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DeAnn T. Walker
Chairman

Arthur C. D'Andrea
Commissioner

Shelly Botkin
Commissioner

John Paul Urban
Executive Director



Greg Abbott
Governor

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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Public Utility Commission of Texas

TO: DeAnn T. Walker, Chairman
Arthur C. D'Andrea, Commissioner
Shelly Botkin, Commissioner

All Parties of Record

FROM: Hunter Burkhalter 
Administrative Law Judge

RE: **Open Meeting of August 29, 2019**
Docket No. 48473 – *Petition to Revoke Canton Rural Water Supply Corporation's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Pursuant to Texas Water Code § 13.254 and 16 Texas Administrative Code § 24.245*

DATE: July 23, 2019

Enclosed is a copy of the Proposed Default Order in the above-referenced docket. The Commission will consider this docket at an open meeting currently scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 29, 2019, at the Commission's offices, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. The parties may file corrections or exceptions to the Proposal for Decision on or before Wednesday, August 21, 2019.

If there are no corrections or exceptions, no response is necessary.

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DOCKET NO. 48473

PETITION TO REVOKE CANTON § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
RURAL WATER SUPPLY §
CORPORATION'S CERTIFICATE OF § OF TEXAS
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY §
PURSUANT TO TEXAS WATER CODE §
§ 13.254 AND 16 TEXAS §
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE § 24.245 §

PROPOSED DEFAULT ORDER

This Default Order addresses the petition of Commission Staff to revoke the water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) of Canton Rural Water Supply Corporation for violations of the Texas Water Code and Commission rules. The Commission grants the petition, by default, and revokes Canton Rural WSC's CCN number 10750.

I. Findings of Fact

The Commission makes the following findings of fact.¹

CCN Holder

1. Canton Rural WSC is registered with the Texas secretary of state as a domestic nonprofit corporation under file number 21702501.
2. Canton Rural WSC is authorized to provide water service under CCN number 10750 in Van Zandt County.

Commission Staff's Petition

3. On June 18, 2018, Commission Staff filed its petition in this proceeding, in which it seeks to revoke the CCN of Canton Rural WSC for failure to provide continuous and adequate water service.
4. The petition alleges that Canton Rural WSC is no longer providing and is incapable of providing continuous and adequate water service and, therefore, its CCN should be revoked under Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.245(i)(1)(A) (*formerly* § 24.113(i)(1)(A)).

¹ The findings of fact are derived from the factual allegations found in Commission Staff's petition and are deemed admitted by default.

5. Canton Rural WSC's CCN was issued in 1979.
6. Canton Rural WSC underwent an involuntary dissolution on September 17, 1990.
7. Canton Rural WSC's status with the Texas secretary of state is listed as inactive.
8. The Commission's records indicate that Canton Rural WSC is no longer in business and the facilities it used to provide water service are inactive.
9. Canton Rural WSC is no longer providing and is incapable of providing continuous and adequate water service.

Notice

10. The Commission's records list Canton Rural WSC's address as: PO Box 603, Canton, Texas 75103.²
11. On June 18, 2018, Commission Staff sent copies of the petition, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to: (a) the address of Canton Rural WSC as shown in the Commission's records; and (b) the address for Canton Rural WSC's registered agent for process, as shown in the records of the Texas secretary of state.
12. The petition notified Canton Rural WSC that it was entitled to request a hearing within 30 days after the filing of the petition, and included the following admonition, in at least 12-point, bold-face type:

The factual allegations listed in Commission Staff's Amended 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.

The Motion for Default

13. On August 17, 2018, Commission Staff filed a motion for entry of a default order.
14. The motion for default was served upon Canton Rural WSC in the same way that the petition was served.

Grounds for Default

15. More than 30 days have passed since service of the petition to Canton Rural WSC.

² <http://www.puc.texas.gov/WaterSearch/Utility?siteId=14666> Under Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.090 and 16 TAC § 22.222, the Commission takes official notice of Canton Rural WSC's address as shown in the Commission's records.

16. Canton Rural WSC did not request a hearing on the merits, and did not respond to the petition.
17. More than 30 days have passed since service of the motion for default.
18. Canton Rural WSC did not respond to the motion for default.
19. Commission Staff proved, by default, that Canton Rural WSC is no longer providing and is incapable of providing continuous and adequate water service in its certificated area.

II. Conclusions of Law

The Commission makes the following conclusions of law.

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under TWC § 13.254.
2. Canton Rural WSC is a retail public utility under 16 TAC § 24.3(59).
3. As the holder of CCN number 10750, Canton Rural WSC is obligated to serve every consumer within its certified area and render continuous and adequate service within the area under TWC § 13.250 and 16 TAC § 24.247.
4. Because Canton Rural WSC is no longer providing and is incapable of providing continuous and adequate service in the area covered by its CCN in violation of TWC § 13.250 and 16 TAC § 24.247, the Commission is entitled to revoke the CCN under TWC § 13.254(a)(1) and 16 TAC § 24.245(i)(1)(A).
5. Adequate notice was provided to Canton Rural WSC in compliance with 16 TAC §§ 22.54 and 22.183, and Texas Government Code § 2001.054.
6. Canton Rural WSC's failure to request a hearing within 30 days of the notice of an opportunity for a hearing qualifies this proceeding for disposition by default under 16 TAC § 22.183.
7. The requirements for disposition by default in 16 TAC § 22.183 the have been met in this proceeding.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

In accordance with these findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Commission issues the following orders:

1. The motion for default is granted and Canton Rural WSC's CCN number 10750 is revoked.
2. The Commission is not constrained in any manner from requiring additional action or penalties for violations that are not raised here.
3. The Commission denies all other motions and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted.

Signed at Austin, Texas the ____ day of August 2019.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

DEANN T. WALKER, CHAIRMAN

ARTHUR C. D'ANDREA, COMMISSIONER

SHELLY BOTKIN, COMMISSIONER