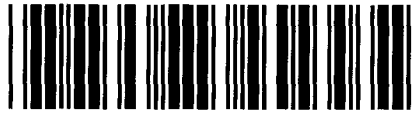


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**AQUA TEXAS, INC.'S NOTICE OF
INTENT TO PROVIDE SEWER
SERVICE TO AREA DECERTIFIED
FROM GULF COAST WASTE
DISPOSAL AUTHORITY IN
CHAMBERS COUNTY**

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2016 DEC -1 PM 2: 58
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK
OF TEXAS

ORDER

This Order addresses Aqua Texas, Inc.'s notice of intent application to provide sewer service to an area decertified from Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority's sewer certificate of convenience and necessity in Chambers County. Gulf Coast gave consent for Aqua to seek approval to serve the decertified area. The application is approved.

The Commission adopts the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

I. Findings of Fact

1. On August 17, 2016, 2,809 acres of property was decertified from Gulf Coast's sewer certificate number 20465 in Docket No. 45718.¹
2. On September 19, 2016, Aqua filed an application to provide retail sewer utility service to the decertified property.
3. The application included the affidavit of Ricky Clifton, General Manager of Gulf Coast.² Mr. Clifton attests to the following:
 - a. Gulf Coast is the decertified sewer certificate holder for the property;
 - b. Gulf Coast has determined that no property has been rendered useless or valueless as a result of decertification of the property; therefore, no compensation is owed to Gulf Coast and no appraisal is needed to determine just compensation owed to Gulf

¹ *Application of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority to Amend a Sewer Certificate of Convenience and Necessity in Chambers County*, Docket No. 45718, Notice of Approval (Aug. 17, 2016).

² Application at Exhibit A.

Coast in order for Aqua to provide retail sewer utility service to the decertified property described in the application;

- c. Gulf Coast has no wastewater treatment or collection facilities to provide sewer service in the immediate area of the property and Gulf Coast has made no plans to install same; and,
 - d. Gulf Coast does not possess a water certificate covering property within its sewer service area.
4. On September 23, 2016, the Commission issued Order No. 1, providing notice of the application and requiring Aqua and Gulf Coast to file a list of items for admission into evidence and a joint proposed order.
 5. Notice of Aqua's intent to serve in a decertified area was published in the *Texas Register* on October 7, 2016.
 6. On October 11, 2016, the Commission issued Order No. 2, admitting evidence into the record of this proceeding.

II. Conclusions of Law

1. Aqua and Gulf Coast are retail public utilities as defined in § 13.002(19) of the Texas Water Code.³
2. The Commission has jurisdiction over this proceeding under TWC §§ 13.041 and 13.254.
3. Proper notice of Aqua's intent to serve the decertified property was provided as required by TWC § 13.254 and 16 Texas Administrative Code § 24.113 (TAC).
4. Aqua has met the substantive criteria for being able to provide retail sewer service to the decertified property as set forth in TWC § 13.254.
5. The requirements for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

³ Tex. Water Code Ann. § 13.002(19) (West 2008 and Supp. 2016). (TWC).

III. Ordering Paragraphs

In accordance with these findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Commission issues the following orders:

1. The application is approved.
2. Aqua may provide retail sewer utility service to the public within the decertified property.
3. All other motions, requests for entry of specific findings of fact or conclusions of law, and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted herein, are hereby denied.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 1st day of December 2016.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



DONNA L. NELSON, CHAIRMAN



KENNETH W. ANDERSON, JR., COMMISSIONER



BRANDY MARTY MARQUEZ, COMMISSIONER