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Public Utility Commission of Texas

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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To: John R. Werner
100 Congress Avenue, Suite 2025
Austin, Texas 78701

Commission Staff - Competitive Markets Division
Commission Staff - Legal Division

Re: Docket No. 47947 – *Application of GridPlus Texas Inc. for a Retail Electric
Provider Certificate*

NOTICE OF APPROVAL

This Notice addresses the application of GridPlus Texas Inc. for a retail electric provider (REP) certificate. Commission Staff recommends approval of the application, as supplemented. The Commission approves the application.

Statutory Findings

1. On January 12, 2018, GridPlus applied for an option I REP certificate to provide retail electric services in the geographic area of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT).
2. The application was deemed deficient on February 5, 2018 and the 90-day deadline in 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) was extended on February 27, 2018 to provide GridPlus time to cure the application.
3. Notice of the application appeared in the February 2, 2018 issue of the *Texas Register*.
4. GridPlus filed supplemental information on March 23, and April 19, 2018.
5. The application was found sufficient on May 1, 2018.



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6. GridPlus is entitled to approval of the application, having satisfied the requirements of § 39.352(b)(4) of the Public Utility Regulatory Act¹ (PURA) and 16 TAC § 25.107.
7. Consistent with 16 TAC § 25.107(e)(1), GridPlus requested the name "GridPlus Texas Inc." on its REP certificate.
8. GridPlus has satisfied the Texas office requirements of PURA § 39.352(b)(4) and 16 TAC § 25.107(e)(2).
9. GridPlus provided audited and unaudited financial statements as required by 16 TAC § 25.107(f)(4)(C) to establish shareholder equity of not less than \$1,000,000, and an irrevocable stand-by Letter of Credit payable to the Commission of \$500,000, demonstrating compliance with 16 TAC § 25.107(f)(1)(B).
10. GridPlus has agreed to comply with 16 TAC § 25.107(f)(5) and § 25.108, relating to the billing and collection of transition charges.
11. GridPlus has at least one principal or employee who has five years of experience in energy commodity risk management, for purposes of 16 TAC § 25.107(g)(1)(E).
12. GridPlus has demonstrated compliance with the requirements of 16 TAC § 25.107(g)(1)(A)-(C), regarding registering with and certification by ERCOT, and compliance with 16 TAC § 25.173, regarding renewable portfolio standards. GridPlus will contract with a third party to provide qualified scheduling entity services.
13. GridPlus has demonstrated that it has experience in competitive retail electric service or a related industry; is committed to adequate staffing and training; will be the primary point of contact for its customers, and has a customer service plan that complies with the Commission's customer protection and anti-discrimination rules, as required by 16 TAC §§ 25.107(g)(1)(D)-(H).
14. GridPlus will not collect deposits or advance payments from customers.
15. GridPlus reported that neither itself, nor any predecessor in interest, have a history of insolvency, bankruptcy, dissolution, merger or acquisition during the 60 months immediately preceding the application.

¹ Public Utility Regulatory Act, Tex. Util. Code Ann §§ 11.001-58.302 (West 2016 & Supp. 2017), §§ 59.001-66.016 (West 2007 & Supp. 2017).

16. GridPlus has requested a REP certificate for the geographic area of ERCOT, which configuration does not discriminate against the provision of electric service to any customer because of race, creed, color, national origin, or any other bases prohibited by law or 16 TAC § 25.107(h).
17. GridPlus has demonstrated that the company has the financial and technical resources to provide continuous and reliable electric service to customers in the ERCOT area.
18. GridPlus has demonstrated that the company has the managerial and technical ability to supply electricity at retail in accordance with customer contracts.
19. GridPlus has demonstrated that the company has the resources to meet the customer protection requirements established in PURA and the Commission's rules.
20. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application.
21. Commission Staff and GridPlus are the only parties to this application.
22. No issues of fact or law are disputed by the parties.
23. More than 15 days have passed since completion of notice.
24. The requirement for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

Ordering Paragraphs

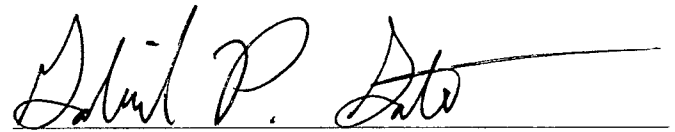
1. The application, as supplemented, is approved.² GridPlus is granted option I REP Certificate No. 10256 in the name "GridPlus Texas Inc." for the geographic area of ERCOT.
2. GridPlus shall continuously maintain an office located within Texas for the purpose of providing customer service, accepting service of process, and making available in that office books and records sufficient to establish the REPs compliance with the requirements of PURA and applicable Commission rules, as required by PURA § 39.352(b)(4) and 16 TAC § 25.107(e)(2).

² Administrative approval of this uncontested application has no precedential value in a future proceeding.

3. GridPlus shall notify the Commission within five working days of any change in its office address, business address, telephone numbers or contact information as required by 16 TAC§ 25.107(i)(1).
4. This certificate is not transferable without prior approval by the Commission and shall continue in force until further order of the Commission, consistent with 16 TAC § 25.107.
5. GridPlus shall comply with any customer protection requirements, disclosure requirements, marketing guidelines and anti-discrimination rules adopted by the Commission and PURA.
6. All other motions and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted, are denied.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 21ST day of June 2018.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



GABRIEL P. SOTO
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE