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APPLICATION OF MSEC WASTE WATER, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

ORDER NO. 8 GRANTING MOTION TO COMPEL AND AMENDING DEADLINE

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This Order addresses the motion to compel filed by Commission Staff on August 10, 2020. Commission Staff filed a motion to compel a response to their first requests for information, question numbers 1-1 through 1-7. The questions concerned the nature of MSEC Waste Water Inc.'s ownership, organizational structure, and governance, including information related to board members, executives, employees, and service agreements between MSEC WW, its affiliate MSEC Enterprises, Inc., and the parent company of both affiliates, Mid-South Electric Cooperative Association, d/b/a MidSouth Electric Co-op or Mid-South Synergy (Mid-South Synergy). Commission Staff asserts that the information sought is necessary to make a determination regarding the appropriate utility classification of MSEC.

On August 17, 2020, MSEC filed a response to the motion to compel. MSEC restated their objections to the requests for information. Summarily, MSEC objects on the grounds that Commission Staff seeks information that is not relevant to the subject matter of this proceeding, nor are the requests reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of relevant or admissible evidence.

On September 23, 2020, Commission Staff filed a request for extension to file its supplemental recommendation because no ruling had been made on the motion to compel, and the necessary information to make a recommendation had not been received. The administrative law judge (ALJ) finds the request moot and amends the deadlines as detailed below.

Information tends to be considered relevant if it tends to make the existence of any material fact to the outcome of a case more or less probable than without such information. Commission Staff has sufficiently argued that the requested information may be relevant or lead to the discovery of information relevant to discovering facts necessary to determine the outcome in this docket. MSEC has not claimed any unjust prejudice stemming from the production of the requested

information which would outweigh the probative value of the information. Nor has MSEC claimed an overly burdensome task in the production of the requested information.

The ALJ disagrees with and overrules MSEC's objections and grants the motion to compel. On or before October 9, 2020, MSEC must file responsive information to Commission Staff's first requests for information. MSAC may file this information confidentially, if it so chooses. On or before October 23, 2020, Commission Staff must file a supplemental recommendation on the application and notice.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 25th day of September 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

GREGORY R. SIEMANKOWSKI ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

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