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# SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-17-2372.WS PUC DOCKET NO. 46438

# APPLICATION OF J&S WATER§BEFORE THE STATE OFFICECOMPANY, LLC FOR A§OFRATE/TARIFF CHANGE§ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

#### J&S WATER COMPANY, LLC'S LIST OF ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

In response to the Order of Referral,<sup>1</sup> J&S Water Company, LLC ("J&S") files this list of issues to be addressed in the docket.

#### I. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

- 1. What is the appropriate ratemaking methodology for determining J&S's just and reasonable water and sewer rates?<sup>2</sup>
- 2. What are just and reasonable rates for J&S that are not unreasonably preferential, prejudicial, or discriminatory, but are sufficient, equitable, and consistent in application to each class of consumers?<sup>3</sup>
- 3. What overall revenue will permit J&S a reasonable opportunity to earn a reasonable return on its invested capital used and useful in rendering service to the public over and above its reasonable and necessary operating expenses and preserve the financial integrity of J&S?<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Order of Referral (January 26, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.183; 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.182(a) & (b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.183(a).

- 4. Is it reasonable to allow J&S to collect additional revenues to provide funds for capital improvements necessary to provide facilities capable of providing adequate and continuous utility service?<sup>5</sup>
- 5. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary allowable expenses based on J&S's historic test year expenses as adjusted for known and measurable changes?<sup>6</sup>
  - a. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary operations and maintenance expenses incurred in furnishing normal utility service and in maintain utility plant used by and useful to J&S in providing such service?<sup>7</sup>
  - Are J&S's payments to affiliated interests reasonable and necessary, based on prices charged to J&S being no higher than prices charged by the supplying affiliate to its other affiliates or divisions for the same item or items, or to unaffiliated persons or corporations?<sup>8</sup>
  - c. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary depreciation expenses?<sup>9</sup>
  - d. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary assessments and taxes, other than income taxes?<sup>10</sup>
  - e. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary federal income taxes?<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.183(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.185(d); 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id.*; TEX. WATER CODE § 13.185(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.185(j); 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(D).

- f. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary funds expended in support of membership in professional or trade associations that contribute toward the professionalism of their membership?<sup>12</sup>
- g. What are J&S's reasonable and necessary advertising, contributions and donations?<sup>13</sup>
- 6. What rate will yield a fair return on the invested capital used and useful in rendering service to the public, considering the efforts and achievements of J&S in the conservation of resources, the quality of J&S's services, the efficiency of J&S's operations, and the quality of J&S's management?<sup>14</sup>
- 7. What is J&S's total cost of capital?<sup>15</sup>
  - a. What is J&S's cost of debt capital or actual cost of debt?<sup>16</sup>
  - b. What is J&S's cost of equity capital, based on a fair return on its value?<sup>17</sup>
- 8. What is J&S's total invested capital, also referred to as rate base?<sup>18</sup>
  - a. What is the original cost, less accumulated depreciation, of utility plant, property,
    and equipment used by and useful to J&S in providing service?<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(E).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(b)(1)(F).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.184; 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(1) & (c)(1)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(1)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(1)(B)(i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(1)(B)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.185(b); 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(2)(A).

- What is the original cost, less net salvage and accumulated depreciation at the date of retirement, of depreciable utility plant, property, and equipment retired by J&S?<sup>20</sup>
- 9. What is J&S's reasonable working capital allowance?<sup>21</sup>
- 10. What is the total amount to be deducted from J&S's rate base per 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(3)(A)-(E)?
- What amount, if any, of construction work in progress does J&S seek to include in its rate base?<sup>22</sup>

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- 12. What post-test year adjustments, if any, does J&S seek to make to its rate base?<sup>23</sup>
- 13. Is an acquisition adjustment appropriate?<sup>24</sup>
- 14. What intangible assets, if any, does J&S seek to include in its rate base?<sup>25</sup>
- 15. What rate-case expenses incurred by J&S, including attorney fees, are just, reasonable, necessary, and in the public interest?<sup>26</sup>
- 16. If there are any intervening cities, what are the reasonable and necessary rate-case expenses incurred by those cities?<sup>27</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(2)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(2)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(c)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(d) & (e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.31(f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> TEX. WATER CODE § 13.084.

# II. PRAYER

J&S respectfully requests that the Commission include the foregoing list of issues as matters to be decided in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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# **ATTORNEYS FOR J&S WATER COMPANY, LLC**

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on all

parties of record in this proceeding as required by SOAH Order No. 1 on this 2nd day of March,

2017.

Brytne D. Kitchin