

Control Number: 44200



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House Bill (HB) 1600 and Senate Bill (SB) 567 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature, Regular Session, transferred the functions relating to the economic regulation of water and sewer utilities from the TCEQ to the PUC effective September 1, 2014

## PROEIVES

# SOAH DOCKET NO. 582-01-39142815 JAN -9 AM 10: 01 TNRCC DOCKET NO. 2001-0845-UCR PUBLIC STILLING CLERK

APPLICATION BY VILLAGE OF WIMBERLEY TO OBTAIN A SEWER CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN HAYS COUNTY	999	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
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# AQUASOURCE UTILITY, INC'S ANSWERS TO THE APPLICANT VILLAGE OF WIMBERLEY'S REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 194, AquaSource Utility, Inc. is requested to disclose, within the period agreed to by counsel, AquaSource Utility, Inc. provides the Following answers to Tex. R. Civ. Proc. 194.2(c), (e), (f), (h), and (i) to Bruce Wasinger at the offices of Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever & McDaniel, L.L.P., 1700 Frost Bank Plaza, 816 Congress, Ave., Austin, Texas, 78701.

Respectfully/submitted,

Mark H./Zeppa

State Par. No. 22260100

Law Offices of Mark H. Zeppa, P. C.

4833 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 202

Austin, Texas 78759-8436

(512) 346-4011, Fax (512) 346-6847

ATTORNEY FOR AQUASOURCE UTILITY, INC.

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Mark H. Zeppa, certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were served on all parties shown on the attached service list by prepaid USPA mail/and/or fax on the 14th day of February, 2002.

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#### SERVICE LIST SOAH Docket No. 582-01-3914 TNRCC Docket No. 2001-0845-UCR

John Deering, Staff Attorney
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Bruce Wasinger Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever & McDaniel, LLP 816 Congress Avenue, Ste. 1700 Austin, Texas Tel. (512) 472-8021 Fax (512) 320-5638

TNRCC Docket Clerk
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P. O. Box 13087, MC 105
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#### Rule 194.2(c):

Legal theories and factual basis.

There is a current need for sewer utility service in the requested service Answer: area. AquaSource Utility, Inc. (ASU) is a regional certificated sewer utility able to construct, own and operate a state-approved sewer utility system within a portion of the service area sought by the Village of Wimberley (Village) under the requirements of Texas Water Code Chapters 13 and 26 and the associated TNRCC regulations and has already done so. ASU can provide continuous and adequate service through an extension and an upgrade of its existing sewer system that has been constructed according to all applicable governmental standards. ASU has, and has been found, to have sufficient financial managerial and technical resources with which to operate TNRCC-certificated water and sewer systems in this state and more particularly in th8is vicinity in SOAH Docket No. 582-00-1469, TNRCC Docket No. 0335-UCR. resources will be available for the service needs of this service area north of Cypress Creek along FM 2325 from ASU's existing wastewater treatment plant ( WWTP) to RR 12 to the Brookshire Brother Grocery property and out RR 12 to the City of Woodcreek. ASU could serve this area through service corridors approximately 200 feet wide either side of the centerline of these roadways with some specifically identified properties fronting the roadways in the vicinity of the ASU WWTP.

There are no other alternative sewer service providers north of Cypress Creek nor can any be reasonably be expected in the foreseeable future because neither the Village nor GBRA have a wastewater collection or treatment system nor the permits to treat any sewage them may collect. They have no permits to collect and haul sewage and no contracts to have sewage treated at any regional treatment plant in the area. The only treatment plant in the area with known surplus capacity belongs to ASU and ASU has not been requested to provide capacity. Neither the Village nor GBRA have a means of lawfully disposing waste or treated effluent on the ground or into the waters of the state. The effected expected time delays to obtain permits and CCN's given ASU's recent experience in this community mean that the Village could not provide sewer utility service for two to four years which does not constitute timely provision of continuous and adequate service while meeting the public service, convenience, accommodation and safety. ASU can only conclude that the Village would be unable to meet any of the §13.246 statutory certification criteria in this area.

While there is another existing retail public sewer utility south of Cypress Creek, Blue Hole Management, ASU does not believe that it has the capacity to handle the additional capacity envisioned by the Village's application. ASU is unaware of any arrangement wherein the Village or GBRA may utilize the Blue Hole facilities to serve

the public south of Cypress Creek so ASU can only conclude that the Village would still be unable to meet any of the §13.246 statutory certification criteria in this area as well.

#### Rule 194.2(e):

Persons with knowledge.

#### Answer:

David Beyer, P. E., ASU Executive Vice-President - Texas 1. 11100 Brittmoore Park Drive Houston, Texas 77041 713.983.3000

Has overseen the final construction and the current operation of utility system and is responsible for all regulatory, financial and managerial operations of ASU in Texas.

Jeff Goebel, ASU Permit Coordinator 11100 Brittmoore Park Drive Houston, Texas 77041 713.983.3000

Over sees ASU's wastewater discharge permits for this area. Insures that ASU has a permit for its WWTP and/or renewals on file. Prepared renewal application.

Craig Sherwood, AquaSource Services, LP, Central Texas Manager 1421 Wells Branch Parkway, Suite 105 Pflugerville, Texas 78680 512.670.7625

Operations manager of ASU's affiliate services company who is responsible for the operation of this system, including providing operators, equipment, supplies, etc.

Rick Melcher 11100 Brittmoore Park Drive Houston, Texas 77041 713.983.3000

ASU public relations manager who meet with local officials and potential sewer customers about upgrades to the Woodcreek-Wimberley area sewer system and expansion of service capacities from ASU.

Robert Callegari, P. E. CMA Engineering, Inc. 3998-B Highway 290 East Dripping Springs, Texas 78620 512.894.3230

Licensed professional civil engineer who designed and oversaw the construction of improvements to the ASU sewer system in Woodcreek-Wimberley area, the new treatment plant and the collection line extension that is the subject of this docket.

Victoria Harkins, Ph. D., P.E.
Utilities and Districts Section
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
P O Box 13087, MC 153
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
512.239.6960

Staff engineer assigned to most ASU certification dockets, including this docket who is familiar with ASU's financial, managerial and technical resources and who has inspected this system during the course of ASU's pending rate case.

All Parties to SOAH Docket No. 582-00-1469; TNRCC Docket No. 2000-0335-UCR; Application By Woodcreek Utilities, Inc. to Amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 20124 in Hays County, Texas

#### Rule 194.2(f):

Testifying experts.

#### Answer:

David Beyer, PE, ASU President - Texas 11100 Brittmoore Park Drive Houston, Texas 77041 713.983.3000

Subject matter and impressions: There is a current need for sewer utility service in a portion the requested service area where ASU is serving and/or where ASUY can expand its service. While there may be a need for service in other portions, there is no entity capable of providing that service.

ASU is a regional certificated sewer utility able to construct, own and operate a state-approved sewer utility system within the service area under the requirements of Texas Water Code Chapters 13 and 26 and the associated TNRCC regulations. ASU can provide continuous and adequate service through an extension and an upgrade of its existing sewer system that has been constructed according to all applicable

governmental standards. ASU has, and has been found, to have sufficient financial managerial and technical resources with which to operate TNRCC-certificated water and sewer systems in this state. These resources will be available for the service needs of this service area. There are no other alternative sewer service providers. Sewer service is already being provided to a portion of the requested service area because onsite sewer systems have proven unreliable and have failed. ASU's service will not harm the environment, as it will be provided under standards set by the TNRCC in the appropriate permitting forums. There is no adverse impact on any neighboring utility since there are none. There is no adverse impact on the environment from this proposed service expansion. ASU Has had no service problems in the proposed service area.

Jeff Goebel, ASU Waste Permit Manager 11100 Brittmoore Park Drive Houston, Texas 77041 713.983.3000

Subject matter and impressions: ASU has the permits in the renewal process necessary to serve the service area ASU now serves. Timely renewal and expansion applications are filed as and when needed.

Craig Sherwood, AquaSource Services, LP, Central Texas Manager 1421 Wells Branch Parkway, Suite 105 Pflugerville, Texas 78680 512.670.7625

Subject matter and impressions: There is a current need for sewer utility service in the requested service area north of Cypress Creek that ASU can met along FM 2325 and RR 12. ASU is a regional certificated sewer utility able to construct, own and operate a state-approved sewer utility system within the service area under the requirements of Texas Water Code Chapters 13 and 26 and the associated TNRCC regulations. ASU can provide continuous and adequate service through an extension and an upgrade of its existing sewer system that has been constructed according to all applicable governmental standards. ASU has, and has been found, to have sufficient financial managerial and technical resources with which to operate TNRCC-certificated water and sewer systems in this state. These resources will be available for the service needs of this service area. There are no other alternative sewer service providers. Sewer service is already being provided to a portion of the requested service area because onsite sewer systems have proven unreliable and have failed. There is no adverse impact on any neighboring utility since there are none. There is no adverse impact on the environment from this proposed service expansion. ASU Has had no service problems in the proposed service area.

Documents: The documentation responsive to these discovery requests is voluminous and will be made available for inspection and copying at a mutually acceptable time by appointment with AȘU's counsel Mark H. Zeppa or between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday, February 25th, between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Tuesday, February 26th and between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Wednesday, February 27th at the Law Offices of Mark H. Zeppa, PC, 4833 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 202, Austin, Texas 78759-8436, (512) 346-4011.

#### Rule 194.2(h):

Discoverable settlement agreements.

Answer:

None to date.

#### Rule 194.2(i):

Discoverable witness statements.

Answer: None expressly related to this specific CCN application to date. Statements will be prepared and submitted in the form of prefiled testimony. There are copies of prefiled testimony and transcripts of testimony in the above-referenced SOAH Docket No. 582-00-1469; TNRCC Docket No. 2000-0335-UCR; Application By Woodcreek Utilities, Inc. to Amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 20124 in Hays County, Texas, which are in the possession of all parties to this docket since each were parties to that case. This documentation is voluminous; however, if requested, copies will be made available for copying and inspection in the offices of ASU's counsel upon appointment.

#### STATE OF TEXAS

#### **COUNTY OF TRAVIS**

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Mark Zeppa, Mark Zeppa, certify that the foregoing discovery answers were prepared under my direction and control, that I have reviewed the same, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and believe.

Mark/Zeppa

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED to under oath by Mark Zeppa before the undersigned notary public on the 14th day of February, 2002.

Stanling Edward Westrick

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

**SEAL** 

