

Control Number: 48657



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#### TARIFF CONTROL NO. 48657

APPLICATION OF MSEC

ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR A PASS

THROUGH RATE CHANGE

\$ PUBLIC TRUITY COMMISSION

FOR A PASS

THROUGH RATE CHANGE

#### COMMISSION STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

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

### I. BACKGROUND

On August 31, 2018, MSEC Enterprises, Inc. (MSEC) filed an application pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.21 for approval of a pass-through rate change to allow for the recovery of the water production fee charged by Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District. The rate increase applies to Public Water System No. 1700781.

On September 6, 2018, the Administrative Law Judge issued a Notice setting a deadline for Staff to file a recommendation on MSEC's application, address notice requirements, and propose a procedural schedule, if necessary, by October 1, 2018. On September 28, 2018, Staff requested an extension of time, because the subject matter expert initially assigned to review this matter had left the Commission. The Commission granted this request on October 1, 2018.

On October 5, 2018, Staff filed a second request for an extension of time to give Staff's newly assigned subject matter expert more time to complete an assessment of the application. On October 8, 2018, the Commission extended the deadline for Staff to file its recommendation until October 12, 2018. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

#### II. STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

Consistent with the attached memorandum (Attachment A) of Emily Sears, Financial Analyst with the Water Utility Regulation Division, Staff recommends that MSEC's application is insufficient for filing. Staff further recommends that MSEC clarify whether the water losses indicated in its application reflect water losses only for the Crown Ranch Subdivision or for the entirety of MSEC's water systems. If the water losses specified in the application represent systemwide losses, Staff recommends that MSEC specify water losses for the Crown Ranch Subdivision.

## III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests the issuance of an order consistent with the above recommendations.

Dated: October 11, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton Division Director

Katherine Lengieza Gross Managing Attorney

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## **DOCKET NO. 48657**

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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

Skyler Springsteen Collins

## **PUC Interoffice Memorandum**

To:

Skyler Collins, Attorney

Legal Division

Through:

Debi Loockerman, Financial Manager

Water Utility Regulation

From:

Emily Sears, Financial Analyst

Water Utility Regulation

Date:

September 28, 2018

Subject:

Tariff Control No. 48657; Application of MSEC Enterprises, Inc. for Approval

of a Pass-Through Rate Change

On August 31, 2018, MSEC Enterprises, Inc. (Applicant) filed an application to implement a pass-through rate pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.21 for groundwater production fees from Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District (Bluebonnet).

The Applicant proposes to increase its approved pass-through rate for its Crown Ranch Subdivision (PWS No. 1700781) water customers effective October 1, 2018.

Staff has reviewed the application and recommends that the application be deemed insufficient for filing at this time. Staff recommends that the Commission require the Applicant to clarify if the water losses included with the application are for the Crown Ranch Subdivision only, or if the water losses are for all the Applicant's systems. Also, if the water losses are for all the Applicant's systems, provide the water losses for the Crown Ranch Subdivision only.