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Addendum StartPage: 0

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-18-2486.WS

PUC DOCKET NO. 47795

APPLICATION

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

SAMUEL RAY, P.E.

ON BEHALF OF
THE CITY OF HUTTO

JANUARY 24, 2020

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL RAY, P.E.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Introduction and Qualifications	3
II.	Findings and Conclusions	3
III.	Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Capacity	3
IV.	Exhibit	6

I. Introduction and Qualifications

Q. Please state your name and business address

A. My name is Samuel Ray. My business address is 500 W. Live Oak Street, Hutto, TX 78634.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am the Senior City Engineer for the City of Hutto.

Q. Please summarize your educational background and professional qualifications.

A. Please see the information on the attached Exhibit A.

Q. On whose behalf are you appearing in this proceeding?

A. I am appearing on behalf of the City of Hutto, a home rule city in Williamson County, Texas.

Q. What is your assignment in this part of the proceeding?

A. This testimony explores the need for the City of Hutto to have its pending applications at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to expand its two wastewater treatment plants granted as a condition of the issuance of its pending application to amend its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 20122.

II. Findings and Conclusions

Q. My testimony supports the following findings and conclusions.

- The City of Hutto owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants that together have enough surplus capacity today to provide service to approximately 7244 new customers.
- There is no practical need to condition the granting of the City's CCN application on the issuance of its two pending applications at the TCEQ to the increase the permitted capacity of the City's two wastewater treatment plants.

III. Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Capacity

Q. Please describe the City's current permitted wastewater treatment and disposal capacity.

A. The City owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants. The central plant operates pursuant to TPDES Permit No. WQ 0011324001 issued by the TCEQ and has a current permitted capacity of 1,700,000 gallons per day (gpd). The south plant operates pursuant to TPDES Permit No. WQ 0011324002 and has a current permitted capacity of 2,000,000 gpd.

Together, then, the City's two wastewater treatment plants have a total of 3,700,000 gpd treatment and disposal capacity.

Q. Please describe the City's current actual wastewater treatment and disposal capacity.

A. Together, the City's two wastewater treatment plants have a total of approximately 1,630,000 gpd of actual available capacity. Using standard methodology, 1,630,000 gpd of available capacity means that the City has enough capacity to serve an additional 7,244 living unit equivalents of wastewater service capacity, which is approximately equivalent to 7,244 single family houses.

Q. Please describe the two applications pending at the TCEQ to increase the permitted capacity of the two wastewater treatment plants.

A. The City filed an application with the TCEQ to increase the permitted capacity set forth in its TPDES Permit No. WQ 0011324001 for the central wastewater treatment plant from 1,700,000 gpd to 3,250,000 gpd and a second application to increase the permitted capacity set forth in its TPDES Permit No. WQ 0011324002 from 2,000,000 gpd to 15,500,000 gpd.

Q. Why did the City deem it necessary to seek these two amendments at this time if it has 1,630,000 gpd of available capacity?

A. The City is experiencing unprecedented growth in its city limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction. Although the City does have a significant amount of unused and available permitted and actual capacities in its two wastewater treatment plants at this time, the process to apply for and obtain amended waste discharge permits to increase its permitted capacity can take an exorbitant amount of time if the applications happen to be contested in some way. The City does not want to risk delaying the provision of wastewater service to new customers at some point in time when the two wastewater treatment plants are operating at full permitted and actual capacity.

Q. Is it your opinion that the City will be able to provide additional service to new customers for an indeterminate period of time while operating its two wastewater treatment plants at their current permitted capacities?

A. Yes. As mentioned above, the City would have to add over 7000 new customers before it reaches actual capacity in its two wastewater treatment plants.

Q. Does this complete your testimony on this topic at this time?

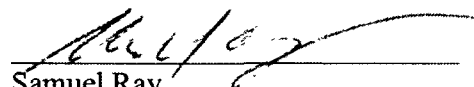
A. Yes.

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON


BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Samuel Ray who, having been placed under oath by me, did depose as follows;

My name is Samuel Ray. I am of legal age and a resident of the State of Texas. The foregoing testimony and exhibit offered by me are true and correct, and the opinions stated therein are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accurate, true and correct.



Samuel Ray

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME by the said Samuel Ray on this the 23rd day of January, 2020.



Notary Public, State of Texas

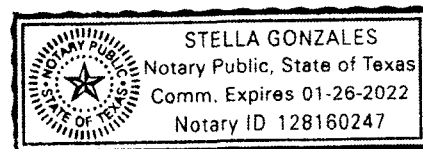


Exhibit A

SAMUEL RAY, P.E.

Texas PE #124967

512-759-5989 ◊ samuel.ray@huttotx.gov ◊ Hutto, TX 78634

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated Civil Engineer skilled in all phases of engineering operations. Consistently finishes projects under budget and ahead of schedule. Forward-thinking professional familiar with all aspects of construction, commercial and residential planning. Advocate for sustainable infrastructure and green city-planning. Committed to designing environmentally-conscious and cost-effective public infrastructure solutions.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Project Management
 - Operational Analysis
 - Technical Plan Execution
 - Water Piping Design
 - Materials Management
 - Erosion and sedimentation control
 - Land Development Planning
 - Strong Technical Aptitude
 - Complex Problem Solver
 - Critical Thinker
-

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Hutto - Hutto, TX
Senior City Engineer

June 2018 - Current

- **Development Review** - Performed and oversaw review of all construction plans and site plans within the city for engineering related items. Review of plans includes street, drainage, water and wastewater improvements and checking for conformance with City, State and Federal codes and regulations as well as best engineering practices. Also, ensured that development plans were in line with long term City Master Plans allowing for safe and efficient growth of the City.
- **Project Management** - Managed the road, drainage, water and wastewater Capital Improvement Projects for the City. This includes coordination between city and county officials, consultants, contractors, property owners, citizens and businesses to make sure that projects stay on time and budget. Various tasks include presenting to City Council, reviewing contracts and construction plans, negotiating with consultants, contractors and property owners, developing construction plans, directing contractors and city staff in construction and providing information on projects.
 - **FM 1660 Waterline Relocation** - Developed construction plans for the relocation of an 8" waterline and appurtenances related to the relocation of a TxDOT road. Oversaw bidding and award of construction to contractor and provided construction phase services including review of change orders, pay applications and inspections. Project included coordination with multiple divisions of TxDOT.
 - **Innovation Business Park Phase 1** - Took over construction management following the original contractor going out of business and leaving the site for public infrastructure improvements to provide road, drainage, water,

wastewater, electric, gas and communications services for an industrial business park. Aided in negotiation with Bonding Company, assisted city crews in interpreting construction plans and finding solutions to problems in the field. Oversaw bidding of portions of construction to subcontractors.

- **Road and Drainage Bond Program** - Managed a voter approved \$70 million road and drainage improvement program including three intersection improvement projects, a grade separated intersection involving bridging over a railroad and state highway, downtown neighborhood street reconstruction and creek channel improvement and flood mitigation.
- **Water and Wastewater Bond Program** - Managed \$34 million in water and wastewater improvement projects including the decommissioning of a lift station, installation of a gravity wastewater interceptor, installation of two on site wastewater plant lift stations, four water pump station improvements and transmission and distribution waterline improvements.

CMA Engineering Inc. – Austin, TX

November 2013 – April 2018

Project Engineer

- **City of Dripping Springs West Interceptor** – Performed design for regional wastewater main, lift station and force main to serve multiple residential subdivisions in the City of Dripping Springs. Project included installation of treated effluent lines, multiple creek crossings of wastewater main and treated effluent lines, contract documents, bidding, and construction phase services.
- **City of Dripping Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant Permit Amendment and Renewal** – Assisted in preparing the administrative and technical report and attachments for TLAP WWTP permit amendment and renewal application for the TCEQ.
- **AMM Collision Center** – Performed design for building expansion including extension of water main, site grading and drainage, detention pond, as well as bringing the site into compliance with impervious cover requirements.
- **Crosswinds Subdivision** – Performed engineers opinion of probable construction costs for >1400 unit residential development in Kyle, Texas; including water, wastewater, street and drainage improvements proving feasibility of development for client. Assisted in design of the ~250 unit Phase 1 including design of drainage improvements and rough lot grading ensuring proper drainage for each home and providing finished floor elevations for each lot. Performed design of water main and wastewater improvements including lift station, force main, and gravity wastewater main to extend service from the City of Kyle to Crosswinds.
- **Canyon Lake Water Supply Waterline Study** – Performed study of existing water supply system and aided in developing a report detailing all improvements required to bring water supply system up to current TCEQ standards and prioritization of improvements to benefit homeowners. Proposed improvements including installation of new water lines, increasing existing water main sizes, addition of fire hydrants and pressure reducing valves. Aided in developing construction plans for water system improvements that included installing new water mains, fire hydrants, pressure reducing valves, and erosion control.

- **District Engineer to Hays County Water Control and Improvement Districts 1 & 2 (serving Belterra subdivision)** – provided monthly engineering reports on the status of reuse irrigation projects under construction; projects of future wastewater treatment plant and reuse irrigation flows; status of irrigation projects currently being designed. Consulted with design engineer on new reuse irrigation projects.

SK Nelson Engineering, LLC – Burnet, TX

July 2012 – November 2013

Design Engineer

- Performed drainage studies utilizing HEC-HMS, HEC-RAS, and other software to determine design storm hydrographs, BFE'S, and other water surfaces resulting in a LOMA.
- Storm water management including design of detention ponds, culverts, storm sewers, SWPPP, water quality BMP's. Worked with cities, counties, and other regulatory agencies for permits and approvals.
- Water and wastewater design including gravity sewer, force main, lift station and water distribution systems.
- Site layout and plan set development including demo plan, grading, striping and paving, utility plan, stormwater plan, and dimension control.
- Road and street design including water crossings and vertical/horizontal curve design.

Texas Department of Transportation – Austin, TX

Summer 2011

Engineering Technician – Internship

Traffic Engineering Division

- Reviewed and provided comments on plans, specifications, and cost estimates.
- Assisted in collecting and analyzing data for speed zone studies.
- Created street maps using databases for upcoming projects.
- Chosen to travel to review road signing, striping, and dimensioning throughout Texas.

EDUCATION

University of Texas at San Antonio

BS – Civil Engineering