



## Filing Receipt

**Received - 2022-05-12 09:26:06 AM**  
**Control Number - 53485**  
**ItemNumber - 5**

**DOCKET NO. 53485**

<b>APPLICATION OF GIDEON WATER, LLC TO FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY</b>	<b>§ § § §</b>	<b>PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION   OF TEXAS</b>
--	----------------------------	---

**COMMISSION STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE  
COMPLETENESS AND NOTICE AND PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

On April 12, 2022, Gideon Water LLC (Gideon Water) filed an application to obtain a Water Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) in Montgomery County. The requested service area consists of 79 acres. Gideon Water filed supplemental information on April 13 and May 4, 2022.

On April 13, 2022, the administrative law judge (ALJ) filed Order No. 1, establishing a deadline of May 12, 2022 for the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) to file comments on the administrative completeness of the application and proposed notice and to propose a procedural schedule for the further processing of this docket. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLETENESS**

Staff has reviewed the application and supplemental information and as detailed in the attached memoranda from Jolie Mathis, Infrastructure Division, and Ethan Blanchard, Rate Regulation Division, recommends that the supplemented application is administratively complete. Staff’s recommendation on administrative completeness is not a comment on the merits of the application.

**II. NOTICE**

At this time, Staff recommends that Gideon Water proceed with providing public notice to all landowners, neighboring utilities, political subdivisions, and other persons listed in the attached memorandum using the notice form provided by Ms. Mathis. Along with each individual notice, Staff recommends that Gideon Water provide an accurate map delineating the requested service area. Staff further recommends that Gideon Water publish notice of the application for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in Montgomery County.

Once notice has been provided, Staff recommends that Gideon Water file proof of notice as described in the attached memorandum, including an affidavit specifying the name and address of every person and entity to whom notice was provided, the date that the notice was provided, and a copy of the map provided with the notice. Gideon Water should also provide a completed publisher's affidavit and a copy of the newspaper tear sheets demonstrating publication. Finally, Staff recommends that Gideon Water use the attached notices and affidavits to meet these requirements.

### **III. PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Staff recommends the application be found administratively complete. Staff therefore proposes the following procedural schedule:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Deadline for Gideon Water to file with the Commission signed affidavits that the notice was given along with a copy of the notice and map sent to the affected parties and published in a newspaper of general circulation	June 24, 2022
Deadline for Staff to file a recommendation on sufficiency of notice	July 5, 2022
Deadline to intervene	30 days after notice is issued

### **IV. CONCLUSION**

For the reasons detailed above, Staff recommends that the application be found administratively complete, that Gideon Water be directed to provide notice as described in Ms. Mathis's attached memorandum, and that the proposed procedural schedule be adopted. Staff respectfully requests the entry of an order consistent with these recommendations.

Dated: May 12, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
LEGAL DIVISION**

Keith Rogas  
Division Director

Sneha Patel  
Managing Attorney

/s/ John Harrison  
John Harrison  
State Bar No. 24097806  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711-3326  
(512) 936-7277  
(512) 936-7268 (facsimile)  
John.Harrison@puc.texas.gov

**DOCKET NO. 53485**

**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 May 12, 2022, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ John Harrison  
John Harrison

# *Public Utility Commission of Texas*

---

## **Memorandum**

**TO:** John Harrison, Attorney  
Legal Division

**FROM:** Jolie Mathis, Utility Engineering Specialist  
Infrastructure Division

**DATE:** May 12, 2022

**RE:** Docket No. 53485 – *Application of Gideon Water, LLC to Obtain a Certificate(s) of Convenience and Necessity in Montgomery County*

---

On April 12, 2022, Gideon Water, LLC (Gideon) filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) an application to obtain a water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) in Montgomery County, Texas under Texas Water Code (TWC) §§ 13.242 through 13.250 and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §§ 24.225 through 24.237.

Based on the mapping review by Dave Babicki, Infrastructure Division, the maps submitted with Item 4 on May 4, 2022 are sufficient.

- The requested area includes 0 customer connections and approximately 79 acres, comprised of uncertificated area.
- The application proposes the addition of approximately 79 acres to Gideon Water, LLC's New CCN Number.
- The application indicates that the total acreage being requested is approximately 80 acres, however, the mapping review determined the requested area is approximately 79 acres.

Based on my technical and managerial review of the information filed by Gideon, I recommend that the application be deemed administratively complete. I further recommend that Gideon be ordered to do the following:

- 1) Provide notice of the application by first-class mail to the following:
  - a. Cities, districts, and neighboring retail public utilities providing the same utility service whose corporate boundaries or certificated service area are located within two miles from the outer boundary of the requested area:

- *The City of Magnolia*
  - *Clovercreek Municipal Utility District (MUD)*
  - *Grand Oaks MUD*
  - *San Jacinto River Authority*
  - *City of Magnolia (CCN No. 11466)*
  - *G & W Water Supply Corporation (WSC) (CCN No. 12391)*
  - *Johnston Water Utility LLC (CCN No. 12788)*
  - *Quadvest LP (CCN No. 11612)*
  - *Undine Texas LLC (CCN No. 13260)*
  - *Utilities Investment Company Inc. (CCN No. 12671)*
- b. The county judge of each county that is wholly or partially included in the requested area:
- *Montgomery County Judge*
- c. Each groundwater conservation district that is wholly or partially included in the requested area:
- *Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (GCD)*
- d. Each landowner of a tract of land that is at least 25 acres and is wholly or partly located in the requested area. Notice must be mailed to the owner of the tract of land according to the most current tax appraisal rolls of the applicable central appraisal district at the time the application was filed.
- e. Any affected customers, and other affected parties in the requested area.

Addresses can be obtained from the Water Utility Database at <http://www.puc.texas.gov/watersearch>. District information and addresses can be obtained from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) web site located at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/iwud/index.cfm>.

- 2) Publish notice once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county where the requested area is located. Proof in the form of a publisher's affidavit must be filed within 30 days of the publication date. The affidavit must state with specificity each county in which the newspaper is of general circulation. Within 30 days of the date the notice was mailed, Gideon must file an affidavit specifying the notice that was provided to every person and entity to whom notice was provided and the date the notice was mailed.
- 3) Provide notice using the attached notice forms.
- 4) Provide a copy of the map(s) deemed sufficient during administrative review delineating the requested area with each individual notice to neighboring utilities, other affected parties, landowners and customers.
- 5) File in the docket a copy of notice and the map(s) deemed sufficient during administrative review along with the signed affidavit specifying every person and entity

to whom notice was provided, the date that the notice was provided, and the publisher's affidavit and tear sheets for proof of newspaper publication.

- 6) Supplement the application with a copy of the approval letter(s) for the water treatment plant, facilities, and distribution system that will provide water service for the requested area from TCEQ once they are received. Gideon must file the approval letter prior to Staff making a final recommendation on the application.

Staff may determine that additional information is needed to make a final recommendation in this docket. If additional information is needed, Staff may send requests for information (RFI) to Gideon. Gideon will have 20 days from the receipt of the RFI to respond.

# *Public Utility Commission of Texas*

---

## **Memorandum**

**TO:** John Harrison, Attorney  
Legal Division

**FROM:** Ethan Blanchard, Financial Analyst  
Rate Regulation Division

**DATE:** May 5, 2022

**RE:** Docket No. 53485 – *Application of Gideon Water, LLC to for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity in Montgomery County*

---

On April 12, 2022, Gideon Water, LLC (Gideon Water) filed an application for a water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) in Montgomery County under Subchapter G of Texas Water Code Chapter 13.

I reviewed the answers provided to questions 28, 29, 30, and 31 of the application. I did not identify any deficiencies in those answers for purposes of determining whether the application is administratively complete. Therefore, I recommend that the Commission deem the application administratively complete from a financial perspective.



***Notice for Publication***

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF GIDEON WATER, LLC TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE(S)  
OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

Gideon Water, LLC has filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas to obtain a water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) for the provision of retail water utility service in Montgomery County, Texas.

The requested area overlaps the district boundaries of San Jacinto River Authority. If this district does not request a public hearing, the Commission shall determine that the district is consenting to the Gideon Water, LLC's request to provide retail water utility service in the requested area.

The requested area includes 0 customer connections, is located approximately 2.5 mile(s) southwest of downtown Magnolia, Texas, and is generally bounded on the north by Whispering Pines; on the east by Alford Road; on the south by the intersection of Alford Road and Forestview Drive; and on the west by East Lakeshore Drive.

The requested area includes approximately 79 acres, comprised of uncertificated area.

The application proposes the addition of approximately 79 acres to Gideon Water, LLC's New CCN Number.

**A copy of the map showing the requested area is available at:** Water Engineers, Inc., 17230 Huffmeister Rd., Suite A, Cypress, Texas 77429

*Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought should contact the Public Utility Commission, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is (30 days from the mailing or publication of notice, whichever occurs later, unless otherwise provided by the presiding officer). You must send a letter requesting intervention to the commission which is received by that date. The letter must include the person's name, address, email address and fax number if applicable.*

If a valid public hearing is requested, the Commission will forward the application to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for a hearing. If no settlement is reached and an evidentiary hearing is held, SOAH will submit a recommendation to the Commission for a final decision. An evidentiary hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

A landowner with a tract of land at least 25 acres or more, that is partially or wholly located within the requested area, may file a written request with the Commission to be excluded from the requested area ("opt out") within (30) days from the date that notice was provided by the Utility. All opt out requests must include a large-scale map, a metes and bounds description of the landowner's tract of land, landowner's name, address, email address and fax number, if applicable.

Persons who wish to request this option should file the required documents with the:

Public Utility Commission of Texas  
Central Records  
1701 N. Congress, P. O. Box 13326  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

In addition, the landowner must also send a copy of the opt out request to the Utility. Staff may request additional information regarding your request.

Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-888-782-8477.

**Notice to Neighboring Systems, Landowners, Customers, and Cities**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF GIDEON WATER, LLC TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE(S)  
OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

To: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Notice Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
(Neighboring System, Landowner, Customer or City)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City State Zip)

Gideon Water, LLC has filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas to obtain a water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) for the provision of retail water utility service in Montgomery County, Texas.

The requested area overlaps the district boundaries of San Jacinto River Authority. If this district does not request a public hearing, the Commission shall determine that the district is consenting to the Gideon Water, LLC's request to provide retail water utility service in the requested area.

The requested area includes 0 customer connections, is located approximately 2.5 mile(s) southwest of downtown Magnolia, Texas, and is generally bounded on the north by Whispering Pines; on the east by Alford Road; on the south by the intersection of Alford Road and Forestview Drive; and on the west by East Lakeshore Drive.

The requested area includes approximately 79 acres, comprised of uncertificated area.

The application proposes the addition of approximately 79 acres to Gideon Water, LLC's New CCN Number.

**See enclosed map showing the requested area.**

*Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought should contact the Public Utility Commission, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is (30 days from the mailing or publication of notice, whichever occurs later, unless otherwise provided by the presiding officer). You must send a letter requesting intervention to the commission which is received by that date. The letter must include the person's name, address, email address and fax number if applicable.*

If a valid public hearing is requested, the Commission will forward the application to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for a hearing. If no settlement is reached and an evidentiary hearing is held, SOAH will submit a recommendation to the Commission for final decision. An evidentiary hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

A landowner with a tract of land at least 25 acres or more, that is partially or wholly located within the requested area, may file a written request with the Commission to be excluded from the requested area ("opt out") within (30) days from the date that notice was provided by the Utility. All opt out requests must include a large-scale map, a metes and bounds description of the landowner's tract of land, landowner's name, address, email address and fax number, if applicable.

Persons who wish to request this option should file the required documents with the:

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Central Records

1701 N. Congress, P. O. Box 13326

Austin, TX 78711-3326

In addition, the landowner must also send a copy of the opt out request to the Utility. Staff may request additional information regarding your request.

Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-888-782-8477.

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



AFFIDAVIT OF NOTICE TO CURRENT CUSTOMERS, LANDOWNERS, NEIGHBORING  
UTILITIES, AND AFFECTED PARTIES  
DOCKET NO. 53485

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has provided individual  
notice to the following entities, landowners and customers:

DATE OF NOTICE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

OATH

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, file this form as  
\_\_\_\_\_ (indicate relationship to applicant, that is,  
owner, member of partnership, title of officer of corporation, or other authorized representative of  
applicant); that in such capacity, I am qualified and authorized to file and verify such form, am  
personally familiar with the notices given with this application, and have complied with all notice  
requirements in the application and application acceptance letter; and that all such statements made  
and matters set for therein are true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Authorized Representative

If the applicant to this form is any person other than the sole owner, partner, officer of the applicant,  
or its attorney, a properly verified Power of Attorney must be enclosed.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,  
to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print or Type Name of Notary Public

Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT  
DOCKET NO. 53485

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_,  
who being by me duly sworn, deposes and that (s)he is the

\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_  
(TITLE) (NAME OF NEWSPAPER)

that said newspaper is regularly published in \_\_\_\_\_  
(COUNTY/COUNTIES)

and generally circulated in \_\_\_\_\_, Texas;  
(COUNTY/COUNTIES)

and that the attached notice was published in said newspaper on the following dates, to wit:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATES)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,  
to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print or Type Name of Notary Public

Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_