

Control Number: 51089

Item Number: 34

Addendum StartPage: 0



DOCKET NO. 51089

APPLICATION OF DONALD E. WILSON	§	GCLER
D/B/A QUIET VILLAGE II D/B/A QV	§	BEFORE THE
UTILITY AND CSWR-TEXAS UTILITY	§	
OPERATING COMPANY, LLC FOR	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SALE, TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF	§	
FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE	§	OF TEXAS
RIGHTS IN HIDALGO COUNTY	§	

CSWR-TEXAS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC'S SUPPLEMENTAL DESIGNATION OF PROTECTED MATERIALS

Pursuant to the protective order entered in this proceeding,¹ CSWR-Texas Utility Operating Company, LLC ("CSWR Texas") is designating certain material provided in its supplemental response to Staff's First Request for Information to CSWR Texas as highly sensitive. The undersigned counsel for CSWR Texas has reviewed the information sufficiently to state in good faith that this information is exempt from public disclosure under the Public Information Act and merits the Protected Materials designation.

CSWR Texas' Supplemental Attachment to Staff 1-1(a) has been designated as highly sensitive because the supplemental responsive document contains commercially sensitive financial and business operation information. The public disclosure of the information would cause substantial competitive harm to CSWR, LLC and its subsidiaries, including CSWR Texas. Any other entity that seeks to acquire water utilities in Texas and elsewhere could use the financial information to its competitive advantage, to the detriment of CSWR, LLC and its subsidiaries. Accordingly, the information contained in Supplemental Highly Sensitive Attachment Staff 1-1(a) is exempt from public disclosure under Tex. Gov't Code §§ 552.101, 552.104 and 552.110.

¹ Order No. 1 at 4 (Jul. 24, 2020).

Respectfully submitted,

L. Russell Mitten General Counsel Central States Water Resources, Inc. 1650 Des Peres Rd., Suite 303 St. Louis, MO 63131 (314) 380-8595 (314) 763-4743 (Fax)

Evan D. Johnson

State Bar No. 24065498

Kate Norman

State Bar No. 24051121

C. Glenn Adkins

State Bar No. 24103097

Coffin Renner LLP

1011 W. 31st Street

Austin, Texas 78705

(512) 879-0900

(512) 879-0912 (fax)

evan.johnson@crtxlaw.com

kate.norman@crtxlaw.com

glenn.adkins@crtxlaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR CSWR, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of December 2020, notice of the filing of this document was provided to all parties of record via electronic mail in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

Evan D. Johnson

DOCKET NO. 51003

APPLICATION OF OAK HILL RANCH	§	
ESTATES WATER AND CSWR-TEXAS	§	BEFORE THE
UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC	§	
FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR MERGER	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE	§	
RIGHTS IN GUADALUPE AND WILSON	§	OF TEXAS
COUNTIES	§.	

CSWR-TEXAS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC'S SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO STAFF'S FIRST RFI NO. 1-1a

Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference is CSWR-Texas Utility Operating Company, LLC's ("CSWR Texas") written supplemental response to the aforementioned request for information. The supplemental response is set forth on or attached to a separate page upon which the request has been restated. Such response is also made without waiver of CSWR Texas' right to contest the admissibility of any such matters upon hearing. CSWR Texas hereby stipulates that its response may be treated by all parties exactly as if it were filed under oath.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Russell Mitten General Counsel Central States Water Resources, Inc. 1650 Des Peres Rd., Suite 303 St. Louis, MO 63131 (314) 380-8595 (314) 763-4743 (Fax)

Evan D. Johnson
State Bar No. 24065498
Kate Norman
State Bar No. 24051121
C. Glenn Adkins
State Bar No. 24103097
Coffin Renner LLP
1011 W. 31st Street
Austin, Texas 78705
(512) 879-0900
(512) 879-0912 (fax)
evan.johnson@crtxlaw.com
kate.norman@crtxlaw.com
glenn.adkins@crtxlaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR CSWR, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of December 2020, notice of the filing of this document was provided to all parties of record via electronic mail in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

Evan D. Johnson

DOCKET NO. 51003 CSWR-Texas Utility Operating Company, LLC's RESPONSES TO STAFF'S 1st RFIs

STAFF 1-1

Please provide the following:

- a. the most current bank statement reflecting the cash account balance of CSWR;
- b. the most recent year-to-date interim financial statements of CSWR for 2020;
- c. an explanation of how CSWR plans on moving to profitability and an estimate as to when CSWR will become profitable.

Supplemental Response:

A document responsive to this request has been deemed highly sensitive or confidential and is being provided in accordance with the terms of the protective order in this docket.

a. See Supplemental Highly Sensitive Attachment Staff 1-1(a).

Response:

Documents responsive to this request have been deemed highly sensitive or confidential and are being provided in accordance with the terms of the protective order in this docket.

- a. See Highly Sensitive Attachment Staff 1-1(a).
- b. See Confidential Attachment Staff 1-1(b).
- c. Almost all the water and wastewater systems CSWR's affiliated operating companies acquire are distressed, undercapitalized, mismanaged, out of regulatory compliance, or some combination of those attributes. Another characteristic of those systems is their rates have not increased for many years in some cases several decades so at the time of acquisition they are operating at a net loss. Fortunately, in addition to the equity capital required to acquire these systems and make expenditures necessary to remedy their most pressing problems, CSWR's investors have provided working capital sufficient to cover short-term operating losses.

To stem any current or future losses, each affiliated operating company has adopted a business model that calls for rate case filings within a reasonable period—generally 12 months—of closing, or as necessary. Establishing fully compensatory rates will allow each operating affiliate—including CSWR Texas and CSWR—to increase revenue by an amount sufficient to cover its reasonable operating costs and receive a reasonable return on the value of its acquired rate base and any reasonable investments made subsequent to closing. For instance, CSWR Texas expect to move to profitability by filing a rate case at the PUCT within 12 months of closing on this system, or as soon as necessary, and by establishing rates that provide recovery of

DOCKET NO. 51003 CSWR-Texas Utility Operating Company, LLC's RESPONSES TO STAFF'S 1st RFIs

STAFF 1-1 (con't)

CSWR Texas' reasonable operating expenses and allow a reasonable opportunity to earn a reasonable return on its invested capital used and useful in providing service, as determined by the PUCT. How long it will take either the individual affiliates or CSWR to become profitable depends on the pace and volume of future acquisitions and the ability to set reasonable rates, as necessary, once those acquisitions close.

Preparer: Aaron Silas, Business Analyst

Sponsor: Mike Duncan, Assistant Vice President