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APPLICATION OF JRM WATER LLC AND CSWR-TEXAS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE RIGHTS IN VICTORIA COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ON SUFFICIENCY OF CLOSING DOCUMENTS

COMES NOW the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Staff), representing the public interest, and in response to Order No. 11, files this Recommendation on Sufficiency of Closing Documents . In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

I. BACKGROUND

On November 18, 2019, CSWR-Texas Utility Operating Company (CSWR or Purchaser) and JRM Water LLC (JRM or Seller) (collectively, Applicants) filed an application for sale, transfer, or merger (STM) of facilities and certificate rights in Victoria County, Texas, under Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.301 and the 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.239. Specifically, the Purchaser seeks approval to acquire facilities, transfer water service area, obtain a new water Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN), and cancel JRM's water CCN No. 11548.

On August 3, 2020, the ALJ filed Order No. 11 approving the sale to proceed and establishing a deadline for Staff to file a recommendation regarding the sufficiency of closing documents and to propose a schedule for the continued processing of this docket within 15 days following the filing of the applicant's proof that the transaction had been consummated. Applicant's filed proof that the transaction had been consummated on January 11, 2021. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

II. SUFFICIENCY OF CLOSING DOCUMENTS

Staff has reviewed the closing documents filed by Applicants on January 11, 2021. Based on its review, Staff has determined that Applicants' filing meets the requirements of 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §§ 24.239(k)-(n).

Applicants also stated that JRM has committed to returning all customer deposits and that CSWR will file an affidavit in this docket showing same once the refund is completed.

Accordingly, based upon Applicants' completion of the requirements, as stated in the Commission rules, Staff recommends a finding that the closing documents be found sufficient and that there are no issues related to customer deposits to address as a result of the transaction contingent on the filing of an affidavit in this docket confirming that the customer deposits have been returned to the customers.

III. PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

In accordance with Staff's recommendation that Applicants' closing documents be found sufficient, Staff proposes the following procedural schedule for continued processing of the docket:

Event	Date
Deadline for Staff to provide final maps, certificates, and tariffs (if applicable) to Applicants for review and consent	February 9, 2021
Deadline for Applicants to file signed consent forms with the Commission	February 23, 2021
Deadline for parties to jointly file a proposed Notice of Approval, including proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law and ordering paragraphs	March 2, 2021

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, Staff respectfully requests that an order be issued finding that the closing documents filed by Applicants are sufficient and that customer deposits have been addressed. Staff further requests that the procedural schedule proposed above be adopted for the continued processing of this docket.

Dated: January 26, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Rachelle Nicolette Robles Division Director

Heath D. Armstrong Managing Attorney

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, notice of the filing of this document was provided to all parties of record via electronic mail on January 26, 2021, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664

<u>/s/ Rustin Tawater</u> Rustin Tawater