

# **Filing Receipt**

Filing Date - 2024-01-02 02:30:14 PM

Control Number - 55878

Item Number - 8

APPLICATION OF MIDWAY WATER \$ PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION UTILITIES, INC. FOR A MINOR \$ OF TEXAS

### MIDWAY WATER UTILITIES, INC.'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

To: Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), by and through its attorney of record, David Skawin, Legal Division, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78701

Midway Water Utilities, Inc. (Midway) files its responses to Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) Staff's First Request for Information (RFI) to Midway. This request was filed on December 20, 2023. This response is timely filed. Pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code § 22.144(c)(2)(F), Midway agrees and stipulates that all parties may treat the responses as if the answers were filed under oath.

Respectfully submitted,

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby 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 January 2, 2024, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ William A. Faulk, III	
William A. Faulk, III	

### MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

Staff 1-1 What is the purpose of a "Transfer Fee?" In the tariff, it is currently defined as a charge for "changing an account name at the same service location when the service is not disconnected." However, in the cover letter it is described as a fee "assessed for service initiation among Texas water utilities where a new tap was not required." Please explain.

RESPONSE: The Transfer Fee and the associated definition set forth in Midway's tariff were developed by the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas in the mid-1980s to facilitate a standard description of the charge assessed for service initiation among Texas water utilities where a new tap was not required. Since that time, the Transfer Fee has been used by Midway and other Texas water and wastewater utilities to recover costs incurred to initiate service for a new customer moving into existing premises.

# MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

After this proposed minor tariff change, please explain whether there still be a fee for "changing an account name at the same service location when the service is not disconnected." If so, what will the name of that fee be after the proposed change?

**RESPONSE**: Midway does not currently charge a fee for changing a name on an existing account, nor will Midway charge such a fee if its proposed minor tariff change is approved. Midway only charges a Service Initiation Fee (currently a "Transfer Fee") when a new account is established at a service location where a new tap is not required.

# MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

Staff 1-3 Currently, when a customer is changing their name at an address that is currently

receiving service, are they charged a deposit fee?

RESPONSE: No.

# MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

Staff 1-4 If the proposed minor tariff change is accepted, under the new definition of

"Service Initiation Fee," will a customer who is charged a Service Initiation Fee

also be charged a deposit fee?

RESPONSE: If the proposed minor tariff change is accepted, a customer for new service would

be charged, in addition to a Service Initiation Fee, a refundable deposit in the amount specified in Midway's approved tariffs and consistent with applicable

Commission rules.

# MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

Staff 1-5 Currently, when a customer is charged a Transfer Fee, are they charged an

application fee?

RESPONSE: No.

# MIDWAY'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST RFI

Staff 1-6 If the proposed minor tariff change is accepted, under the new definition of

"Service Initiation Fee," will a customer who is charged a Service Initiation Fee

be charged an application fee?

RESPONSE: No.