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APPLICATION OF TEXAS WATER§PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONUTILITIES, L.P. AND SWWC§UTILITIES, INC. DBA HORNSBY BEND§UTILITY COMPANY, INC. FOR SALE,§TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF§FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATE§RIGHTS IN TRAVIS COUNTY§

TEXAS WATER UTILITES, L.P.'S AND SWWC UTILITIES, INC. DBA HORNSBY BEND UTILITY COMPANY, INC.'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S <u>FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON THE TRANSACTION</u>

On July 31, 2023, Texas Water Utilities, L.P. and SWWC Utilities, Inc. dba Hornsby Bend Utility Company, Inc. (collectively, Applicants) filed an application for sale, transfer, or merger (STM) of facilities and certificate rights in Travis County. On December 19, 2023, the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) filed a Final Recommendation on the Transaction. Pursuant to the procedural schedule established in Order No. 5,¹ this pleading is timely filed.

I. RESPONSE TO STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

Applicants support Commission's Staff's recommendation that the proposed transaction will serve the public interest and should be allowed to proceed without a public hearing.² As noted by Staff, TWU has demonstrated that it possesses the financial, managerial, and technical capability to provide continuous and adequate service to the area subject to the proposed transaction.³ Applicants also note that no customers have intervened in this proceeding.

II. CONCLUSION

Consistent with Staff's recommendation, Applicants respectfully request the entry of an order approving the transaction to proceed and be consummated, as proposed. Additionally, Applicants request any further relief to which they have shown themselves entitled.

³ Id.

¹ Order No. 5 Finding Notice Sufficient and Establishing Procedural Schedule at 2 (Nov. 21, 2023).

² Commission Staff's Final Recommendation on the Transaction at 1 (Dec. 19, 2023).

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTORNEYS FOR TEXAS WATER UTILITIES, L.P.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that notice of the filing of this document was provided to all parties of record via electronic mail on January 3, 2024, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

Eleanor D'Ambrosio