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**APPLICATION OF ESPERANZA §
WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC. §
AND EL PASO WATER UTILITIES §
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR SALE, §
TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF §
FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE §
RIGHTS IN HUDSPETH COUNTY §**

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

2021 MAR -4 PM 12:01

FILED IN CLERK

COMMISSION STAFF'S REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

On November 17, 2020, El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board (El Paso) and Esperanza Water Service Company, Inc. (Esperanza WSC) (collectively, Applicants) filed an application for approval of the sale, transfer, or merger of facilities and certificate rights in Hudspeth County. Specifically, El Paso seeks approval to acquire facilities and to transfer all of water service area from Esperanza WSC under water Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 12881 to El Paso's CCN No. 10211. The requested area includes approximately 18,102 acres and 292 connections. Applicants filed proof of notice on January 4, 2021, January 6, 2021, and January 11, 2021.

On February 2, 2021, the administrative law judge (ALJ) filed Order No. 4, ordering Commission Staff (Staff) to file a final recommendation on the approval of the sale by March 5, 2021. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

I. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

Pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.4(b), Staff may request that the time allowed for filing any documents be extended for good cause. Staff is working with the Applicants and Fort Hancock Water Control and Improvement District (FHWCID) to resolve the issues raised by FHWCID but needs additional time. Therefore, Staff requests an extension until March 19, 2021 to request a hearing or file a recommendation on the approval of the sale. As the 120-day administrative deadline is May 6, 2021, Staff requests no other changes to the procedural schedule.

II. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests an order consistent with the foregoing request.

Date: March 4, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
LEGAL DIVISION**

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/s/ Robert Dakota Parish
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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 March 4, 2021, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ Robert Dakota Parish
Robert Dakota Parish