
25-00054-UT - 2025.10.16 - Staff - Staff's Fifth Status Report Pursuant to the Commission's September 8, 2025, Order Setting Prehearing Conference and Related Duties

From Martinez-Rael, Peggy, PRC <Peggy.Martinez-Rael@prc.nm.gov>

Date Thu 10/16/2025 3:49 PM

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 1 attachment (376 KB)

25-00054-UT - 2025.10.16 - Staff - Staff's Fifth Status Report + COS.pdf;

Attached is **Staff's Fifth Status Report Pursuant to the Commission's September 8, 2025, Order Setting Prehearing Conference and Related Duties** in Case No. 25-00054-UT, electronically filed today.

Peggy Martinez-Rael
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BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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

**STAFF’S FIFTH STATUS REPORT PURSUANT TO THE COMMISSION’S
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, ORDER SETTING PREHEARING
CONFERENCE AND RELATED DUTIES**

The Utility Division Staff (“Staff”) of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (“Commission”, “NMPRC” or “PRC”) hereby submits Staff’s Fifth Status Report Pursuant to the Commission’s September 8, 2025, Order Setting Prehearing Conference and Related Duties, and would show the Commission as follows:

The September 8, 2025, Order specified in pertinent part that:

Staff shall file with the Commission a weekly report on the Thursday following each status conference providing updates on the current status of water service, the outlook for its restoration, developments with potential partners to restore service, and any other matters they believe to be of importance to this proceeding.

See September 8, 2025, Order at page 2, decretal paragraph D.

Current Status of Water Service

The water service remains below acceptable performance standards. The sole well used to provide water to the system continues to produce at diminished capacity – currently at approximately 4.7 gallons per minute versus the levels enjoyed historically. Service to the tap remains pressure-deficient and time-limited in availability to allow for the storage tank to attain and retain appropriate levels. During the period October 5th through October 11th one resident reports the following water system performance stats:

Sun Oct 5 th	Water from 5pm - 9pm
Mon Oct 6 th	Water from 5pm - 9pm
Tues Oct 7 th	Water from 12pm-6pm
Wed Oct 8 th	Water from 9am-12pm & 6pm - 9pm
Thu Oct 9 th	No Water
Fri Oct 10 th	Water 10am- 12pm & 5pm-9pm
Sat Oct 11 th	Water from 1pm - 8pm

This comes to a total of 33 hours of water availability during the specified time-period – up from 27 hours for the prior time-period reported in the Fourth Status Report.

The Outlook for Restoration of Water Service

EMWT Regional Water Association continues with its engineering due diligence review of the Melody Ranch system along with its effort, in conjunction with NMED, to address the economic (funding) component via the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (“DWSRF”) pre-application process. Melody Ranch continues its facilitation of this process via the provision of documents and information to inform EMWT’s analysis and due diligence. Staff continues to monitor these efforts and stands ready to assist as needed in the realization of the shared goal of water service restoration.

Developments with Potential Partners to Restore Service

Simultaneous to the matters touched on above, Staff is communicating with other potential partners to try and determine and structure how water service as it currently exists might be enhanced in the interim. Discussions continue to be pursued with attention to the means of

prospectively funding and technically/legally achieving enhancement of water service during the interim period leading up to the ultimate restoration of water service.

To that end, Melody Ranch has provided information detailing the capacities and performance characteristics of the water system as follows:

- The primary storage tank holds a total capacity of 60,000 gallons.
- The primary storage tank earlier this week contained approximately 37,000 gallons.
- The well pump operates continuously with no off time, producing water at a rate of 4.7 gallons per minute, which equates to an estimated 202,000 gallons per month.

For perspective, the current production rate of 202,000 gallons per month should be compared to monthly customer usage totals from last year:

- October 2024: 440,390 gallons
- November 2024: 347,310 gallons
- December 2024: 387,230 gallons
- January 2025: 357,200 gallons
- February 2025: 392,120 gallons

Melody Ranch reports that normal estimated customer usage ranges between 3,000 and 5,000 gallons per household per month. To now achieve something approaching 24/7 water availability would require supplemental deliveries of approximately 100,000 to 150,000 gallons monthly via tanker. Each tanker from East Mountain Water Hauling carries 4,000 gallons at a cost of \$265.00. Just 100,000 gallons would require 25 tankers, totaling \$6,625.00 plus tax (minimum).

Bearing these general factors and vital statistics in mind, with the proviso that additional details would perhaps need to be worked out and/or developed, Staff continues to pursue this line of inquiry and collaboration towards structuring and realizing a better level of water service during this interim period.

Conclusion (for the Moment)

Efforts and evaluations regarding the economic and technical requirements of what is contemplated towards the ultimate restoration of water service remain underway. Staff remains in the loop and will otherwise continue to inquire of and interact with Melody Ranch, EMWT, and NMED towards supporting and realizing these objectives. Efforts towards enhancing water service in the interim will continue.

Dated this 16th day of October 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John Bogatko

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BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on this date I sent a true and correct copy of the , **Staff's Fifth Status Report Pursuant to the Commission's September 8, 2025, Order Setting Prehearing Conference and Related Duties** to the following:

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DATED October 16, 2025.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

/s/ Peggy Martinez-Rael, electronically signed

Peggy Martinez-Rael, Paralegal