

Control Number: 48470



Item Number: 1

Addendum StartPage: 0

PETITION TO REVOKE LULL COMMISSION WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION'S § § **CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC** § CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PURSUANT TO TEX. WATER CODE § § ANN. § 13.254 AND 16 TAC § 24.113 **OF TEXAS**

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<u>COMMISSION STAFF'S PETITION TO REVOKE</u> <u>LULL WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION'S</u> <u>CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND</u> <u>NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING</u>

Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) files this Petition to Revoke Lull Water Supply Corporation's 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. 10546 for Lull Water Supply Corporation (Lull) should be revoked. Upon investigation, Commission Staff has determined that the public water system associated with Lull is inactive, and that the CCN should be revoked.

In the event Lull fails to request a hearing within thirty days of service of this Petition, a default order should be issued, without additional notice to Lull, 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.¹ 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

¹ 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."² 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."³

A retail public utility that possesses a CCN is required to provide continuous and adequate service.⁴ A retail public utility that possesses a CCN and fails to provide continuous and adequate service may be subject to revocation.⁵ 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."⁶

Pursuant to the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act,⁷ 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.⁸ If a hearing is not requested within thirty days after service of notice of an opportunity for hearing, a default occurs.⁹ Upon default, the presiding officer may issue a default order, revoking the certificate without a hearing on an informal basis.¹⁰

III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Lull is located in Hidalgo County, Texas off Highway 69C in the City of Edinburg. On December 14, 1965, Lull filed an application with the Secretary of State to become a Texas corporation. On November 1, 1979, Lull was granted CNN No. 10546. Lull underwent an

² 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.3(15) (TAC).

³ TWC § 13.002(19) and 16 TAC § 24.3(58).

⁴ See TWC § 13.250(a) and 16 TAC § 24.114.

⁵ TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC 24.113(a)(1).

⁶ Id.

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

⁸ APA §§ 2001.051-.178.

⁹ 16 TAC § 22.183.

¹⁰ APA § 2001.056(4) and 16 TAC § 22.183.

involuntary dissolution on March 21, 2007. The utility has ceased to operate, and is now listed as inactive on the Secretary of State's website. Commission Staff's review of Commission's records indicates that Lull is no longer in business, and the facilities it used to provide continuous and adequate service are inactive. Therefore, Lull is no longer providing, and is incapable of providing, continuous and adequate service.

IV. RECOMMENDATION FOR REVOCATION

The Commission should revoke Lull's CCN No. 10546 because Lull is no longer in business, and the facilities it used to provide continuous and adequate service are inactive.¹¹ As long as CCN No. 10546 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. 10546 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.¹³ 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 Lull's last known address in the TCEQ's and Commission's records:

¹¹ See TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC 24.113(i)(1)(A).

¹² See TWC § 13.242.

¹³ APA §§ 2001.001-.902.

Lull WSC 3913 Salinas Edinburg, TX 78539

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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:

Donato Salinas Route 3 Box 288 Edinburg, TX 78539

Pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.183, Commission Staff hereby notifies Lull that the factual allegations in this petition could be deemed admitted and the relief sought herein granted by default if Lull 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 Lull's CCN No. 10546. If Lull 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.

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

VI. REQUEST

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Commission Staff respectfully requests that the Commission grants Commission Staff's request to revoke Lull's CCN No. 10546. In the event that Lull fails to request a hearing on the merits, Commission Staff requests that the Commission issue a default final order, with no further notice to Lull, revoking CCN No. 10546.

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 18, 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 Lull Water Supply, Inc. (Lull) in the Commission's records and to the address for the registered agent for process on file with the Secretary of State:

Lull's Last Known Address in Commission Records:

Lull WSC 3913 Salinas Edinburg, TX 78539

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

Donato Salinas Route 3 Box 288 Edinburg, TX 78539

-M Taylor Kilroy

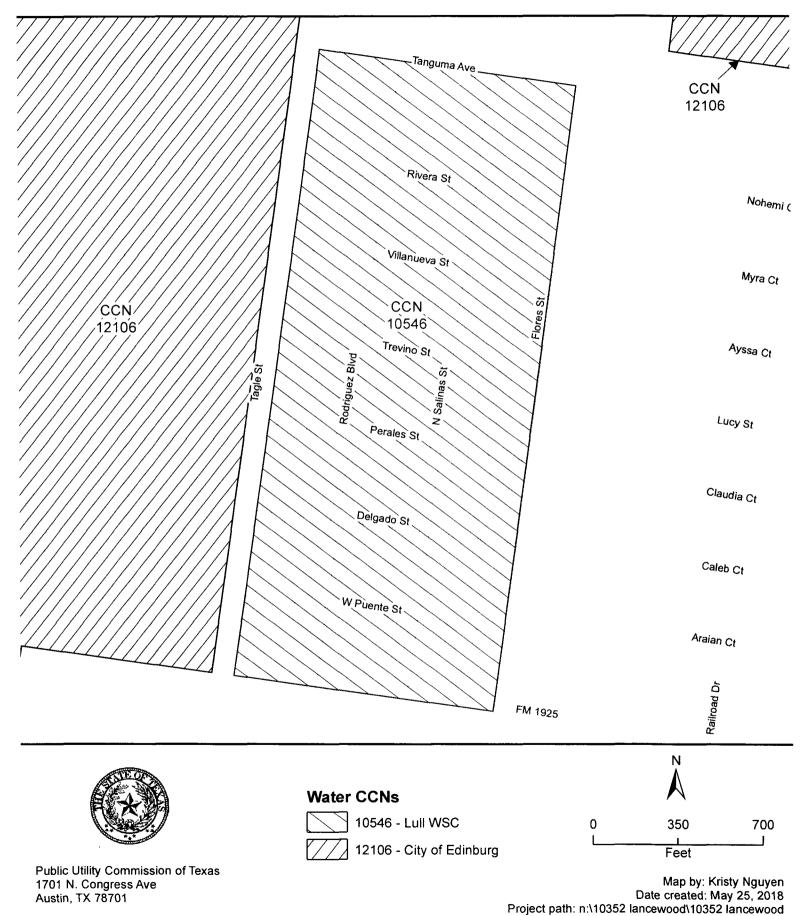
Attachment 1

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Map of Water Service Certificate of Convenience and Necessity

No. 10546

Lull WSC Water CCN No. 10546 in Hidalgo County



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Attachment 2

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Water Service Certificate of Convenience and Necessity



Public Utility Commission of Texas By These Presents Be It Known To All That

LULL WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

having duly applied for certification to provide water utility service for the convenience and necessity of the public, and it having been determined by this Commission that the public convenience and necessity would in fact be advanced by the provision of such service by this Applicant, is entitled to and is hereby granted this

Certificate of Convenience and Necessity

numbered 105%, to provide water utility service to that service area or those service areas designated by final Order or Orders duly entered by this Commission, which Order or Orders are on file at the Commission offices in Austin, Texas; and are matters of official record available for public inspection; and be it known further that these

presents do evidence the authority and the duty of this Grantee to provide such utility service in accordance with the laws of this State and the Rules of this Commission, subject only to any power and responsibility of this Commission to revoke or amend this Certificate in whole or in part upon a subsequent showing that the public convenience and necessity would be better served thereby.

> Philip F. Ricketts SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

Issued at Austin, Texas, this 1st day of November, 1979.

Attachment 3

Involuntary Dissolution of Lull Water Supply Corporation

Reports Unit P.O. Box 12028 Austin, Texas 78711-2028



Roger Williams Secretary of State

Office of the Secretary of State

INVOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION OF LULL WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION File Number 21913701

The Secretary of State hereby determines and finds the following:

- 1. That the corporation is required to file the periodic report specified by Article 1396-9.01 of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act.
- 2. That the corporation has failed to file the periodic report prescribed by law when the same has become due.
- 3. That the corporation forfeited its right to conduct affairs in this state for failure to file said report.
- 4. That the corporation was mailed notice of such forfeiture following a period of not less than thirty (30) days of the requirement to file said report and simultaneously therewith given an additional period of not less than one hundred twenty (120) days to correct the delinquency.
- 5. That the corporation has failed prior to such involuntary dissolution to correct the neglect, omission or delinquency.

It is therefore ordered, as prescribed by Article 1396-9.02E of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, that the domestic corporation be involuntarily dissolved or the certificate of authority of a foreign corporation be revoked without judicial ascertainment.

Dated: March 21, 2007



Kopas Heining

Roger Williams Secretary of State

Come visit us on the Internet @ http://www.sos.state.tx.us Fax: 512-463-1423

Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Services