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DOCKET NO. 48459

PETITION TO REVOKE GALCO
UTILITIES' CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND
NECESSITY PURSUANT TO TEX.
WATER CODE ANN. § 13.254 AND 16
TAC § 24.113

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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# COMMISSION STAFF'S PETITION TO REVOKE GALCO UTILITIES' CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) files this Petition to Revoke Galco Utilities' Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Petition) and hereby provides notice of the opportunity to request a hearing on the merits of this Petition.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

For the reasons discussed below, the water service Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 10736 for Galco Utilities (Galco) should be revoked. Upon investigation, Commission Staff has determined that the public water system associated with Galco is inactive, and that the CCN should be revoked.

In the event Galco fails to request a hearing within thirty days of service of this Petition, a default order should be issued, without additional notice to Galco, granting all relief sought in this Petition. In support of this Petition, Commission Staff respectfully shows the following:

#### II. JURISDICTION AND LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Commission is authorized to regulate and supervise the business of each water and sewer utility within its jurisdiction. Pursuant to Tex. Water Code Ann. § 13.242 (TWC), a "water supply or sewer service corporation may not in any way render retail water or sewer utility service directly or indirectly to the public without first having obtained from the utility commission a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tex. Water Code Ann. § 13.041 (West Supp. 2014) (TWC).

certificate that the present or future public convenience and necessity will require that installation, operation, or extension."

A CCN is defined as "[a] permit issued by the commission which authorizes and obligates a retail public utility to furnish, make available, render, or extend continuous and adequate retail water or sewer service to a specified geographic area." A retail public utility is "[a]ny person corporation, public utility, water supply or sewer service corporation, municipality, political subdivision or agency operating, maintaining, or controlling in this state facilities for providing potable water service or sewer service, or both, for compensation."

A retail public utility that possesses a CCN is required to provide continuous and adequate service.<sup>4</sup> A retail public utility that possesses a CCN and fails to provide continuous and adequate service may be subject to revocation.<sup>5</sup> As part of this authority, the Commission, "after notice and hearing, may revoke or amend any" CCN if the Commission finds that "the certificate holder has never provided, is no longer providing, is incapable of providing, or has failed to provide continuous and adequate service in the area, or part of the area, covered by the certificate."<sup>6</sup>

Pursuant to the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act,<sup>7</sup> a party is entitled to an opportunity for a hearing after reasonable notice of not less than 10 days, where the party may respond to and present evidence and argument on each issue involved in the case.<sup>8</sup> If a hearing is not requested within thirty days after service of notice of an opportunity for hearing, a default occurs.<sup>9</sup> Upon default, the presiding officer may issue a default order, revoking the certificate without a hearing on an informal basis.<sup>10</sup>

#### III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Galco is located in Harris County, Texas off IH 45 N in the City of Houston. On May 19, 1959, Galco filed an application with the Secretary of State to become a Texas corporation. On November 1, 1979, Galco was granted CNN No. 10736. The utility has ceased to operate and is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.3(15) (TAC).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> TWC § 13.002(19) and 16 TAC § 24.3(58).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See TWC § 13.250(a) and 16 TAC § 24.114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC 24.113(a)(1).

<sup>6</sup> *Id* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Administrative Procedure Act, Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.001-.902 (West 2008 & Supp. 2014) (APA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> APA §§ 2001.051-.178.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 16 TAC § 22.183.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> APA § 2001.056(4) and 16 TAC § 22.183.

now listed as inactive on the Secretary of State's website. Commission Staff's review of Commission's records indicate that Galco is no longer in business, and the facilities it used to provide continuous and adequate service are inactive. Therefore, Galco is no longer providing and is incapable of providing continuous and adequate service.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATION FOR REVOCATION

The Commission should revoke Galco's CCN No. 10736 because Galco is no longer in business, and the facilities it used to provide continuous and adequate service are inactive. As long as CCN No. 10736 continues to remain in effect, it may be a violation of Commission rules for another company to provide service in the certificated area. 12

For the above stated reasons, Commission Staff recommends revocation of CCN No. 10736 pursuant to TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC § 24.113(i)(1)(A).

#### V. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

16 TAC §§ 22.54 and 22.55 require Commission Staff to provide reasonable notice to persons affected by a proceeding in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. <sup>13</sup> In license revocation proceedings, APA § 2001.054 requires that notice be given "by personal service or by registered or certified mail to the license holder of facts or conduct alleged to warrant the intended action." In order to proceed on a default basis, 16 TAC § 22.183 requires Commission Staff to provide notice by certified mail, return receipt requested: (a) to a certificate holder's last known address in the Commission's records; (b) to the person's registered agent for process on file with the Secretary of State; or (3) to an address for the party identified after reasonable investigation if the first two options are not applicable.

In accordance with these provisions, Commission Staff will provide a copy of this petition by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Galco's last known address in the TCEQ's and Commission's records:

Galco Utilities 12620 IH45 N Houston, TX 77060

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC 24.113(i)(1)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See TWC § 13.242.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> APA §§ 2001.001-.902.

Commission Staff will also provide a copy of this petition by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address for the registered agent for process on file with the Secretary of State:

John W Anderson Jr 2811 Airline Road Houston, TX 77009

Pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.183, Commission Staff hereby notifies Galco that the factual allegations in this petition could be deemed admitted and the relief sought herein granted by default if Galco fails to request a hearing within 30 days after service of the Petition and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. The purpose of a hearing on the merits is to consider revocation of Galco's CCN No. 10736. If Galco fails to request a hearing, the presiding officer may issue a default order on an informal basis without a hearing on the merits pursuant to APA § 2001.056(4) and 16 TAC § 22.183.

The factual allegations listed in Commission Staff's Petition and Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing could be deemed admitted and the relief sought herein could be granted by default if you fail to timely request a hearing.

#### VI. REQUEST

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Commission Staff respectfully requests that the Commission grants Commission Staff's request to revoke Galco's CCN No. 10736. In the event that Galco fails to request a hearing on the merits, Commission Staff requests that the Commission issue a default final order, with no further notice to Galco, revoking CCN No. 10736.

Respectfully Submitted,

Taylor Kilroy

Attorney, Oversight and Enforcement Division

State Bar No. 24087844/

(512) 936-7127

(512) 936-7208 (facsimile)

Public Utility Commission of Texas

1701 N. Congress Avenue

P.O. Box 13326

Austin, Texas 78701-3326

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on June 13, 2018, pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.183(b)(2), a copy of this document was sent certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of Galco Utilities (Galco) in the Commission's records and to the address for the registered agent for process on file with the Secretary of State:

Galco's Last Known Address in Commission Records:

Galco Utilities 12620 IH45 N Houston, TX 77060

Address for the registered agent for process on file with the Secretary of State:

John W Anderson Jr 2811 Airline Road Houston, TX 77009

Taylor Kilroy

## Attachment 1

Map of Water Service Certificate of Convenience and Necessity

No. 10736

### Galco Utilities Water CCN No. 10736 in Harris County

Gulf Bank Mesquite CCN 10736 Castledale Dr. Hartwick W Hartwick Rd Havner Ln Mitchell Birchwood Brea Crest St Mooney Rd Sunny Dr Wardmont Hopper Hopper Rd Warwick Carby Rd Carby

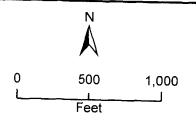
Cromwell St



Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

#### Water CCN

10736 - Galco Utilities



Map by: Kristy Nguyen Date created: May 25, 2018 Project path: n:\10736 galco\10736 galco

## Attachment 2

Water Service Certificate of Convenience and Necessity

No. 10736

