain under seal until the dispute has been resolved and the Hearing Officer has ordered that they be unsealed in whole or part. Any such petition must be filed not later than twenty (20) days prior to the Hearing on the Merits, or within five (5) days of receipt of the information designated Highly Confidential Information, whichever is later. Any Reply from the Producing Party seeking to protect the status of its Highly Confidential Information must be received not later than ten (10) days prior to the Hearing on the Merits or within four (4) days of service on the Producing Party of any petition to contest such designation, whichever is later. Any such petition may request that the information be treated as Highly Confidential Information or not Highly Confidential. In the event the designation of Highly Confidential Information is removed for certain information by a valid order, but the document is deemed to be a confidential document, such information shall be considered designated as Confidential Information and shall be entitled to all the protections of Confidential Information under the Protective Order unless and until such Confidential

Information designation has been or is also ordered removed pursuant to Paragraph 11 of the Protective Order.

2. Notwithstanding the terms of paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Protective Order, the Hearing Officer shall only remove the designation of Highly Confidential Information if the Hearing Officer expressly finds that there is a reasonable basis for the information in question not to be considered Highly Confidential Information as set forth in this order. All parties shall continue to treat all information designated "Highly Confidential Information" in accordance with the terms of this Supplemental Protective Order, pending resolution of any dispute as to the status of such information by the Hearing Officer unless the disclosure of such information is otherwise permitted by this order.

3. Persons granted access to Highly Confidential Information, in accordance with the terms of this Supplemental Protective Order, agree that that they will safeguard all information and documents designated as "Highly Confidential."

4. Persons granted access to Highly Confidential Information in accordance with the terms of this Supplemental Protective Order understand that unauthorized disclosure of information or documents labeled or otherwise designated "Highly Confidential" may result in securities law violations and may result in sanctions, damages, injunctive relief or other relief in state and/or federal court.

5. The Protective Order and Supplemental Protective Order (collectively the "Protective Orders") entered in this case shall not:

- (a) Operate as an admission for any purpose that any documents or information produced as Highly Confidential Information pursuant

to the Protective Orders are admissible or inadmissible in the trial or other hearing in these or any other proceedings.

- (b) Prejudice in any way the right of the Producing Party, at any time, on notice given in accordance with any applicable rules and regulations of the TRA, to seek appropriate relief in the exercise of discretion by the TRA or a court of competent jurisdiction for violations related to Highly Confidential Information of any provision of the Protective Orders including, without limitation, injunctive, declaratory relief, sanctions, and penalties.
- (c) Operate to abrogate or limit the applicability of Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-8-307(h) or any common law or statutory defenses available to state employees who are acting in the scope of their official capacities.

6. In the event that any of the parties seek to use Highly Confidential Information in the course of one or more hearings, or as part of the record of this proceeding, the party seeking to so use Highly Confidential Information shall provide the Hearing Officer and all parties written notice of such request (“Request”) not less than 3 days before the earlier of: (i) the first requested use of such Highly Confidential Information; or (ii) the final status conference before the Hearing on the Merits. However, if the Highly Confidential Information is first received by a party later than eight (8) days prior to the final status conference, notice of the Request may be served within five (5) days after receipt but not less than two (2) days before the date of the requested use of such information unless otherwise ordered by the Hearing Officer. The Request shall set forth the specific Highly Confidential Information that the requesting party wishes to use and when the requesting party requests to use such information. If, after considering a

Request to use Highly Confidential Information and considering the response, if any, of the Producing Party, the Hearing Officer permits the use of such Highly Confidential Information in any Hearing, or to be placed on the record: (i) the TRA or the Hearing Officer shall cause the portion of the record containing Highly Confidential Information to be placed under seal and; (ii) the TRA or the Hearing Officer shall clear the hearing room of all persons who are not subject to this Supplemental Protective Order during any period of time when the Highly Confidential Information may be discussed during or used in a hearing.

7. Highly Confidential Information (including any quotes, excerpts or references to Highly Confidential Information) which is filed or placed on the record of these proceedings shall be filed under seal and shall remain with the TRA under seal until after the conclusion of the proceeding. If such Highly Confidential Information is provided to courts for the purposes of appeal(s) from these proceedings, such information shall be provided and shall continue to remain under seal to the maximum extent permitted by law.

8. With respect to all Highly Confidential Information:

(a) Highly Confidential Information shall only be used for this proceeding.

After this proceeding has concluded, each party or individual that has received access to Highly Confidential Information other than the Producing Party and the TRA shall within 10 days either: (i) destroy or return all such Highly Confidential Information; and (ii) certify in writing that such party or individual has returned or destroyed all Highly Confidential Information in its possession.

(b) Absent an order of the TRA or other court of competent jurisdiction, only those identified herein who require access to such Highly Confidential

Information for this proceeding and have fully executed a copy of the Nondisclosure Statement for Highly Confidential Information (“Nondisclosure Statement”), attached hereto, may receive access to Highly Confidential Information. A copy of the executed Nondisclosure Statement shall be provided to the Producing Party prior to being granted access to the Highly Confidential Information.

- (c) Absent an order of the TRA or other court of competent jurisdiction OR prior written consent from the Producing Party, no person, other than counsel of record for the parties, expert witnesses, the Hearing Officer, TRA Directors and members of the staff of the TRA, may receive access to Highly Confidential Information until at least 2 business days after the Producing Party has been given written notice that said person is to be provided with access to Highly Confidential Information. Such notice shall include the person’s full name, address, employer and the category of authorized person.
- (d) If the Producing Party objects to a person, other than a counsel of record for a party, expert witness(es), the Hearing Officer, TRA Directors and members of the staff of the TRA, receiving access to Highly Confidential Information, the Producing Party may, within 2 business days of receiving notice that an individual is to receive access to Highly Confidential Information, file a written objection with the Hearing Officer setting forth the basis for the objection. Until any such objection is resolved by the

Hearing Officer, the individual in question shall not be provided access to Highly Confidential Information.

- (e) No other disclosure of Highly Confidential Information shall be made to any person or entity except with the express written consent of the Producing Party or upon further order of the TRA or of any court of competent jurisdiction, including those which may review these matters.
- (f) Notwithstanding any provisions in the Protective Order to the contrary, this Paragraph No. 8, together with its subparts (a) - (f), and the terms of this Supplement Protective Order shall apply to members of the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General, including attorneys and staff, and advisory staff members of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.
- (g) This Paragraph No. 8, together with its subparts (a) - (f), shall not apply to TRA Directors and their immediate staff, the Tennessee Attorney General, the Chief Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Chief Deputy Attorney General, or the Tennessee Solicitor General and their immediate staff and the Deputy of the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division.

9. If any party or non-party subject to the Supplemental Protective Order inadvertently fails to designate testimony as Highly Confidential Information prior to such testimony being provided, this failure shall not constitute a waiver of the Highly Confidential Information designation, provided the party or non-party who has provided the testimony shall notify the Hearing Officer and all parties in writing within five (5) days of discovery of such



inadvertent failure to designate the testimony as Highly Confidential Information. Upon receiving such notice, all those subject to the Supplemental Protective Order, including the Hearing Officer, shall immediately cause the subject testimony to be treated as Highly Confidential Information and each party shall notify any employees, consultants or other individuals who are affiliated with such party and who received or heard such testimony. The Hearing Officer shall thereafter make a written determination whether a reasonable basis exists for the Producing Party to so designate such information as Highly Confidential and, if no such reasonable basis exists, shall so find in writing and shall remove the Highly Confidential designation. An inadvertent failure to designate testimony in advance as Highly Confidential Information, shall not, in any way, affect the TRA's determination as to whether the testimony is entitled to Highly Confidential Information status. No recipient of information that the Producing Party has inadvertently failed to designate as Highly Confidential Information shall have any liability, so long as the recipient treats such information as Highly Confidential Information upon receiving notice of such designation by the TRA or Producing Party.

10. For the avoidance of doubt, the language of the Protective Order and Supplemental Protective Order should be interpreted together such that Highly Confidential Information receives the maximum protection possible permitted under the law and no less protection than Confidential Information.

11. Highly Confidential Information is subject to this Supplemental Protective Order, which is entered pursuant to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure. See e.g., Ballard v. Herzke, 924 S.W. 2d 652 (Tenn. 1996); Arnold v. City of Chattanooga, 19 S.W. 3d 779 (Tenn. Ct. App. 1999). If a party, other than the Producing Party, receives a request or subpoena seeking the disclosure or production of Highly Confidential Information, such party shall give prompt

written notice to the TRA Hearing Officer and the Producing Party within not more than five (5) days of receiving such a request, subpoena or order and: (i) shall respond to the request, subpoena or order, in writing, stating that the Highly Confidential Information is protected pursuant to this Supplemental Protective Order and the Protective Order; and (ii) shall not disclose or produce such Highly Confidential Information unless and until subsequently ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction.

12. Paragraphs 22-28 of the Protective Order apply directly to CONFIDENTIAL or PROTECTED SECURITY MATERIALS as provided for in the scope of the Protective Order. The provisions and requirements of those paragraphs are expanded in this Supplemental Protective Order due to the enhanced level of protection afforded to Highly Confidential Information. The provisions in Paragraph 26 of the Protective Order shall not apply with regard to Highly Confidential Information because this Supplemental Protective Order shall operate as an exception to the Tennessee Public Records Act, as set forth in the language of Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-503(a) “. . . unless otherwise provided by state law.” (See e.g., Ballard v. Herzke, 924 S.W. 2d 652 (Tenn. 1996); Arnold v. City of Chattanooga, 19 S.W. 3d 779 (Tenn. Ct. App. 1999), holding that “state law” includes the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure.) Because this Supplemental Protective Order is issued pursuant to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, this Order creates an exception to any obligations of the Attorney General and the City of Chattanooga, including attorneys and members of their staffs, as to the Public Records Act and other open records statutes as to Highly Confidential Information. This Supplemental Protective Order acknowledges the role and responsibilities of the Attorney General and the Attorney General’s staff, as set forth in Title 8, Chapter 6 of the Tennessee Statutes, beyond the duties associated with the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division, as prescribed in Tenn. Code

Ann. § 65-4-118. This Order is not intended to conflict with the Attorney General's role and responsibilities, especially the investigative functions, as set forth in Title 8, Chapter 6. For there to be compliance with this Supplemental Protective Order, any Highly Confidential Information shared outside of the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division must be provided the full and complete protection afforded other highly confidential or protected information in the control and custody of the Attorney General.

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Hearing Officer

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF TENNESSEE AMERICAN )  
WATER COMPANY TO CHANGE AND )  
INCREASE CERTAIN RATES AND CHARGES )  
SO AS TO PERMIT IT TO EARN A FAIR AND )  
ADEQUATE RATE OF RETURN ON ITS )  
PROPERTY USED AND USEFUL IN )  
FURNISHING WATER SERVICE TO ITS )  
CUSTOMERS )**

**Docket No. 09-00039**

**NONDISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

I have reviewed the Supplemental Protective Order entered in the above-captioned matter and agree to abide and be bound by its terms. I understand that prior to receiving access to Highly Confidential Information, I must make a written request to the Producing Party and submit this Nondisclosure Statement prior to being granted access to such information. I understand that unauthorized disclosure of any documents labeled and/or designated as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION" will be a violation of the Order.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

Personally appeared before me, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public,  
\_\_\_\_\_ with whom I am personally acquainted, who acknowledged that he executed  
the within instrument for the purposes therein contained.

WITNESS my hand, at office, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008..

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_