

Control Number: 49335



Item Number: 13

Addendum StartPage: 0

DOCKET NO. 49335

**APPLICATION OF THE RIDGE AT
FRIO RIVER WATER COMPANY LLC
FOR A PRICE INDEX RATE
ADJUSTMENT**

§
§
§
§

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS**

RECEIVED

2019 JUL 22 09:11:01

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF APPROVAL

This Notice of Approval grants the application of The Ridge at Frio River Water Company LLC (The Ridge) for a price index rate adjustment. The Commission adjusts The Ridge's water base rate to \$92.88 for 5/8 or 3/4-inch meters, \$232.20 for 1-inch meters, \$464.40 for 1 1/2-inch meters, \$743.04 for 2-inch meters, \$1,486.08 for 3-inch meters, and the block gallonage rate to \$3.61 per 1,000 gallons for the first 8,000 gallons, to \$4.64 for 8,001 to 15,000 gallons, and to \$5.93 for usage over 15,001 gallons.

I. Findings of Fact

The Commission makes the following findings of fact.

Applicant

1. The Ridge at Frio River Water Company LLC is a domestic limited liability company registered with the Texas secretary of state under file number 801971209.
2. The Ridge provides water service under certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) number 13233.
3. The Ridge operates Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)-approved public water system ID No. 1930024 which serves 6 connections.

Application

4. On March 14, 2019, The Ridge filed an application for a price-index rate adjustment to its water rates.
5. The Ridge proposed an effective date of June 6, 2019.
6. In Order No. 2 issued on April 17, 2019, the administrative law judge (ALJ) deemed the application administratively complete.

Notice

7. In Order No. 4 issued on June 24, 2019, the ALJ required The Ridge to issue notice with the effective date and provide each ratepayer with the proposed rate adjustment by July 24, 2019.
8. On July 2, 2019, The Ridge filed a copy of the notice mailed to its customers on June 29, 2019 with an effective date of rate increase of August 18, 2019.

Rate Adjustment

9. The Ridge requested an adjustment to its water-tariff base-rate monthly meter charge and its water gallonage rates based on the Commission's current price index of 3.20%.¹
10. The Ridge proposed increasing the monthly water base rate from \$90.00 to \$92.88 for 5/8 or 3/4-inch meters, \$225.00 to \$232.20 for 1-inch meters, \$450.00 to \$464.40 for 1 1/2-inch meters, \$720.00 to \$743.04 for 2-inch meters, and \$1,440.00 to \$1,486.08 for 3-inch meters.
11. The Ridge proposed increasing the block gallonage rate from \$3.50 to \$3.61 per 1,000 gallons for the first 8,000 gallons, \$4.50 to \$4.64 for 8,001 to 15,000 gallons, and \$5.75 to \$5.93 for usage over 15,001 gallons.

Filing Schedule

12. In accordance with 16 TAC § 24.49(f)(2), a class C utility with a CCN number ending in 28-54 may file an application for a price-index rate adjustment in Quarter 2, April through June unless good cause is shown for filing in a different month.
13. The Ridge filed in March with CCN number ending in 33.
14. The Ridge demonstrated good cause to file outside the assigned quarter.
15. This filing is the first price index adjustment for The Ridge.

Annual Report

16. The Ridge must file its annual service, financial, and normalized-earnings report on June 1 of each year as required by 16 TAC § 24.129.

¹ *Proceeding to Establish the Calendar Year 2019 Price Index for Rate Adjustments Under Texas Water Code § 13.1872*, Docket No. 45320, Order (Nov. 8, 2018).

Tariff

17. On April 26, 2019, Commission Staff filed the proposed tariff as an attachment to its recommendation.

Informal Disposition

18. More than 15 days have passed since the completion of notice provided in this docket.
19. No person filed a protest or motion to intervene.
20. The Ridge and Commission Staff are the only parties to this proceeding.
21. No party requested a hearing and no hearing is needed.
22. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application.
23. This decision is not adverse to any party.

II. Conclusions of Law

The Commission makes the following conclusions of law.

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the application under Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.1872.
2. The Ridge is a utility as defined in TWC § 13.002(23) and is a class C utility under TWC § 13.002(4-c).
3. Under TWC § 13.1872(f), The Ridge may adjust its rates not more than once each year and not more than four times between rate proceedings under TWC § 13.1871.
4. An increase in The Ridge rates of 3.20% complies with 16 TAC § 24.49(c)(1).
5. The Commission processed the application in accordance with the requirements of the TWC, the Administrative Procedure Act,² and Commission rules.
6. The Ridge has demonstrated that it has met the requirements of TWC § 13.1872 and 16 TAC § 24.49 for approval of the rate adjustments.
7. The requirements for informal disposition under 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

² Administrative Procedure Act, Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.001–.902.

8. Under 16 TAC § 24.49(e), The Ridge must provide notice after it receives a copy of this Notice of Approval and 30 days before the effective date of the proposed change.

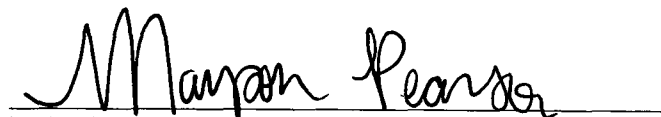
III. Ordering Paragraphs

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

1. The Commission grants the application of The Ridge for a price index rate adjustment.
2. The Commission adjusts The Ridge's monthly water base rate to \$92.88 for 5/8 or 3/4-inch meters, \$232.20 for 1-inch meters, \$464.40 for 1 1/2-inch meters, \$743.04 for 2-inch meters, \$1,486.08 for 3-inch meters, and the block gallonage rate to \$3.61 per 1,000 gallons for the first 8,000 gallons, to \$4.64 for 8,001 to 15,000 gallons, and to \$5.93 for usage over 15,001 gallons.
3. The Commission finds the notice issued by The Ridge, filed on July 2, 2019, sufficient and no further notice is necessary.
4. The Ridge's new rates are effective as of August 18, 2019, as indicated on the filed notice to customers.
5. The Commission approves the tariff attached to Commission Staff's recommendation filed on April 26, 2019, with the inclusion of the effective date of August 18, 2019.
6. Within ten days after The Ridge files proof of notice, Commission Staff must file a clean copy of the tariff with Central Records to be marked *Approved* and kept in the Commission tariff book.
7. The Commission denies all other motions and any other requests for general or specific relief, if not expressly granted.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 29th day of July 2019.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



MAYSON PEARSON

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE