



Control Number: 47855



Item Number: 3

Addendum StartPage: 0

DOCKET NO. 47855

TARIFF FILING OF CHUCK BELL §
WATER SYSTEMS, L.L.C. FOR §
SURCHARGE PAST-THROUGH FOR §
BEAR CREEK PWS#2200336 §

2018 JAN 11
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

COMMISSION STAFF'S FINAL RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Staff), representing the public interest, and files this Final Recommendation, recommending that the Application be approved. In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

I. BACKGROUND

On December 12, 2017, Chuck Bell Water Systems, L.L.C. (Applicant) filed an application for a sampling fee surcharge. Applicant proposed to impose the surcharge during the February 2018 billing cycle for a period of one month only on customers in the Bear Creek subdivision PWS#2200336.

On December 27, 2017, the Commission Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued a Notice Setting Deadline for Staff's Recommendation, requiring that on or before January 12, 2018, Staff file a recommendation on the application, or propose a procedural schedule if necessary. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

II. RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the Application and, based on the attached memorandum of Sean Scaff of the Commission's Water Utility Division, recommends that the Application be approved by Staff pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code (TAC) § 24.21(b)(2)(G)(ii)(I), "[i]f authorized by the commission or municipality exercising original jurisdiction over the utility, a surcharge to recover the actual increase in costs to the utility may be collected over a specifically authorized time period without being listed on the approved tariff for sampling fees not already recovered by rates." The attached memorandum of Sean Scaff states the Application satisfies the requirements of 16 TAC § 24.21(b)(2)(G)(ii)(I), and that the proposed surcharge are for expenses Applicant has already incurred. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Applicant be allowed to collect the surcharge

requested in the application. The surcharge excludes the costs of routine activities already included in the current rates. Additionally, consistent with the attached memorandum, Staff also recommends that customers be provided notice of the surcharge in the February billing cycle affected by this application, and that Applicant must not collect more than the expenses incurred by the water sampling.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests that the ALJ issue an Order consistent with this recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION**

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton
Division Director

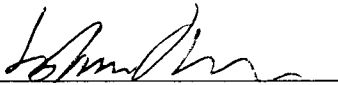
Katherine Lengieza Gross
Managing Attorney



Joshua Adam Barron
State Bar No. 24087146
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326
(512) 936-7235
(512) 936-7268 (facsimile)
Joshua.Barron@puc.texas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on January 11, 2018 in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.


Joshua Adam Barron

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Joshua Barron, Attorney
Legal Division

THRU: Tammy Benter, Director
Debi Loockerman, Financial Manager
Water Utility Regulation

FROM: Sean Scaff, Engineering Specialist
Water Utility Regulation

DATE: January 8, 2018

SUBJECT: **Tariff Control No. 47855**, *Tariff Filing of Chuck Bell Water Systems, L.L.C. for Surcharge Past-through for Bear Creek PWS #2200336*

On December 12, 2017, Chuck Bell Water Systems L.L.C. ("Chuck Bell" or "Applicant"), water Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 12190, in Johnson County, Texas, filed an application for a sampling fees surcharge to affected customers in Bear Creek PWS# 2200336.

Staff has reviewed the application pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.21(b)(2)(G)(ii)(I) (TAC), which states that "If authorized by the commission or the municipality exercising original jurisdiction over the utility, a surcharge to recover the actual increase in costs to the utility may be collected over a specifically authorized time period without being listed on the approved tariff for sampling fees not already recovered by rates."

Based on review of the information in the application and the additional information, Staff finds the application complies with the requirements of 16 TAC § 24.21(b)(2)(G)(ii)(I). Therefore, Staff recommends the Commission:

- a) Deem the application sufficient for filing;
- b) Approve the sampling fees surcharge application authorizing the Applicant to collect the following fees:

Bear Creek \$314.28/21 connections = \$14.97/ connection for 1 month

- c) Include in the first bill, that the Applicant sends out, the following statement:

"A sampling surcharge has been approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) to cover sampling fees incurred by the utility and required by the Safe Drinking Water Act." and

- d) Include language in the Commission's order noting that the Applicant must not collect more than the expenses incurred by the water sampling.