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Received - 2023-03-14 01:24:30 PM Control Number - 54171 ItemNumber - 42

DOCKET NO. 54171

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APPLICATION OF TEXAS WATER UTILITIES, LP AND CS WATER CORPORATION FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE RIGHTS IN BOSQUE COUNTY

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO OPUC'S STATEMENT OF POSITION

I. INTRODUCTION

On September 30, 2022, Texas Water Utilities, LP (Texas Water) and CS Water Corporation (CS Water) (collectively, Applicants) filed an application for the sale, transfer, or merger (STM) of facilities and certificate rights in Bosque County, under Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.301 and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.239. Texas Water filed supplemental information on October 4, October 25, October 26, November 1, November 23, and December 12, 2022, and February 10, 2023.

On March 13, 2023, the Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC) filed a statement of position regarding the implementation of phase-in rates in this proceeding. The Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) therefore files its response to OPUC's statement of position.

II. STAFF'S RESPONSE TO OPUC'S STATEMENT OF POSITION

Staff has reviewed OPUC's statement of position and conferred with OPUC. Based on Staff's review of the statement of position, Staff's conversation with OPUC on the date of this filing, and on previous conversations between Staff and OPUC, Staff does not change the arguments made in Staff's final recommendation filed on January 31, 2023. Therefore, Staff reiterates the arguments made in its final recommendation.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff reiterates the arguments made in its final recommendation and respectfully requests that the administrative law judge take the foregoing into consideration.

Date: March 14, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

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/s/Margaux Fox

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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 14, 2023 in accordance with the Second Order Suspending Rules, filed in Project No. 50664.

<u>/s/ Margaux Fox</u> Margaux Fox