
25-00054-UT; Order Directing the Legal Division to Provide Periodic Updates on Melody Ranch at Open Meetings

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To Records, PRC, PRC <PRC.Records@prc.nm.gov>

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 1 attachment (235 KB)

25-00054-UT-2025-12-16-Order Directing Legal Division to Update Commission on MR.pdf;

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF MELODY RANCH WATER)
COMPANY LLC'S WATER SYSTEM BREAKDOWN)
AND DISRUPTION OF SERVICE) Docket No. 25-00054-UT
)**

Sincerely,
LaurieAnn Santillanes
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BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF MELODY RANCH WATER)
COMPANY LLC'S WATER SYSTEM BREAKDOWN)
AND DISRUPTION OF SERVICE) Docket No. 25-00054-UT
)**

**ORDER DIRECTING THE LEGAL DIVISION TO PROVIDE
PERIODIC UPDATES ON MELODY RANCH AT OPEN MEETINGS**

THIS MATTER comes before the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (“Commission”) upon the Legal Division’s Petition for the Commission to Open a Docket Regarding Melody Ranch Water Company LLC’s (“Melody Ranch”) Water System Breakdown and Disruption of Service with Request for Expedited Commission Action (“Petition”), filed on July 21, 2025.

The Commission issues this Order to direct the Legal Division of the Commission (“Legal Division”), and permit Melody Ranch, to periodically update the Commission regarding the status of Melody Ranch at the Commission’s Open Meetings, beginning on January 15, 2026.

BACKGROUND

1. For the past several months, Melody Ranch has been experiencing an ongoing water system breakdown and disruption of service, allegedly due to Melody Ranch’s primary well not producing enough water to meet demand.¹

2. On July 22, 2025, the Commission issued an Initial Order Opening Investigation, which directed the Legal Division to conduct an investigation into Melody Ranch, the water system breakdown, and disruption of service.²

3. The efforts to implement a permanent solution to restore adequate water service to Melody Ranch customers and address the cause(s) of the emergent situation are currently ongoing.

¹ Petition at 2.

² Initial Order Opening Investigation at 3.

DISCUSSION

4. Under the Commission's Procedural Rules, the Commission may investigate any matter within its jurisdiction at any time.³

5. The Commission does not wish to disrupt progress toward a permanent solution to provide the customers of Melody Ranch with adequate water service. The priority is to facilitate a permanent solution so that Melody Ranch customers have a continuous and adequate supply of water, in accordance with 17.12.750.11 NMAC.⁴ The Commission is encouraged by EMWT's interest in developing a sustainable solution to Melody Ranch's water system breakdown.

6. To that end, and in order to ensure that the Commission and the public stay apprised of the situation, the Commission instructs the Legal Division to provide updates on Melody Ranch at the Commission's Open Meetings, beginning on January 15, 2026. Melody Ranch may also attend the Commission's Open Meetings to provide updates regarding the status of the matter.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

7. It will assist the Commission to have the Legal Division attend the Commission's Open Meetings, beginning on **January 15, 2026**, to provide periodic updates to the Commission on Melody Ranch's status.

8. Melody Ranch may also attend the Commission's Open Meetings, in person or by video, to provide updates of its status to the Commission.

³ 1.2.2.22(A) NMAC.

⁴ Stating that “[e]ach utility shall furnish and maintain sufficient facilities to provide a continuous and adequate supply of water. The total supply system capacity shall meet the daily design maximum peak demand and shall meet the design average-day demand with the largest pump or well out of service.”

9. The presentations made by the parties to the Commission shall remain ongoing until further ordered by the Commission, or at such time as the matter is resolved and the docket is closed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

A. Beginning **January 15, 2026**, the Legal Division shall present updates to the Commission on the status of Melody Ranch. Melody Ranch may also present updates to the Commission on its status. Updates shall include, but are not limited to:

1. The current status of water availability to Melody Ranch customers;
2. The status of the emergency funds provided by the State pursuant to Executive Order No. 2025-373;⁵
3. The status of communications with Melody Ranch customers;
4. The status of EMWT and its participation in these proceedings; and
5. Any other relevant matter the parties believe to be important to present to the Commission, Melody Ranch customers, and the public.

B. The parties shall review each Open Meeting's agenda, posted to the Commission's website each Monday the week of the Open Meeting, to ascertain the date, time, and location of each Open Meeting.

C. The scheduled updates provided by the Legal Division and Melody Ranch shall remain in effect until further order of the Commission, or at the time the matter is resolved and the docket is closed.

D. This Order is effective when signed.

⁵ In which the New Mexico State Governor's Office authorized \$250,000 in emergency funding to provide water supply to residents of Torrance County, support water quality testing by the Department of Environment, and for any other action necessary to support residents' health, safety, welfare, and property. *See Executive Order 2025-373, Declaring an Emergency in Torrance County Due to Multiple Well Outages and Authorizing Emergency Funds for the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, at 2-3.

E. The Commission shall serve a copy of this Order upon all persons listed on the attached Certificate of Service via e-mail if their e-mail addresses are known, and otherwise, via regular mail.

F. In computing time in accordance with statute, regulation, or Commission order, computation shall begin on the date that this Order is filed with the Chief Clerk of the Commission's Records Management Bureau or the Chief Clerk's designee.

SIGNED under the Seal of the Commission at Santa Fe, New Mexico, this 16th day of December, 2025.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

/s/ *Greg Nibert, electronically signed*
GREG NIBERT, COMMISSIONER



BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF MELODY RANCH WATER)
COMPANY LLC'S WATER SYSTEM BREAKDOWN)
AND DISRUPTION OF SERVICE) Docket No. 25-00054-UT
)**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on this date I sent a true and correct copy of the *Order Directing the Legal Division to Provide Periodic Updates on Melody Ranch at Open Meetings* to the following:

Echo and Melody Ranch Water Co.	
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DATED this 16th day of December, 2025.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

/s/ LaurieAnn Santillanes, electronically signed
LaurieAnn Santillanes, Paralegal

Docket No. 25-00054-UT

Order Directing the Legal Division to Provide Periodic Updates on Melody Ranch at Open Meetings
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