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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
October 14, 2013

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Portland Water Bureau, Tualatin Valley Water District and City of Tualatin agree to mediation over contract dispute

Portland, OR – The Portland Water Bureau (PWB), the Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD) and the City of Tualatin have agreed to mediate their contract interpretation dispute over their wholesale water supply agreement.

The three large municipal water providers mutually agreed to mediation in order to resolve their dispute in a timely fashion.

“Portland has a long and valued relationship with both TVWD and the City of Tualatin. We hope to use this opportunity to clarify our agreement and avoid similar disputes in the future,” said Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish, who oversees the Portland Water Bureau.

“We believe the informal nature of mediation can be a quick and cost-effective way to resolve this question and allow us all to move forward,” said PWB Director David Shaff.

Mark Knudson, Chief Executive Officer for TVWD, said, “When this agreement was negotiated eight years ago, we wisely included a dispute resolution process for resolving conflicts. TVWD welcomes the opportunity to proceed with mediation as provided by the agreement and we are optimistic that mediation can result in a timely and mutually agreed solution.”

Tualatin City Manager Sherilyn Lombos said, “Tualatin’s interest is in resolving this issue in a way that is consistent with our contract with the City of Portland. We expect to resolve this issue in a timely way to the benefit of the customers we serve.”

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