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DOCKET NO. 54464

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APPLICATION OF ORANGE COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 (LEXINGTON) TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IN ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION FOR PROCESSING THIS PROCEEDING

On December 12, 2022, Orange County Water Control & Improvement District No. 1 (Orange County WCID No. 1) filed an application to amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) number 10115 in Orange County. On February 28, 2023, Orange County WCID No. 1 filed a supplemental brief to amend the application for a sale, merger, or transfer of facilities.

On May 1, 2023, the administrative law judge (ALJ) filed Order No. 5, directing the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) and Orange County WCID No. 1 to determine the appropriate manner of processing this proceeding by May 17, 2023. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

I. RECOMMENDATION REGARDING PROCESSING OF THIS PROCEEDING

The parties have conferred and determined that the most appropriate manner of processing this proceeding should be the addition of an application for approval of the sale, transfer, or merger of the transaction between Orange County WCID and Water Necessities, Inc. that occurred in 1997 to the application for amendment of CCN 10115. Staff believes this is the most efficient method to address the unique situation presented in this docket and continues to work with Orange County WCID No. 1 to ensure that the materials provided are as full and complete as possible given the circumstances. Staff has been authorized by Orange County WCID No. 1 to represent that they are in agreement with Staff's recommendation.

II. REQUEST TO RESTYLE DOCKET

Staff recommends based on the foregoing, that the docket be restyled to "Application of Orange County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (Lexington) for a Sale, Transfer, or Merger of Facilities and Certificate Rights in Orange County".

III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests entry of an order directing the parties to proceed with the addition of the application for sale, transfer, or merger to this docket, and the restyling of this docket to reflect the addition.

Date: May 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Marisa Lopez Wagley Interim Division Director

John Harrison Managing Attorney

/s/ Kevin Pierce

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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 May 17, 2023 in accordance with the Second Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

<u>/s/ Kevin Pierce</u> Kevin Pierce